

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Dave Lee

Volume 36 No. 10

November 2013

CHRONICLE TEAM MEMBERS HONOURED

A special lunch was held on Saturday 19th October to celebrate the achievements of local residents who do voluntary work for the community. Councillor Richard Webber nominated some of the Chronicle team to receive awards, Gareth Davies (Chronicle Coordinator), Derek Pooley (Editor), Tony Holmes (Editor), & Dave Lee (Editor). Another Drayton nominee was Andrew Bax, Chairman of the Drayton Community Trust and Drayton 2020 member. Councillor Mike Badcock, Chairman of The Vale of White Horse District Council presented certificates to the nominees to acknowledge their commitment & contribution to the community.

(Editor's note: The above members of the Chronicle team are just the tip of the iceberg of the organisation that makes production of the Chronicle possible. Other key members are Stephen Fearnley (Advertising Manager), Jean Barton (Lottery Manager), Keith Middleton (Treasurer), several Distributors who collect the printed copies from the printer, batch them, then distribute bundles of Chronicles & Lottery tickets to the homes of dozens of Agents who deliver to nearly one thousand homes.

More pictures of the Community Awards Lunch, including two of our Distributors, are on Page 15).



Derek, Tony, Dave & Gareth with their certificates

Drayton2020

OUR CHANCE TO PLAN OUR OWN FUTURE

October 2013 Update

Richard Williams

Only a very short report this month – not because there is not much happening – on the contrary, Drayton 2020 is a positive hive of activity at the moment, with teams of people working on different aspects of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, and preparing for the public consultation ‘Chilli evening’ in the Village Hall on Friday 18th October. Unfortunately, the deadline for this November Chronicle falls a week before the event, so coverage of this event will be in next month’s Chronicle. Writing in advance of the 18th, I can only say that we hope to get an excellent attendance, and to add that, as well as the ‘main event’ on Friday evening, it is planned that Radio Oxford will be broadcasting live from our Village Hall all through Friday afternoon, while an exhibition of the posters showing possible development sites will

carry over into Saturday 19th October – for the benefit of anyone unable to make it on the previous evening.

(Editor's note: pictures of some of the Radio Oxford interviewees are on Page 14)

A Steering Group meeting has been planned for Friday 1st November, at the usual time and place of 7pm in the Caudwell Centre, Gravel Lane, but no further meetings are scheduled at the present time. This is because November is already a very crowded month, and our efforts will be concentrated on putting together the final draft of the NDP, which must be ratified and approved by a special meeting of the Parish Council on Wed 27th November. It then has to be forwarded to the Vale by early December at the latest.

Do make a note of these dates for your diaries, and if you wish to receive reminders of other Drayton 2020 meetings and events, please contact the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, via the Drayton 2020 website: draytontwentytwenty@gmail.com. Alternatively, David can be contacted via E-mail at draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk or by telephone on 07909 176061. In addition, the agendas and minutes of all Steering Group and working sub-group meetings and many other documents relating to Drayton 2020, including maps, are now available on the village website: www.drayton-near-abingdon.org.

DRAYTON 2020 RAFFLE WINNERS

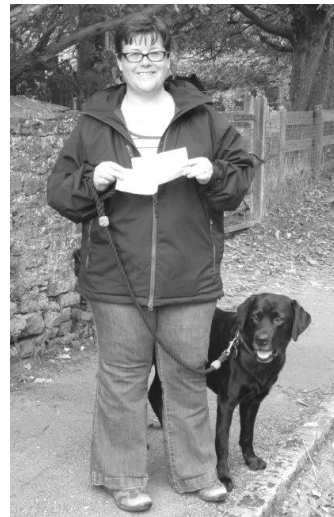
Who's Got No 182?

Andrew Bax

Two of the three winners in the Drayton 2020 Questionnaire raffle have come forward. Now the hunt is on for the winner of ticket number 182.

The winner of ticket number 881 is Jane McWhirter of 140 Abingdon Road, pictured bottom left, with Mike, returning home from one of their twice-daily walks along Drayton's footpaths. All being well, we will soon have a few more paths around the village for them to enjoy.

Stephen Oleksiw, pictured bottom right, found he had ticket number 8. He and his wife, Nikki, moved into their new home at 7 Manor Close as recently as June, having spent the previous year building it themselves with the help of several local tradesmen. One section of the Questionnaire sought to measure the demand for self-build homes in Drayton and, having been through the experience and met all the environmental requirements, Stephen and Nikki can thoroughly recommend it. Stephen was actually born in Drayton and went to school here, and has recently returned after a 16-year gap in Australia.



CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Chronicle** will be the December issue:
 Editor: **Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close (559454)**.
 Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday, 15 Nov. 2013**
 Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Monday., 18 Nov. 2013**
 Printed copies available: **Friday, 29 November 2013**

Key dates for the subsequent two Chronicles:

Issue for	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
Jan/Feb	20 January 2014	31 January 2014
March	17 February 2014	28 February 2014

Archive copies of the Chronicle are available on the Drayton website: www.drayton-near-abingdon.org. The current copy will be available on or near the same date that printed copies are distributed.

