

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

Volume 36 No. 8

September 2013

FUNDING the CHRONICLE

Gareth Davies



When Harry Bisby and Dick Barnes started the Drayton Chronicle in 1978, they aimed to minimise costs by using volunteers for production/distribution etc. but also to ensure that every household in Drayton received a copy. Ever since then, achieving these two aims has depended on a willing band of volunteer ‘agents’ who have done a brilliant job! People have taken on as many houses as they are comfortable with and the Chronicle has always been delivered to most of the houses in the village.

However, although the agents - and the editors, distributors, lottery promoter etc. - are all volunteers and give their time for nothing, it still costs money for the Chronicle to be produced. In 2012 printing costs were £6300! We do now have a large number of advertisers, who paid nearly £4000 in 2012, but that still leaves a big shortfall, covered by selling lottery tickets. We will be increasing advertising rates by 20% from 2014 (see note below) but lottery-ticket sales will still have to make up any shortfall.

There was a change in the Lottery system about 18 months ago and that is working well, simplifying the work for the volunteers who do the monthly draw. However, ticket sales have dropped by several 100s in 18 months, largely because some areas do not now have agents. **So, please:**

- If you live in a street where the Chronicle is not currently delivered, do contact me (Gareth Davies, the Chronicle Co-ordinator) on 529510 to find out about what is involved in becoming an agent!
- If you are already an agent, please sell as many tickets as you can to your readers, to make sure the Chronicle can continue to pay for printing.
- If you are a regular reader, please buy some lottery tickets regularly, as your contribution to printing costs.

Finally, a **VERY BIG THANK YOU** to all volunteers, both past and present, who enable the Drayton Chronicle to flourish. Your input is invaluable and the Chronicle could not be the success it is without you!

Editor’s note: The Chronicle advertising rates were last increased in June 2005, so that the 20% increase which will take effect in 2014 is significantly less than inflation. The UK Consumer Prices Index has increased by more than 25% over the same 8-year period.

VILLAGERS’ OPINIONS

Richard Williams



The Drayton 2020 Questionnaire was delivered to all households in the village towards the end of July or early August. By the time you read this, all the questionnaires should have been collected and forwarded to ORCC (Oxfordshire Rural Community Council), who are going to analyse the results for us. However, it is possible that some people may not have received a copy. It is not necessarily too late: we printed enough to have spares left over, so if anyone did not get a questionnaire and would still like to fill one in, please let us know as soon as possible.

The quickest way to contact the Drayton 2020 project Steering Group is via the Parish Clerk, David Perrow. David can be reached by E-mail at draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk or by telephone on 07909 176061, and he will ensure that your request is passed on. A quick reminder to all who have returned their questionnaire: you need to hang on to your lottery ticket to have a chance to win £50! The winning numbers will be in next month’s Chronicle.

In the meantime, the Steering Group are delighted to report that the percentage of returns so far is most encouraging – **more than double the average for this kind of community exercise**. So well done Drayton, and many thanks for your participation! Apart from the distribution and collection of the questionnaires, Drayton 2020 has been taking a well-earned summer break, but the Steering Group will be meeting again on Fri 23rd August at the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane at 7pm, and thereafter at fortnightly intervals: 6th September, 20th September, and so on. Always the same venue and time, unless otherwise indicated. These meetings are open to any Drayton resident, and it would be great to see you there.

If you wish to be kept up to date with our progress, please tell the Parish Clerk, using draytontwentytwenty@gmail.com or by visiting the village website, www.drayton-near-abingdon.org., and then using the ‘Parish Council’ – ‘Contact’ tab. The agendas and minutes of all Steering Group and working sub-group meetings and many other documents, including maps, are now available on the village website:

Drayton2020
OUR CHANCE TO PLAN OUR OWN FUTURE



Teresa or Jasmine?

Also in this issue:

- p4 – Josie breaks the Michaelmas Code
- p10 – The scammers are still trying
- p12 – Applaud the good ship Drayton 2020

- p3 – Teresa and Jasmine go Sky Diving
- p5 – Sabina goes mobile
- p10 – Rooks’ Nest path to be closed
- p13 – Vale is vibrant and successful

- p5 – Rebecca gives birth
- p11 – Please keep your hedges trimmed
- p13 – MP says airport proposal is daft

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Chronicle** will be the **October** issue:

Editor: **Tony Holmes, 53 Whitehorns Way (531180).**

Distributors: **Eve & Barry Sharp (526939),**

Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday, 13 September 2013**

Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Monday, 16 Sept. 2013**

Printed copies available: **Friday, 27 September 2013**

Key dates for the subsequent three Chronicles:

Issue for	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
November	14 October 2013	25 October 2013
December	18 November 2013	29 November 2013
Jan/Feb	20 January 2014	31 January 2014

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Please be sure **always to include your name**, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all.

However, please also note that the editor has to ensure that each Chronicle fits exactly into an even number of printed pages. The editor therefore reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required to achieve this.

A contribution or advertising request can be sent to us in one of three ways:

1. The best is by **email** to **editor@draytonchronicle.net**. Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document!

Requests for advertisements should not be emailed to the editor but to **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**. Please note that they eventually need to be in Word format, 9cms wide and, for a single block advert, about 4.5cms high

Make sure the editor or advertising manager acknowledges your email within a few days.

2. If you cannot send your contribution by email, send us a **good quality paper version**, using fairly large, **simple** black typescript, without underlining on white paper, A4 or smaller.

3. Finally, we do accept **hand-written items**. However, in this case **please write the names of people and places in capital letters**. This does save a lot of mistakes.

Paper contributions should either be placed in the Chronicle letter box (outside Vickery's shop on Drayton Green) or posted to Vickery's at 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines listed at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed or delivered directly to the **Editor's** house by the Wednesday following the Monday deadline.

ADVERTISING RATES

Charge for a Single Block Advert (about 9cms x 4.5cms)
(Please note that the charges for adverts placed on or after 01 January 2014 will be increased by approximately 20%)

----- Number of Inserts -----

Advertiser Category:	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£5.00	£14.00	£25.50	£48.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£6.00	£17.00	£31.50	£60.00

Double-size adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

All advertising MUST be paid for up-front, either in cash or via a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at or sent to Vickery's.

If you wish to discuss your requirements please phone **Stephen Fearnley**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531347 or email him at **advertising@draytonchronicle.net**.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Jean Barton, Hon Promoter

RESULTS OF THE AUGUST LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	219	David Hudson, 21 Corneville	Ellen Winter
£20	1455	Gary Holder, 32 Lockway	Sue Ash
£15	459	Mrs Marshall, 38 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£10	1319	M Weir, 24 Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	1465	Cindy Thornhill, 40 Lockway	Sue Ash
£10	1541	Mr Pitts, 9 Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	1351	Mr Hackett, 27 Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	12	C Davies, 27 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	1357	F Long, 15 Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	1323	S Woodley, 25 Binning Close	Cathy Norris

We no longer use counterfoils. Instead, winning numbers from the 1451 tickets sold last month were generated randomly using a computer, as for national premium bonds and in the national lottery

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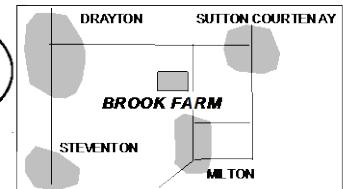


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DISCLAIMER: This Journal is published in good faith and great care is taken in its compilation. The organisers of the DRAYTON CHRONICLE, and its Agents, therefore accept no responsibility for OPINIONS EXPRESSED, nor for the validity of any ADVERTISEMENT, nor for any EFFECTS ARISING WHATSOEVER from the publication.

YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

On behalf of myself and my daughter, Jasmine, I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated towards our 'Skydive for the Blind' appeal, raising funds for the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind.

We had perfect weather on the day and all our nervousness disappeared as soon as we donned our jumpsuits. The instructors were fantastic and kept us calm throughout. The flight, jump and landing went without a hitch and the views were magnificent! Unfortunately, although Jasmine came away wanting to do it again, I was rather ill afterwards and it took another 24 hours to recover.

It was all in a good cause though, worth the suffering that followed. Once again, all contributions were much appreciated and a full list of businesses that supported us can be found on Facebook by 'liking' 'Skydiving for the Blind; Thankyou'

Regards,

Teresa Burnage

Dear Editor

May I say a big thank you on behalf of the Pace Centre. I sold £500 of quizzes and donations for Pace this last time. I also sold £100 of quizzes outside the village. This will help particularly at this time as they have a new school site with better facilities under construction. More and more children are benefiting from the care, love, hard work and positive outlook of all the Pace team and their mobility and teaching aids.

Thank you so much! This quiz is still available from us (20 Steventon Road) and closes on 30 September. The next one is also available, on breeds of dogs.