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are most welcome. 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.

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

Please head your email and label any attachments with a name distinctive to you, not just 'Chronicle'. Also, make sure the editor or advertising manager acknowledges your email within 2 or 3 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 be either 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 deadlines.

ADVERTISING RATES

Charge for a single Block Advert (about 9cms x 4.5cms)
 (Please note that the charges for adverts placed on or after 1st 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 OCTOBER LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	1036	Pauline Taylor, 22 High Street	Ali Bone
£20	701	Richard & Elaine Wade, Henley's Lane	Andrew Bax
£15	1232	Mr and Mrs McMinn, 12 Steventon Rd	Judy Henman
£10	1584	Mrs Haynes, 21 Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	718	Mark & Esther Deabill, 1A Henleys Lane	Andrew Bax
£10	1657	D McKenna, 47 Whitehorns Way	Mirja Boyd
£10	1409	D Lorenz, 216 Steventon Road	Julie Lonsdale
£10	1102	Teresa Bahu, 12 Halls Close	Ali Bone
£10	1594	Mr Pitts, 27 Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	333	Mr Waddup, 17 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough

Winning tickets, from 1723 sold, were randomly drawn by a computer (similar to the Premium Bond Draw)

Candlelight Carol Service

Drayton Hall at 7.30pm

Sunday 1st December

Music by Abingdon Town Band,
 With Wallingford Hand Bell Ringers,
 and Drayton Primary School Singers
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 Come and join us!



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MON – FRI 8.00 – 17.30 SAT – 8.30 – 12.30

ROAD CLOSURES

HENLEY'S LANE

Oxfordshire County Council has warned us of the closure of Henley's Lane northwards from Gravel Lane for 100 metres from Monday 18th November for five days. This is to enable drainage works to be carried out and there will access for works vehicles and emergency services only during this period.

The suggested alternative route is via the B4017 and Church Lane

A34

The Highways Agency has given notice of refurbishment work on College Farm Bridge which carries the A34 over the local road at Beedon.

For safety reasons, and to keep overall disruption to a minimum, the following proposed traffic management restrictions will be in place on the A34 in West Berkshire:

- **Monday 28 October (10pm to 6am) – Full overnight closure of the A34 northbound carriageway from M4 Junction 13**
- **Tuesday 29 October (10pm to 6am) – Full overnight closure of the A34 southbound carriageway between the A4130 Milton Interchange and M4 Junction 13**
- **Tuesday 29 October to Thursday 14 November – 24 hour narrow lane running and a temporary 50mph speed restriction, and nightly lane closures**
- **Friday 15 November (10pm) to Monday 18 November (6am) – Full weekend closure of the A34 southbound carriageway from the A4130 Milton Interchange to M4 Junction 13**
- **Friday 22 November (10pm) to Monday 25 November (6am) – Full weekend closure of the A34 northbound carriageway from M4 Junction 13**

The works are highly weather dependent and if work is unable to proceed on these dates due to poor weather, the closures will be rescheduled for January/February 2014.

For further information regarding this scheme, please contact the Highways Agency Information Line on 0300 123 5000 or email them at ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk (available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week). Alternatively please visit the scheme web page which will be available at www.highways.gov.uk/a34beedonbridge for up-to-date information on the scheme and traffic management arrangements.

Oxfordshire Advocacy

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If interested, our next training courses are:

Banbury on 14th 15th and 22nd November 2013
and Oxford on 3rd 4th and 11th October 2013.

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Website: www.gettingheard.org



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Associate Priest	Rev'd Rosie Bruce	525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Val Cross	535183
	Mr Colin Arnold	531923

Organist Vacancy
REGULAR SERVICES

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

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Wednesday	10.30 am	Pebbles (Term Time only)	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower

CHURCH REGISTER

Funeral

4th October Herbert James Prior

Wedding

5th October Geoffrey Rowland and Katie Pullen

CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER

Sun 3rd	3.00 pm	All Souls Service
Tue 5th	3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections Church Room
Sun 10th	6.00 pm	Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance

YOU STAY - WE PRAY, NOVEMBER

3rd to 16th	Abingdon Road, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Road
17th to 23rd	Sutton Wick Lane, Greenacres, Newman Lane, Conifer Drive
24th to 7th Dec	Hilliatt Fields, Lyford Close, Manor Close, The Green

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LETTER FROM ST PETER'S

Messy Church

What is Messy Church?

Messy Church is a growing movement around the world and currently numbers over 2,000 groups.

A Church that uses hands on activities to explore bible stories and to reflect on God's creativity. It gives children and adults alike a chance to play together and have fun.

The Values of Messy Church are:

- Christ Centred
- All Age
- Creativity
- Hospitality
- Celebration



Christians Together in Drayton have been running Messy Church in Drayton School since June 2012 on Sunday afternoons from 3-4.30pm.

We meet periodically throughout the year and have recently celebrated Harvest. Activities included planting bulbs, decorating cakes and making place mats as well as listening to, and acting out a bible story and worshipping together

Our next Messy Church will be held on **Sunday 8th December** when we will obviously be celebrating Christmas!

Anyone is welcome to join us by just coming along on the afternoon; however children do need to be accompanied by an adult.

We always end Messy Church with afternoon tea and fellowship and would really welcome new members

For further details contact : Claire Soper on 01235 531632



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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. This is the Family Service, and is on the first Sunday of each month
- 6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers. Communion every second Sunday of the month

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

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are normally 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 5th November, and 3rd December. PLEASE NOTE: At the December meeting, we will be welcoming a group of children from our village school to provide a great opening to our party with carol singing. So, for this particular month only, we shall be starting at 1.45 pm. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

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YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

Jessie Drew (nee Midwinter) formerly of Lockway, Drayton sadly passed away on the 1st October at Bridge House, Abingdon aged 96 years.

Beloved wife to the late Robert and a much loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Jessie had lived in Drayton for almost 45 years. *Brian Drew*

Dear Editor

We would just like to say congratulations to our daughter Nicola Haynes who has just been promoted to Lance Corporal within the British Army, well done! *Julie and John Haynes*

Dear Editor

I would like to, through The Drayton Chronicle, thank everyone who came and supported me on Saturday 28th September at my house for the 'Macmillian Cancer Support World's Biggest Coffee Morning'. Thanks to all those people who visited to either enjoy a cuppa, cake and a natter, or simply donate money. I raised a total of £180.00, which I am sure you will agree is a fantastic sum of money.

So thanks again to you all. *Annette Mitchell*

Dear Editor,

Through the Chronicle we would like to say Well Done! to our daughter Georgina for organising a very successful Macmillan coffee afternoon on 22nd September. The total raised was £350.

Thanks to all of those who came along and to those who could not attend but still made donations, also to the generous people and local businesses who donated such wonderful prizes for the raffle.

It was a lovely afternoon which hopefully can be repeated next year. *Colin and Carol Arnold*

Dear Editor,

We would like to say a huge thank you for all the kind messages, cards and support our family has had since our Dad, Mick Brown passed away on 21st September. Your thoughtfulness and kind words have really helped us through this extremely sad time. Dad always had very fond memories of his time in Drayton, especially The Red lion and Aunt Sally and his many old friends, many of whom were able to attend Dad's memorial service on Friday 4th October at St Helens Church. He would have been so touched that so many people that were special to him over the years were all there. Thank you so much.

Lucie, Sam and Jamie.

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ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Gwen Price

Our September meeting was a talk and demonstration given by Angela Pawlyn. She described the different stages from silk worm and their cocoons to strands of silk. The different kinds of silk are light durable and warm. We were able to handle different strengths of silk. Angela had been spinning and weaving for over 30 years. She brought her spinning wheel and her loom and many examples of her work. It was an interesting afternoon.

NOVEMBER DATES

Thurs 7th, Walk from Oxford Garden Centre.

Mon 11th, COFFEE: Margaret W, Pauline, Irma.

Mon 18th, WHIST: Teresa Burnage

Wed 27th, MEETING: A talk and photos of St Petersburg given by Margaret Long and Ann Hutchings.

DRAYTON PRESCHOOL

Laura Hughes.

The new term at preschool has seen the children enjoying activities based on the changing seasons. They love to spend time in the garden and we are planning a weekend of tree stump clearing and weeding over half term. If you are able to help with this in any way (time, equipment, or resources that we can make use of), do please get in touch. The children are also busy making things to sell at the Christmas Fayre which is planned for late November, more details to follow!

Our next intake will be in January 2014. If you have a child aged between 2-4 years and would like to arrange a visit or put their name on our waiting list, please contact Nadine on 01235 536094 or email draytonpreschool@btconnect.com. Preschool has a website <http://www.draytonpreschool.co.uk/> which has lots of useful information, and we also have a Facebook page which is regularly updated so please visit and 'like' us for the latest news.

Do you shop online? Why not help raise funds for preschool by registering with www.easyfundraising.org.uk and shop with big names via their site, including Amazon, Boots, Mothercare and Waitrose, at no extra cost to you! Search for Drayton Preschool Playgroup.

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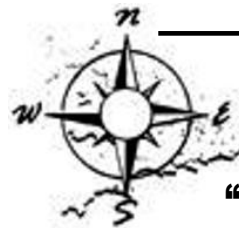
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MORE ALL AROUND

BOWLS CLUB

Roll up

After a quiet spell, things are starting to get underway with the winter league starting. 'The Wasps' will be looking to defend the title they have won for the last four years, but with the 'The Hammers' in the same league, they are sure to have a say in the matter.