Yours sincerely

Judy and Derek Henman

Dear Editor

I always said that Drayton was the best village to live in but you have really done more than I thought possible! How do you say thank you to so many people who helped and supported us? It was fabulous. We have now raised £1100 between the two events; coffee/sale morning and walk.

Thanks must also go to Janet, Caroline, Sue, Brenda, Cathy, Ian, Daphne, Mary and of course John.

Ruby now has the pump. Well done everyone!

Helen Sainsbury



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Dear Editor

What can I say to Helen Sainsbury and the people of Drayton but a big, big thank you for the fund raising you all did for my granddaughter Ruby May McBride, for an insulin pump that she desperately needed. It cost £5000 but you, the people of Drayton, pulled together and raised £1100 and now she's got the pump and is settling down to a normal life

From the bottom of my heart, a big thankyou once again.

Yours sincerely

Jackie Vacher,

Ruby's grandmother and Helen's friend of 35 years

Dear Editor

I wish to thank the people who so kindly sent cards and letters to me after John's passing. It was so kind! He will be remembered in many ways by many people, in his younger days.

Gwen Stirling

Dear Editor,

May I thank everyone for all their cards and letters, celebrating the birth of baby Hannah Frances Peters. Baby Hannah arrived safely on 3rd August 15:50pm, 8lbs 1/4oz.

Like all new parents we are getting used to lack of sleep and the challenge of two children. We are really thankful to God for good health, friends and the support of the village.

God Bless

Rebecca Peters

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Priest in Charge	Rev'd Rebecca Peters.....531374
Associate Priest	Rev'd Rosie Bruce525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Val Cross535183 Mr Colin Arnold531923
Organist	Vacancy

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship - Traditional)	
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW), except the 3rd Sunday, when there is a non-Eucharistic All-age Service	
Thursday	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.	

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Wed.	10.30 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room
Mon.	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower

CHURCH REGISTER:

Baptism:

14th July Rupert Nicholas Hobday

Marriage:

2nd August Stuart Davies and Suzie Jennison

Funeral:

19th July Martin John Payne

Internment of Ashes:

6th August Elsie Kathleen Beryl Cordell



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LETTER FROM REV. JOSIE MIDWINTER

Michaelmas, or the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, is celebrated on 29 September every year. It is an important date on the old English calendar and its roots go deep into our agricultural past.

Michaelmas Harvest: As it falls near the equinox, it is associated with the beginning of autumn and the rapid shortening of days. It was also the traditional time to celebrate the gathering in of all the crops and harvest-home.

Michaelmas Quarter Day: There are four quarter days (Lady Day, Midsummer, Michaelmas and Christmas) but Michaelmas is the most important because it comes at the end of harvest and so was a ripe time to pay debts, take on a lease, pay church tithes, hire labour and also pay the rent. The Manor Reeve would be quick to calculate what was owed and extract the produce (or money) before it was all gone!

Michaelmas Goose: It was difficult to keep livestock over the winter so many were sold for slaughter. This season is especially associated with geese which were herded in from the countryside and sold at market. Those who could afford it would buy a goose and have a fine feast before the cold days of winter reduced the diet. Nottingham Goose Fair is still well known - Abingdon has a Michaelmas Fair although a hiring fair rather than a goose fair.

Michaelmas Term: Both Universities and Inns of Court call the first term of their academic/legal year Michaelmas (the others are Hilary and Trinity)

Michaelmas Daisy: A bright flash of colour when most other flowers have faded and gone which is probably why it is noted as the flower which symbolises 'farewell'

St Michael and All Angels used to be one of the major festivals of the churches year, but it has become overshadowed by the more modern Harvest Festival, which was introduced by the Victorians. So unless your church is dedicated to St Michael (like Steventon) it is probably overlooked all together.



St Michael is the principal angelic warrior and is seen as the protector against the dark of the night, both the literal darkness of nightfall and also the religious darkness of evil and destruction. This derives from the bible story in the Book of Revelation where we are told Michael and the angelic host threw Satan and his demonic followers out of heaven. The purpose of the story is to remind us that we live in a fallen world where conflict and strife often seem to hold sway.

BUT first Michael and then even more importantly Christ has won the victory over these destructive forces and that through Christ we can experience the love and peace God wants for us all.

This year the 29th September falls on a Sunday so make a special effort to come and celebrate the old harvest festival, or if you prefer the more modern version come to the Harvest Festival service at 10am on Sunday 20 October. Either way, come and give thanks to God for his care and provision for us all.