We have had three more internal competitions since our last notes. 'The Ladies singles' and contesting the final will be Avril Holmes and Barbara Watts. 'The Gents singles' was played on the same day, but we ran out of time and the four players who got to the semi-finals were Cyril Carter, Doug Rich, Tony Wright and Bryn Jones. The day was well organised by Val and Lyndon. We also played 'The Attwood cup' a bowls drive, this is always a popular event on the calendar, and after a fine day's bowling, the winner was Bryn with Gillis Tate second, and Jack Mitchenson in third place. The day was well run by Josie and June.

The next competition will be the 'Friendly fours' and this year we have invited South Oxford bowls club and Didcot bowls club. This will be played on 20th of October, with Jane in charge of proceedings. This is always a good day and it is nice to see some new faces competing for the shield this year.

The last competition for this year will be 'The Didcot windows' singles. This will take place on November 24th, and just to remind all those who have got through to any of the finals, the day will be held on Sunday the 15th of December.

DRAYTON 1st BROWNIES

Annette Mitchell

Congratulations to Evie, Theia, Anna, Gabija and Lucy who all took their Brownie Promise and who are now part of our thriving pack! And welcome to Ellie who has just started.

Also, we would like to say thank you to Rebecca, Charlotte, Evie, Sienna, Neve and Lottie for finding time to attend the Brownie Service arranged by Sister Josie and Claire Soper, they had an enjoyable time with activities and games finishing with a delicious shared picnic.

We have been very busy learning about endangered animals and looking after our pets, we have had visits from a variety of pet hamsters, guinea pigs, cats, dogs and a duck!

The Brownies also made some fantastic sock animals and are currently growing cress in their animal pots.

We finished the half term by having a Robin Hood evening including making pumpkin lanterns, arm wrestling and apple bobbing in preparation for our pack holiday.

Meetings are held at Drayton Village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term from 6.15 – 7.45. Meetings are open to all girls aged between 7 – 10 years old. You can register your interest on the girl guiding website and Join Us! www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved or you can email us on drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk

Further details are available from:

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111

Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl) on 01235 528502

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TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Gould

The Didcot League season is now under way and our eight teams have had a mixed start. Having met with a lot of success last season, we anticipate that this will be a consolidation season for those teams and players that have moved to a higher division. Our best hope for honours is in Division 2 where we have three teams playing. The B team of Steve Gardner (captain), Geoff Cherrill & David Hudson has started well and should be vying for honours. Our other two Division 2 teams – C & D we hope will enjoy a competitive season and finish mid table.

In Division 1 the A team have started well with three wins. The team finished 3rd last season so are hoping to go at least one better. The E & F teams are in Divisions 3 & 4 respectively with much changed teams & I will report on their progress as the season goes forward. In Division 5 we have two teams. Each has two adults and four cadets / juniors. Most of these are in their first season of League play. The main hope is that they enjoy the competition and improve as the season progresses. They will both hope to finish above the other and will play each other three times. The H team have already won the first encounter 6-4 in what I'm told was a fun evening.

A final note, we will be holding our annual Quiz Night on 28th February 2014 and further details will be included nearer the time.

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School news:

The whole school took part in 'European Day of Languages'. Each classroom was turned into a different country and the children were flown around the different countries accompanied by air hostesses (also known as the Teaching Assistants!). They learnt about the languages and cultures of each country, and also enjoyed trying some foods, including raw fish and beetroot soup!

There is a range of exciting after school clubs happening at school at present. We have a cookery club where some children have made pizzas and candy floss, an explore outdoors club where the children explore the wild area in our school, learning about nature and make crafts using natural materials that they have collected. There is also a film club, French, running, Glee Club, computer club, and many more.

FODSA now have a new committee in place, and a meeting has taken place to start arranging things for the up coming school year. We would like to say a HUGE thank you to the previous committee members for all their hard work and great efforts in raising lots of money for the school, a special mention to Kate Foster, Melissa Head, Julie Pitts and Jules Laws.

On the 3rd October the school hosted Harvest festival. Members of the school community brought in harvest gifts, which were then made into hampers which were given to members of the village. The children enjoyed singing and sharing poems with the rest of the school.

Classroom updates:**Robins Class**

Robin's class have enjoyed reading the story 'Owl Babies'! They made collages of owls with feathers, using natural materials they found outside. They collected twigs and feathers to make owl nests and owls. The children enjoyed acting out the story.

Puffins Class

Have made their own bread and really enjoyed eating it afterwards, they then wrote their own recipes. They have also been reading the classic story of 'Where the Wild Things Are' and made their own 'wild thing' creatures using clay and natural materials. They also learnt about what waterproof means in science, and are going to design and make a waterproof coat for Max, the character in the story.