Josie Midwinter



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BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Secretary: Mrs Jayne Henderson.....Tel. 522161

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

11.15 am Presently only one morning service per month.
A Family service on the first Sunday
6.00 pm Evening Service. Traditional format.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton
Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS **Jean Hager**

Our monthly tea and chat afternoons are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 3.00 pm to 4:30 pm and you are invited to drop in during these times. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next two dates are **03 September** and **01 October**. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

YOU STAY - WE PRAY: SEPTEMBER

1st to 14th; Lockway, Whitehorns Way: 15th to 21st; Corneville Road, Crabtree Lane, Lesparre Close: 22nd to 28th; Drayton Road, Milton Road, New Cut Mill, Fisher Close, Marcham Road, Meads Close, Rippington Court, Stone Hill

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Congratulations to **Rebecca and Daniel Peters** on the birth of **Hannah Frances** on 03 August. As a consequence:

The **Reverend Rebecca Peters** will be on maternity leave from 30th June 2013 till 4th July 2014. In the first instance please contact the churchwarden Valerie Cross on 01235 535183, valerie.cross@sky.com and only if she cannot be reached, then contact Colin Arnold 01235 531923.

Our best wishes to **Linda & David Haste** who have moved from Church Lane to the Scottish Borders to start a new life.

A very warm welcome to **Hilary & Graham Webb and their daughter Maddy** who have moved into Church Lane from Abingdon.

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ALL AROUND

BOWLS CLUB

Roll Up

We start these notes with a summary of the AGM held recently. Chair person Val Locke opened the meeting, thanking all those attending of which the number was in excess of 30. She also thanked the committee, green stewards, and competition organizers for all their hard work throughout the year, also noting that the bowls club is celebrating 25 years since its formation.

Treasurer Cyril Carter stated that the club was in a sound position financially but would have to keep a close eye on things, with Hall fees increasing, and with this in mind he suggested that the annual subscriptions be increased from £12 to £15. This was agreed by the members. He also stated that the membership was stable with 52 members and 5 associate members. All those in attendance seemed very happy with how the club was being run. The club will only be entering 2 teams for the afternoon league, due to the fact that no one was prepared to take on the captaincy of 'The Rollers', and also we were unable get enough names to enter a team for the evening league.

The latest internal competition to be completed was the 'Beryl James' trophy. Going through to play the final will be Barbara Watts, Josie Carter, and Jack Mitchenson, and they will play against Marjorie Strachan, Barrie Davis, and Bryn Jones. The day was well organized by Jane and Josie and afterwards 22 of those who played went for a meal at 'The Ock Mill', organized by Pat (Mitchenson). This rounded off what was a very nice day! Our annual friendly match with Kirtlington will take place on the 18th of August, organized by June and Pat (Hoyland). The next internal competition will be 'The Attwood Cup', on the 22nd September

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TABLE TENNIS

John Gould

The club returns to playing from the beginning of September. The League season will start at the end of the month. We have entered 8 teams in the Didcot League – the same as last season. With a few personnel changes the teams and some new players the teams will all look to do well. Of course some will find it easier than others with a lot of our players moving to higher divisions following promotions gained last season.

At the club's Pre-Season Meeting in July it was realised we have reached our optimum size in numbers and teams. Due to this we have decided we cannot recruit any more league players at this time and will introduce a waiting scheme for potential new players. Also our coaching will be restricted to one Monday per month. This is due to losing our regular coach who is starting a degree course and cannot provide regular sessions any longer. We will also run one or two practice/social table tennis sessions on Monday nights each month starting from 8.00 pm.

It is a shame we have had to reduce our coaching and practice in this way but the members realise this is the only way the club can continue for the foreseeable future. In saying that in many respects the club is thriving and we have really come to this point through success not failure. Hopefully the new arrangements will not detract from our ability to offer sports and exercise to those who enjoy it and the club will continue to thrive.

CHRONICLE AGENTS NEEDED Gareth Davies

Streets currently without Chronicle agents are:

Abingdon Road (evens 88-140); Meads C. & Rippington Drive.;

Steventon Road (odds 19-39A, evens 36-80);

Whitehorns Way (evens 40-80); Hilliat Fields (17-36);

Lyford Close; High Street - west end (several houses from The Green including Conifer Drive)

Please contact me on 529510 if you might take one on.

1ST DRAYTON BROWNIES

Ruth Hudson

I hope everyone has had a relaxing summer break, and is ready to start back on the 11th of September for an action-packed Autumn term.

A warm welcome to all our new Brownies joining us then! Our overall theme this term is animals and Robin Hood. Badges we will be working towards are 'friends to animals' and 'wildlife explorer'.

We have a visit planned to the Falconry Centre at Millets Farm on the 18th of September. Brownies pet shows will be planned for the 25th of September and the 2nd of October. All new Brownies will make the new promise on the 9th of October, plus all old Brownies and leaders renewing their promise with the new promise.

We have a special church service on the 22nd of September in the afternoon, this has been specially planned by the youth leaders of the village and I should like everyone to attend, as it will be a really fun service.

Other dates for your diary, camp holiday 29th - 31st November (Robin Hood adventure weekend) and the panto at the Playhouse 8th of December which happens to be Robin Hood.

Lauren is working towards being a leader with the unit. Georgina is working towards being a senior young leader, and Holly, Caroline and Hannah will become youth leaders.

See everyone back on the 11th of September.

Brownie meetings held Wednesdays 6:15-7:45pm, term time only, at Drayton Village Hall, open to girls aged 7-11.

For further information contact Ruth Hudson- Brown Owl: 01235 205111

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DRAYTON WIVES

Gwen Price

Our July meeting was a craft demonstration by Di Chesterman. She owns a shop on the Didcot Broadway called 'No Two Things'. She showed us how, using the right paper, she could produce at very little cost, attractive boxes, gifts and cards.

A group of Wives recently went to Harcourt house in Nuneham Courtney. Since 1993, The Global Retreat Centre, administered by the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Union, has welcomed thousands of people from across the world. The Centre is managed by Union followers who are experienced in creating an atmosphere of peace and spirituality by meditation. There was a tour of the beautiful house and lovely garden which everyone enjoyed.

SEPTEMBER dates:

Mon. 9th COFFEE : Pat B. Judy
Mon. 16th WHIST: David Hale
Wed. 25th MEETING: Angela Pawlyn talk on Silk -
from worm to scarf

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MORE ALL AROUND

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Tony Holmes

We're moving forward on the project to revamp the hall kitchen, following a visit from Lynne Newin (fielding grant applications from halls for the OCC) we were advised to expand the scope a bit, so revised quotes have quickly been obtained, and a final grant application is being submitted. On the plan to get a storage extension built, this will require another grant (rather larger, deadline in Oct) but it's proving quite difficult to get quotes – perhaps surprising in this economic age?

One of our regular users, 'OWLS' (weight-loss class), is stopping due to funding issues; however, it seems that it will essentially be replaced by a new class in September (Tuesday mornings) to be run by a dietician. Call or email the Hall contact (back page) for more details.

Another regular group, the sequence dancers, is looking for a few more members – presently they get attendees from all over the county, so it must be a good night, but if you'd like to give it a try do please call Brian Stimpson on (01235) 531701.

The Hall now has a 'Bra Bank' in place, to benefit traders in Africa and the Breast Cancer charity here. So ladies, if you have one that's unwanted, but wearable, do consider donating it to this good cause (they'd prefer in a bag, please). All our regular groups should know about it by now, but do tell your friends!

On Sat August 10th the Hall was graced by a splendid wedding reception, the happy couple being **Graham Bettles and Hayley Harwood**. Many readers (including some who are now overseas but see an electronic Chronicle) will know the Bettles name, due to the long-time shop in Abingdon Road (now Lesparre Close).



On the Friday afternoon the Hall had been transformed with decorations in a purple and white theme, a mammoth effort by families, friends, and of course Graham & Hayley.

The service was at 4pm in St Helen's Church, Abingdon, and by about 6pm the wedding party and guests were arriving to welcoming drinks, which Sally Dixon and Val Cross had been busy preparing.

Soon after the guests were able to appreciate the excellent job that Simon and his 'Pigging Perfect Pig Roasts' (great name!) team had been doing for an hour or two with the hog roast, and the weather stayed kind for the evening too. Just as well, for a later treat was the arrival of the ice-cream van ('Mr Nice Cream!') and it became clear that some guests had managed to leave enough room for an enormous dessert! Toys and games had been organised for the younger guests (in the Small Hall), and the adults were entertained by a disco through the evening.

I haven't nearly enough space to mention all who transformed the Hall in the first place, and then on Sunday worked diligently to tidy up, but congratulations to Linda & Pete Bettles, Jen and Tony Harwood, and indeed all who participated in the incredible amount of planning and implementation! Oh, and most definitely to the dashing groom and lovely bride (see photo above), who left later in the week for a honeymoon in Wales, and will then be visiting Pula (Croatia) in September. ➔

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➔ I did wonder if those involved could hire themselves out as wedding planner consultants, after the triumph of this one, but Linda Bettles for one tells me they'd like a lie-down for a couple of months first!