Blackbirds Class

Blackbirds have visited The Roald Dahl Children's Gallery in Aylesbury. They had such a good day - it was filled with fun and horrid stuff, as you would expect from anything to do with Roald Dahl. The children were very good at identifying objects from different stories. I think that there must be a lot of Roald Dahl stories being read at home - thank you for this. Mack and Sarah were very good actors, whilst the rest of us provided the sound effects. Blackbirds are very good at doing sound effects while shrieking with laughter at the same time! As always, the children were complimented on their good behaviour.

Red Kites Class

This term the Red Kites have been busy! They have been on a journey back to Arthurian times, reading and experiencing Arthurian legends. They have enjoyed using the wild area in school to help them imagine being in the middle of the enchanted woodland. They also created their very own legend which included their own imaginary characters being summoned to a tournament to win the crown and become the new true born king of all England.

Kingfishers Class

Kingfishers had a visit to 'Pets at Home' in Abingdon, they walked there and back again, and a great time was had by all.

Eagles

Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' was brought to life for Eagles this term when a visitor from The Young Shakespeare Company did a workshop of the play for the class. All the children took part in the acting and great characters for Prospero, Caliban and Ariel were found. Their acting skills bode well for the end of year play, which will also have a Shakespearean feel. They have

investigated the Elizabethan explorers, their political and personal motivations and written diary entries as if they have been at sea for months and are plagued with scurvy. One thing we can be sure of is, if there is any need for emergency first aid, the Eagles will be able to keep us alive while waiting for rescue. They took part in the IMPS training at Abingdon MIU, and are now confident using CPR and a defibrillator!

DRAYTON W.I.**Brenda Malin**

A Brief History of Abingdon, was the subject at our October meeting. It is still a matter of controversy as to whether Abingdon or Colchester is the longest inhabited town in the country. That said, both towns have a long and varied history. Abingdon has been sacked by many invaders over the years, all whom have left their mark on the town, and more recently by the Sixties Planners. All this was told in an informal talk given by Ann Gould.

The meeting was well attended, and a few familiar faces who, due to illness, had been unable to attend for a while, were welcomed back.

Plans for hosting the The Quarterly Meeting, being held at Drayton Village hall on Monday 21st October, were discussed and arrangements for The Quiz on November 15th at Drayton Hall were finalised. There are still tables available for the Quiz, you are not too late to book. Contact Ann Webb 01235 531418.

We meet at the Caudwell Day Centre at 7.30pm on the second Thursday in the month. Our next meeting, November 14th, is a demonstration on card and cake decorations.

DRAYTON PLAYERS**Jean Hager**

A last reminder that our friends from BreakaLeg Productions, Abingdon will be presenting "The Nightingales", a comedy by Peter Quilter at Drayton Village Hall for one night only on Saturday 2nd November, 7.30 pm. Full details can be found in last month's Drayton Chronicle. Do come along for a good evenings entertainment.

HALL NEWS**Tony Holmes**

As I write, preparations are under way for the Drayton 2020 presentations on Oct 18th & 19th (you may have seen a sign or two!) and hopefully a big attendance to match the high return rate of the village survey. Radio Oxford will have done a broadcast from the Hall on the Friday afternoon, so maybe some of you will have listened in.

Applying for grants for a new kitchen and replacement windows is proving a slow and rather bureaucratic business (yes, we did get a grant from the County Council, but several more are needed, that's how the system works!). But we are edging forward. Bookings are holding up quite well, with a dietician doing classes on Tuesdays, and a company advising on 'Lifestyle choices' (More Life) doing classes on Wednesdays. There's also a steady flow of children's parties, for which we do get a fair amount of bookings from outside the village.

BreakaLeg Productions will be bringing a comedy ('The Nightingales') to the stage on Nov 2nd - tickets at Vickery's, don't forget! - this show got excellent reviews when performed in Abingdon, so they're bringing it to Drayton, same cast, new audience. Hopefully by 'curtain-up' those curtains will have had some attention, as it's been a while since the stage saw this degree of action! If you haven't got a ticket by the time this issue hits your doormat, (and there's still time/tickets), do try and come along.

A further date to put in the diary is a Country Music night, Sat Dec 7th, 2 live acts, Tony Collins and a duo called 'Clear Cut'. There'll be a bar and buffet, tickets should also be in Vickery's by the time this comes out.

Two more nights that usually draw a good crowd, the W.I. Wit & Wisdom quiz, Nov 15th, £6 inc a Ploughman's, call Ann Webb on 531418 to book your team (proceeds are as ever for charity), and another one in December, the Carol Service, Dec 1st.

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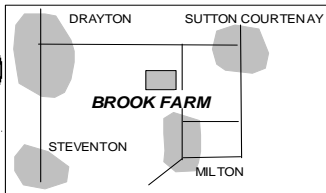
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WESTMINSTER LETTER

Ed Vaizey

As we are now approaching the first anniversary of the Localism Act, it's worth remembering the range of powers and programmes which communities can use to shape their areas. The Government has published a guide which can be accessed at this website:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youve-got-the-power-a-quick-and-simple-guide-to-community-rights

There is concise guidance on the options that might be available in different sets of circumstances and then advice on what each process will involve as well as examples of how each of the powers has been used by a different community.