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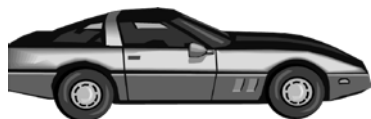
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NOTICE BOARD

VILLAGE POLICING

PCSO Sandra Syphas

I recently had an email from a village resident in Sutton Wick Lane, who had received a scam letter asking for his bank details, saying he had won £825000 in a foreign lottery. Trading Standards have been informed but this is a fairly common scam and something for everyone to be very aware of!

Thames Valley Police has produced a helpful booklet which aims to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of fraud. The Little Book of Big Scams includes sections on identity fraud, scam mail, door-to-door scams and internet scams. As well as details of different types of frauds, there are a number of helpful hints, case studies and **10 golden rules to avoid becoming a victim**.

The booklet also gives details on where to go to get help and how to report fraud if you do become a victim. It is available to download at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk/the-little-book-of-big-scams.pdf.

The next Drayton 'Have your Say' meeting is from 4pm until 5pm on 27th September in Drayton Hall car park

FOOTPATH CLOSURE

Huw Jones

An order is coming into force on 23 September 2013 temporarily closing the Rook's Nest Footpath (Footpath 21, east of Chiers Drive, from High Street to Eastway). This Order is being introduced to enable footbridge replacement works to take place and is anticipated to take up to 5 days to complete.

The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any person from using Footpath 21. Exemptions are included for police, fire and ambulance services and for the works. There is no suitable alternative route. This Order will remain in force for a maximum period of 6 months or until the works have been completed whichever is the sooner.



SOFO TALK

Kate Burrows

Soldiers of Oxfordshire has arranged a talk by Simon Harris about the 52nd (Oxfordshire) Light Infantry in the first two years of the Great War, on Thursday September 5th at 6.15pm at Edward Brooks Barracks, Cholswell Road, Abingdon. The talk is an illustrated PowerPoint presentation with about 150 images and afterwards there will be a glass of wine and some nibbles.

In 1914 the 52nd was a most formidable fighting unit and in his talk you will hear about the retreat from Mons, the battles of the Aisne, Ypres 1914, Festubert and Loos. On November 11th 1914, the 52nd, in their most celebrated action of the war, at Nonne Bosschen Wood, routed the cream of the Kaiser's troops, the Prussian Guards. You will be shown images of artefacts taken from the Germans that day and never seen in public before. In 1915 at Richebourg the 52nd fought courageously in the first British night action of the war.

Simon Harris is a retired consultant anaesthetist and has written three books. Whilst researching the life of his great uncle Captain Ralph Kite M.C., who was mortally wounded in 1916 whilst serving with the 52nd, he became aware of the absence of a formal history of the battalion in the Great War. His book on the 52nd Light Infantry in France and Belgium is now the authoritative second volume of the regimental history in the Great War.

We invite you and your friends to join us at this event. Tickets will be priced at £15.00. All proceeds of this event will support the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum project. Purchasing tickets is easy via phone 01993 813 832 (Kate or Sue) or alternatively through our website www.sofo.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming you on the evening.

MORE NOTICE BOARD

CREATION DRAMA CLUB

Katie Ell

Is your child interested in acting? Do they want to make new friends and play games? Are you keen to develop their confidence, social skills and literacy?

Creation Drama Club explores classic children's literature and Shakespeare in a fun and inclusive atmosphere. We run for 12 weeks of fun, devising and performing at John Mason School in Abingdon every Tuesday evening.

Come to a FREE TASTER SESSION on 10th September.

8-10 yrs 5 - 6pm; 11-13 yrs 6 - 8pm

BEING DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY

Beth Weston

The number of older people is growing significantly, especially in rural areas. That means more people with dementia who will need support and help to continue to be part of the community.

ORCC is helping to develop a project aimed at supporting people in communities and workplaces who want to overcome the stigma related to dementia, and to encourage their community to be more dementia-friendly. We can help you to:

- Start and join a friendly, informal group in your locality
- Benefit from six free sessions to learn more about dementia
- Discuss practical ways to support people in the community affected by dementia
- Take action in the ways you have planned together

We need your help to support people to live well with dementia in their own community.

Find out more by contacting me (Beth Weston) on 01865 883488 or emailing beth.weston@oxonrcc.org.uk.

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Williams

Report of the meeting held on Monday 5th August 2013

Several councillors were away this month, and the agenda was shorter than usual. 3 members of the public attended.

The Parish Clerk confirmed that two grants have now been received in respect of funding for Drayton 2020 – the village's Neighbourhood Development Plan. One from the Vale is for £10,000; the other, from Locality (the funding body that took over this role from the Design Council), is for £7000, with £6300 upfront and 10% retained until the project is complete. It is hoped that these grants will cover the bulk of the Parish Council's expenses in relation to the NDP. To keep down costs, assistance from professional consultants has been kept to a minimum, with most of the work being done by members of the Steering Group and various working groups. This approach will continue, but it is certain that the Draft NDP itself will require some professional advice and input. The current timetable envisages that it should be published around November of this year.

Drayton Football Club requested a grant to cover the cost of the expected increase in their water bill that will result from the recent re-turfing of parts of the goalmouth areas of the pitch, and the need to keep these well watered during the recent heatwave. The Parish Council was prepared to assist, but rather than pay a fixed amount in advance, agreed to await the bill, and fund any excess over the 'normal' level of consumption. Laurence Zipson circulated a design for the proposed Parish Council logo, which incorporates symbols associated with the Vale, but adopts Drayton's church bells as its main motif. Some minor modifications were suggested, but the design met with general approval. Laurence also explained that, thanks to the help of Jules Meredith and his IT expertise, various technical glitches affecting the village website have now been ironed out, making it much easier to update or add new material. In addition, the PC has now registered the domain name draytonpc.org for a nominal sum: entering this address on Google will automatically direct people to the Parish Council's page on the village website.

It was noted that in several places, but especially along the north side of the High Street, some shrubs and hedges have been allowed to become so overgrown that they are partly obstructing the pavement. Obviously this is a recurring seasonal problem, but **if you are a householder or resident with responsibility for any of the offending vegetation, it would be much appreciated if you could trim it back periodically.** ⇨

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⇒ The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 2nd September 2013, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend.

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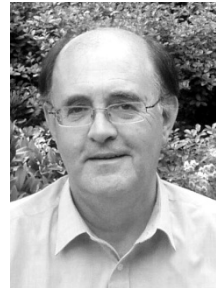
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DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILS

Richard Webber



With the Planning Inspector's decision that moving a pedestrian crossing in Ock St will solve the traffic impact of a large housing development in South Abingdon; with another scheme to turn the Reservoir site into an airport bigger than Heathrow; with yet more housing applications passed in almost every village around Drayton, it seems the silly season is upon us.

Yet through the rough seas of all this planning turmoil, a small ship sails on calmly and steadily. The good ship "Drayton 2020" remains on course for completion in May next year. Far from being buffeted by the planning mayhem all around it, it is a focus of calm. A number of other villages are now beginning their own Neighbourhood Plans and many others are considering doing so. Drayton is leading the way for large villages in this area; this village had the vision, the courage and the energy to be the first.

Whatever the result of the Plan or the consultation, whatever it delivers next summer, so much has happened over the past year of which we can be justly proud. We have had two events attended by hundreds of residents. More than 30 residents have served on the various working parties and Steering Group. More than 30 residents have ensured that every home has been visited and encouraged to complete the Questionnaire. As I write, we are confident that the response rate to the questionnaire will be well over 50%. Whilst there has been a wide variety of opinion on what should be in the final Plan, everyone has approached the project constructively and cheerfully. The overwhelming impression on the doorstep is that the vast majority of village residents enjoy living in Drayton and would like to see it improved by its Neighbourhood Plan.

The next few weeks are going to be crucial. We will see the results of the questionnaire. On the basis of those results, the draft Neighbourhood Plan will be written. There will then be another get together where we will get a chance to discuss and modify the draft. The Plan then begins a long journey, starting with the VWHDC Planning department to test its conformity with their emerging Local Plan. Various other officials then have to test and approve the Plan, including a Planning Inspector and possibly a public enquiry. Finally it will go to a referendum of the village. Only then does it become an official planning document, helping to guide planning decisions for the next 20 years.

Feel free to contact me using richard.webber77@ntlworld.com, or by phone on 01235 534001.