This has been a busy month in politics. The major parties have all had their conferences and Parliament has returned for the autumn. With all the issues that have arisen and the policies that have been discussed in recent weeks, it is no surprise that my mailbag has also been keeping me busy. I have had emails on a wide variety of issues but two campaigns have been particularly noticeable:

Firstly, there is a campaign to speed up the approval of a Royal Charter to regulate the press. I can assure you that the Government and I are committed to implementing a tough new system of press self-regulation, and a royal charter with cross party agreement was agreed to earlier this year. This is now being fully considered, to ensure that the process of implementing the Leveson recommendations is as robust as possible. While I understand the desire to see changes made as soon as possible, given the importance of these measures I would be reluctant to see the process rushed in any way.

Secondly, there have been a number of emails arising from the film 'I Am Breathing', which tells the story of Neil Platt, a young man with motor neurone disease. MND is a dreadful, devastating disease and I am sure that his important film will not only raise awareness of the condition, but act as an inspiration for others. The cause of MND is unknown and therefore there is no known cure. However, the treatment of MND and other long-term health conditions remains a priority in this Government's plans for the NHS, which is why there is now a £3.8bn fund to aid the joining up of different health and care services to ensure that people get the specific care that is right for them.

Please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk.

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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Webber

First, the good news. Every year at this time, District and Parish Councillors are asked to nominate worthy candidates for "The Chairman's Community Awards". More people from Drayton Ward have won these awards over recent years than any other Ward in the District. And there are still many more deserving individuals in Drayton waiting in the wings. A free lunch, a certificate and a picture in the Press is not the only reward. It is the public recognition which matters most. Award winners are those who give their time and energy for the good of their local communities and community life depends on them. This year's Drayton recipients are the editors and co-ordinator of this august publication - Drayton Chronicle - Gareth Davies, Derek Pooley, Tony Holmes and Dave Lee. Many thanks to all of them for making this one of the best produced, most highly respected and most read village newsletters in the District.

The VVWHDC has decided that some 2/3 of its staff will now be moved from Abbey House in Abingdon to Crowmarsh Gifford - the SODC base. Since the beginning of the process of shared services between the two councils, Vale staff numbers have dropped by 50% with the result that Abbey House is rattling with spare capacity. The space generated by removing the majority of those currently left in Abbey House is to be taken up by 400 County Staff currently located elsewhere in Abingdon. This will save OCC much needed money. It will gain VVWHDC useful extra revenue and will also benefit SODC whose own building is rattling. It all sounds great. Some in Abingdon (how many, we don't know) feel that the right place for the Vale HQ is in Abingdon (population 33000, situated in the middle of VVWHDC and SODC) and not in Crowmarsh Gifford (population 2500, situated in the middle of nowhere). However you may feel on this, to date there has been no public consultation of any kind. Once made, the decision is all but irrevocable. If you feel strongly, please let VVWHDC know either by ringing in (01235 529292) or emailing via the website. Full details are available on the VVWHDC website (See Cabinet Agenda 4/10/13 item 7).

Planning continues to be at the forefront of everyone's concerns. My strong impression is that there has been a change in many people's thinking in recent months. A comfortable majority now accept that we are desperately short of housing in this country and that the issue is now - "Where do we put it?" More house-building is good for the economy, at least helps to limit house price inflation, and is, of course, very good for landowners. Unfortunately in a District like ours, without a Local Plan in place and without a 5/ (now 6) year land supply, the drive for more housing can fly directly in the face of this government's own Localism Act. Indeed, I would argue that Localism (the ability of Local people to have a major say in the planning of their own villages and towns) is being frustrated by pressure from the Establishment. (Government, the Planning Inspectorate, the National Planning Policy Framework and the restricted freedom given to District Planning Officers and Committees).

At a recent Vale Planning Committee, an application to build 4 new large houses in Kingston Lisle was turned down on the grounds that it was too close to the village boundary, and that the houses were too large. Local people wanted these houses and the Vale needed these houses - indeed, if Kingston Lisle had a Neighbourhood Plan, they would probably have got these houses. Unfortunately, in this case Localism was the loser. Now no houses are to be built there, instead of 4 - local people were deemed not as competent in deciding the future of their own village as area and national planners. At the same planning meeting, an application to build 2 large terraced houses in Longcot was granted in the face of local people's wishes and view that the site was perfect for 4 smaller houses which the village desperately needed. Once again, Localism lost out and 2 houses are to be built instead of 4.

No-one could accuse either Kingston Lisle or Longcot of being NIMBIES - on the contrary, both were arguing for more houses.

No-one should underestimate the importance of Drayton's rapidly emerging Neighbourhood Plan with its message of; "This is our chance to plan our own future"

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Williams

Report of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th
October 2013

The meeting was immediately preceded by a talk on the subject of 'biodiversity', given by Cynth Napper, Community Officer from the Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum based at Little Wittenham. Cynth had been asked to speak about the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and its relevance to parish councils. In particular, she was also keen to discuss, in the context of Drayton's Neighbourhood Plan, how development can be combined with protection, or even enhancement, of the environment. The creation of nature reserves is an idea that was canvassed in the recent Drayton 2020 Questionnaire, and Cynth also described how an area might be set aside for community woodland, rather like Steventon has done in their site off the B4017, just south of Drayton.

In the main meeting two new councillors were co-opted onto the Parish Council – David Mercer and Janet Manning. For the first time in years, Drayton now has a full complement of councillors, 11 in all, and with a number of deadlines for the Neighbourhood Plan fast approaching, it feels good to have more people on board. Five members of the public also attended the meeting to raise concerns about traffic speeding along the Milton Road (the road through Milton village down to Milton Park). Last month there was another fatal accident on this narrow, winding lane, one of several in the last 7 or 8 years, and it seems ridiculous that such an obviously dangerous road should be unrestricted – allowing people to drive legally up to 60 mph, while 30mph limits are imposed on other roads that are wider and manifestly safer.

Some while ago, and following an earlier fatality, a delegation of schoolchildren brought the same issue to the Parish Council, who made enquiries of OCC's Highways Dept on their behalf. The unsatisfactory answer we received, then and now, is that each of the fatalities on Milton Road has involved one person – driver or motorcyclist - who crashed because they were (probably) driving too fast. Had another person been involved, i.e. had the driver collided with another car or pedestrian, this apparently would make a stronger case for speed restrictions. Even more unhelpful, it seems that local government cuts have left the Highways Dept with no budget whatever to fund either the necessary road survey, or the erection of signs. Other than asking questions and lobbying OCC, Parish Councils have no direct powers to act in matters affecting the public highway, but our District and County Councillor, Richard Webber, is exploring the possibility that several local Parish Councils might get together and pay for the cost of the work themselves. Drayton PC is certainly willing to contribute towards this.

Finally, it appears it is time for another mention of that hardy perennial of a subject for Parish Councils, the issue of dog poo around the village. It has been reported to the PC that the incidence of dog waste being deposited on footpaths, e.g. around the Millennium Green, the bridleway from the Green to the High Street, and sadly, even in the Parish burial ground, has noticeably increased of late. Without wishing to labour the point, this behaviour by some dog owners (no doubt a small minority) is lazy, selfish and inconsiderate. There is no excuse at all for not clearing up after your dog, and in the event that dog bins are full (and please note, due to a change in Vale policy, most ordinary litter bins in the village can now be used for dog waste as well), then the bag can be taken home and emptied in the toilet, just like a baby's nappy. Not difficult, and if you choose to own a dog - your responsibility – and no one else's. End of complaint, and hopefully, enough said.

To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, in the first instance. David may be contacted via E-mail at draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk or by telephone on 07909 176061, and

he will ensure that any messages are passed on. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the Clerk's E-mailing list, so that they receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents. In addition, all Parish Council minutes are now archived on the village website: www.drayton-near-abingdon.org. The latter also carries back copies of the Drayton Chronicle, information on Drayton 2020, and details of other events in the village.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 4th November 2013, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend.



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COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Webber

Oxfordshire County Council, in common with most County Councils is very short of money. It has capital reserves, but its Revenue Budget gets tighter and tighter every year. In the next financial year, it is going to have to find tens of millions of annual savings to make its books balance. Hard decisions are going to have to be made over which services, traditionally offered by OCC should be cut. With Social Services, Roads and Education being the major costs, and the Education budget being largely protected, the options are not attractive. By contrast, District Councils, by and large, are comparatively wealthy; Parish Councils also have more freedom to raise money (at present) than either District or County Councils.

We can either complain and demand a reverse of direction, or we can embrace the change and endeavour to make it an opportunity rather than a threat. Money flowing down the chain towards Parish Councils, empowering people to take more responsibility for local decisions, raising the status of and public interest in the work of Parish Councils, is no bad thing. Indeed, it is what Localism is about.

However, giving people more power over their own lives only works if, a) local people are prepared to take up the responsibility and, b) those who have traditionally held the power, understand that they are required to give some of it up. None of this will happen quickly, indeed, it may take years to achieve. However, having watched the Parish Councils in my Council Division in action, I cannot accept the old argument that such bodies are not capable and fit to make sensible decisions for their communities. There is much to threaten us out there at present, but there is also great opportunity.

So where does this leave a County Council? Maybe Social Service responsibilities are gradually being handed downwards. Academies are steadily removing County powers over Education. It seems that the only certain future responsibility of Counties is around Roads and Transport. It may well be that in future, what money the County Council has is spent largely here. If the whole place is not to seize up, if people are going to be able to get to our Schools and our Social services, we are going to need some solutions to our transport problems in this rather overcrowded part of these overcrowded islands.