VALE AWARDS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:

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WESTMINSTER LETTER

Ed Vaizey

The Wantage and Didcot Constituency is a fascinating place! I've recently been reviewing some statistics and have seen that we live in one of the most prosperous areas in the UK. 83% of people locally, between the ages of 16 and 64, are employed and nearly 89% are economically active, with around 7% running their own businesses. The 83% employment rate compares with a 74% rate across the South East and only 71% nationally. Of those working in the constituency, 83% work full time compared with 74% nationally, meaning our workforce has more stable and often more rewarding employment, with average local incomes 10% above the national level. That's due, in part, to the fact that 34% of local residents have a university degree or higher qualification and just 3% have no qualifications at all. Businesses set up locally do better over their first five years than in other places too. We are home to some of the most exciting and innovative scientific enterprises in the world.



What that string of statistics actually means is that our constituency is not only a very attractive area in which to live, but also a vibrant and successful one. We do have some real challenges, such as the fact that house prices are very high in relation to our incomes, and finding a decent home in the area can be very hard. Helping people with housing problems is one of the areas where I am kept busy, and identifying suitable places to build the new homes we need is a real challenge. On that last point, I am continuing to lobby ministers nationally to try to have planning laws and guidance made really fit for purpose so we can build the homes we need without imposing inappropriate growth on rural communities. The Minister who leads on planning, Nick Boles, will be visiting the constituency at my invitation in September to hear directly from constituents about the problems we have here with the current system.

There are two main issues about which people have been writing to me recently. First, a Royal Charter to implement a tough new system of press self-regulation! It gained cross party agreement in Parliament, was concluded and sent to the Privy Council for sealing on the 18th March but, shortly afterwards, the press petitioned the Privy Council Office with an alternative version. This is now being fully considered by the Privy Council to ensure that the process of implementing Leveson is as robust as possible. We must now wait for the Privy Council's conclusions.

Secondly, the campaign to get people in Britain cycling, an issue where the Government has already taken significant action! However, for people considering starting to cycle, the great concern is safety, so I am pleased to hear that the Government has allocated £107m to support cycling safety, loosened rules so Local Authorities can introduce 20mph speed limits in residential areas, and made it easier to install Trixi mirrors to improve the visibility of cyclists at junctions. ⇨

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⇨ One final note! I was astonished to hear about the plans being put forward by a developer for a **major airport west of Drayton. There are many reasons why this is a very daft idea.** Rest assured that if this doesn't disappear of its own accord, I will do all I can to ensure that it never leaves the drawing board.

Please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, by email to vaizeye@parliament.uk or by phoning 020 7219 6350. My surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

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DRAYTON DIARY

FOR SEPTEMBER

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise
(To book Drayton Hall call Tony Holmes on 531180)

Regular Events are listed opposite

Sun	01	all day	Bowls Competitions	
Mon	02	7.30 pm	Parish Council	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Sat	07	9.30 pm	Drama Group restarts	
Sat	14	5.00 pm	Sequence Dancing	
Mon	16	9.15 am	Chronicle Lottery deadline	<i>Vickery's</i>
		5.00 pm	Chronicle copy deadline	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Fri	20	8.00 pm	Extra Zumba Class	
Sun	22	all day	Bowls Competitions	



STOWE HOUSE
Christmas Gift Fayre
Saturday 26 and Sunday 27
October 2013
10.00am - 5.00pm



A NEW Youth Group !

Meeting on the FIRST THURSDAY of the month starting on 5th September

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(Year 7 upwards)

For further details:

Contact: CLAIRE SOPER 01235 531632

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Drayton Community

Primary School

Sunday 6th October 3 - 4:30pm

Fun for all the family. Craft and building activities, games, stories, informal worship and cakes.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Pilates Class. Tel: 814299	
1.15 pm	Baby Sign Language Classes (in Term)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
6.30 pm	Novice Table Tennis Coaching	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys/girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Junior and Adult Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing	<i>St Peter's</i>
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	

TUESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Pilates Class – also at 8.00 pm	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Pebbles (Babies & Toddlers – in Term)	<i>Church Room</i>
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 15 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Cross</i>
11.45 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 15 min)	<i>Lyford Close</i>
1.45 pm	Whist – now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (last Wednesday)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (First Thursday)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (in Term)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Youth Group First Thursday)	<i>St Peter's Church Room</i>
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	W.I. (2nd Thursday)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	Friday Club (fortnightly) - 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (All Age Service 3rd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.15 am	Family Time	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	<i>Baptist Church</i>

www.drayton-near-abingdon.org:



Don't forget that you can look up Parish Council minutes and past issues of the Chronicle, or contact the Parish Clerk, by visiting the village web-site, www.drayton-near-abingdon.org.

**Printed by Mayfield Press,
Ashville Way, Oxford.
Telephone 01865 714715**