It is a sad fact that it takes a fatality to focus everyone's mind on a road problem. The Milton road out of Drayton has just seen its third fatality in the last five years. In each case, it was a lone driver (in two cases, motorcyclists), who died. In no case was there a multiple collision. It seems that the drivers lost control on one of the numerous S-bends between Milton and Drayton. At present, the speed of the road is not restricted. In other words, it is legal to drive at 60mph on it. I do not know a single person, resident, Parish Councillor from Drayton, Milton or Sutton Courtenay who thinks that 60mph is a safe or sensible speed to be travelling on that stretch of road. Reason and public opinion all argue that it should be 40mph. Arguments against are around enforceability, precedents and the cost of implementing a change. Enforceability is, of course, an issue for an overstretched Police Authority - but if the effect of a 40mph limit is only to reduce the average speed on a road by say 10%, surely this is worth it - a smaller risk of lives lost - even if it cannot be fully enforced? And if there are other stretches of road which could be affected by such a change, is that such a bad thing? No, the argument for me, is all about cost. There are legal costs to such a change, costs of consultation and costs of implementation. In the case of Milton Road, the total costs are estimated at between £3-4K. OCC has no budget for this, but until April, at least I have some money (maybe up to £1K) from a thing called the Area Stewardship Fund which could be spent on it. The rest of the money would have to be found from a general whip round the Parish Councils and Milton Park, but I would like to pursue this.

This is urgent. We do not want any more fatalities. If you agree, and live in Drayton, Milton, Sutton Courtenay, or work at Milton Park, please encourage everyone to support this initiative.

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WHEN RADIO OXFORD CAME TO DRAYTON

Andrew Bax

On Friday 18th October, Radio Oxford came to Drayton as part of their big tour of Oxfordshire. They set up a mobile studio in the Hall while preparations were being made for the Drayton 2020 public meeting on the village survey which was held there later that evening. Radio Oxford's Kat Orman interviewed several people from the village who spoke about various aspects of Drayton. Among those interviewed were Donald Bruce as he prepared the chilli meal for the Drayton 2020 event, Sheila Cook in her home, Austin and Geraldine in the Wheatsheaf, Paul Mayhew-Archer and Derek Pooley, and Kate Macfarlane with Willow the ferret.



Kat Orman interviewing Derek Pooley and Paul Mayhew-Archer



Kate Macfarlane with Willow the ferret



Kat Orman and team

More pictures of the Vale of White Horse Community Awards Lunch on October 19th



The Chronicle Editors and Coordinator with Distributors Brenda Malin and Shirley Thomas



Although Richard Webber nominated some of the Chronicle Team and Andrew Bax, he was out of the country on the day of the lunch so couldn't attend. Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer and Paul Mayhew-Archer each hosted a table that included Andrew, some of the Chronicle Team and volunteers from Marcham

DRAYTON DIARY

FOR NOVEMBER

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise
(To book Drayton Hall call Tony Holmes on 531180)
website address www.draytonvh.co.uk

Fri 1st	7.00pm	Play Rehearsal
Sat 2nd	11.00am	Private Function
Sat 2nd	7.30pm	"The Nightingales" (Vickery's for tickets)
Mon 4th	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting Caudwell DC
Fri 15th	7.30pm	W.I. Wit & Wisdom Quiz (531418)
Sat 16th	10.00am	CHRISTMAS FAIR St Peter's
Mon 18th	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline (p2) – Ads 15th
Fri 22nd	5.00pm	Private party
Sat 23rd	1.00pm	Pre-school SALE
Sun 24th	9.00am	Bowls Club (all day)
Wed 27th	7.30pm	Parish Council – Extra Meeting
Fri 29th	2.00pm	Private Function
Sat 30th	12 noon	Private party
Dec 1st	7.30pm	Carol Service



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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Pilates (Call 01235 814299)	
1.15 – 2.15 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)	Steventon Hall
6.30 – 7.30pm	Table Tennis (Beginners & New players)	School
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8–10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.30 – 10.00 pm	Table Tennis Practice (League juniors & adults)	School
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.45 – 8.45 pm	Drayton Drop In (Except Bank Holidays)	
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	

TUESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	Church Room
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	School
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	School
7.00 pm	Pilates – also at 8pm	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	School

WEDNESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
10.30–11.30am	Pebbles – Baby, Toddler and Carer group (in Term)	Church Room
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	Haywards Rd
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	The Green Car Pk
1.45 pm	Whist – now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8–9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	Caudwell Day Centre
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	School

THURSDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (First Thursday in Month)	Caudwell DC
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's Lady Chapel
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (in Term)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	School
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

FRIDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	Caudwell Day Centre
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis	School

SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (All Age Service 3rd Sunday)	St Peter's
11.15 am	Family Time (1st Sunday)	Baptist Church
6.00 pm	Evening Worship	Baptist Church

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.

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