

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

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May 2014

Oxontime : Real-Time info for buses

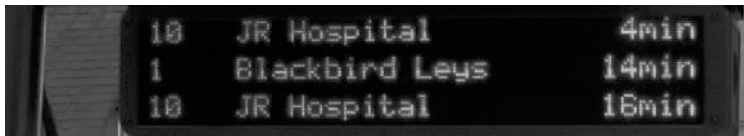
'Oxontime' is a partnership between independent bus operators & Oxfordshire County Council to provide Real Time Information (RTI) for bus users. Buses with Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) equipment use 'GPS' (Global Positioning) technology to track their location; by comparing that to timetables, the system calculates when buses should arrive at stops on specified routes.

Note – Only RTI enabled services can be predicted. Generally this means all Oxford Bus Company and Stagecoach services, and most of Thames Travel routes (for a full list of RTI-enabled services, please see <http://www.oxontime.com/coverage.aspx>)

Please note that, with a very few exceptions, **only Real Time Information is supplied to users of Oxontime** – in the format '3 mins', 'DUE' etc rather than scheduled timetable departure times, displayed in the format '13:00' (HH:MM).

Bus users can access RTI using 4 methods

1) RTI signs at the bus stop At some stops, electronic signs are provided which show predicted departure times.



No prediction will be shown for a bus until it is within 30 minutes of the stop. Predictions will count down, reflecting the position of the buses on the network. When a sign prediction changes to 'DUE', this indicates that a bus should arrive within a short period of time, subject to local road conditions.

Note. Where a bus is RTI enabled, but for some reason it cannot be predicted via satellite tracking, it will not be shown on the sign and a 'please refer to timetables' message will be displayed.

2) Oxontime Website The Oxontime website (see intro above) allows selection of a bus stop by SMS number as shown below, but also provides additional sophisticated search options, so that stops can be selected by any combination of stop name, road, town/village, postcode and service number.

Full instructions on how to use these various features can be found from the Oxontime home page link above.

3) Mobile Phone Applications A Mobile Internet version of the Oxontime website is available for users of Smartphones and a specific Oxontime application with enhanced functionality can be downloaded for use on Microsoft Windows Mobile, Google (Android) and Apple (iPhones) operating systems.

NB1 Some buses, particularly on rural services, are not fitted with RTI equipment and cannot be shown. See website link above for full list of included services.

NB2 Both the outgoing and incoming text messages will be charged at your network provider's usual text message rate.

4) Text messaging to mobile phones

RTI information can also be obtained via a simple text message request using Mobile Oxontime. Each bus stop has a unique reference number, known as the **SMS number**. Where the stop is used by RTI equipped buses, a special plate will be attached to the bus stop pole containing its number, see example below.



To find out when the next buses are due, simply create an SMS text message containing the SMS number (which always starts with 693) and send it to 84637 (that's 'TIMES' on a phone keypad); within seconds you will receive a text message listing the next few RTI service bus departures from that stop.

If you know the number of the service you wish to use, leave a space after the SMS number and add the service you want, e.g. 69345486 4A. This will exclude all services except the 4A.

You can ALSO :- get times for buses later in the day, so text the stop code, leave a space, followed by a time in 24 hour clock e.g.

69312345 0845 ...or both, simply leave another space after the service number, then add the time e.g. 69312345 400 0845

See the separate Mobile Oxontime leaflet for further details.

Chronicle Team - Latest News

1. Our lottery manager, Jean Barton, has decided that as she now lives in Harwell it is time for her to step down from her role. We are indebted to her, as she was instrumental in establishing the new lottery system we introduced a year ago. **We send her and Peter our heartfelt thanks.**

We are now looking for **someone to take on this role**. Full instructions will be given and Jean will assist for a handover period. Trudi Buckner has supported Jean and will continue to support the new lottery manager and, as always, I am on hand to give moral support.

I would love to hear from anyone who would like to know more about this. Jean is looking to step down in August so we'd very much like to have a volunteer in place by then so that the lottery is able to continue. It provides much needed income, thus if lost, we would have to make serious adjustments either to how the Chronicle is produced or how we raise additional funds.

2. I was very pleased to receive a telephone message from a **Mr Lloyd**, re volunteering for the Chronicle. Sadly no phone number was left to return his call, but I would love to hear from him again so that we can chat about this further.

Gareth Davies (529510) Chronicle Co-ordinator

In This Issue :- Parents, please note! (page 15); Parish Council AGM (p13), Come and bend the 2020 group's ears (p14), Letters (p8), Chron volunteers - PLEASE - this page (& p14), Could YOU foster? (p9), & Please Donate a Kit (p4)

COMING CHRONICLES

The **JUNE Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday May 30th**.

The Editor will be **David Lee (202699)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (see below, safest is to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green,

NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, May 19th 2014.

After this deadline, items are given less precedence for inclusion (No guarantees!), and certainly need to reach us by the Wednesday.

STOP PRESS - ADVERTISERS should note that the deadline for ads is **EARLIER, Friday May 16th**, due to their preparation time.

NB :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; there seems to be a trend (with increasing use of e-mail) of sending items later. It should perhaps be realised that the later an item is received, the less precedence it gets.

The box is checked a little before the deadline. It is a great help if items can be left a few days before the closing date. Thank you.

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

All contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to include the name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number of the author. Contributions can be made :-

1. If you've Internet access, by **email** to the relevant editor (and please use a **meaningful title**, we get a lot called Chronicle!)

to reach the next editor ==>	editor@draytonchronicle.net
Derek Pooley >>>	derek_pooley@talk21.com
David Lee >>>	david_r.lee@ntlworld.com
Tony Holmes >>>	tony-holmes@ntlworld.com

Please remember to check that you soon get a confirmation reply. We do occasionally have emails sent that just don't arrive!

2. An email attachment, in WORD please.
3. A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. Or perhaps hand-written, either way, NAMES in CAPITALS please!
4. IF in any doubt, ASK the EDITOR!

THE FOLLOWING TWO MONTHS		
Issue for	Copy for publication by Mondays (nb Agents Lottery Packs Fri before)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
July	16 June	27 June
August	14 July	25 July

NB Please note that Ad rates have been increased in 2014 - they'd been held since 2006, but sadly costs keep rising.

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

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

Advertiser Category	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£6.00	£16.00	£31.00	£60.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£7.00	£19.00	£37.00	£72.00

Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at half the above rates.

All requests **must** be accompanied by **cash or a cheque** made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours, OR send your requirements :- advertising@draytonchronicle.net

Letters to the Editor You may request that your name & address are not shown; but we **MUST** have those details, & phone number.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Jean Barton, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE - APRIL - LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs J Pimm, 57 Steventon Road	Janet Dale
£20	Mark Rickard, 4 Cheers Farm	Doreen Mason
£15	Mr Pitts, 9 Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	Mr Sadler, 11 Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	A Bartlett, 20 Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	Mr & Mrs Camplin, 10 Steventon Rd	Judy Henman
£10	Mrs Sargeant, 51 High Street	Michelle Ainscough
£10	Mrs Boyd, 26 Whitehorns Way	Pat Percival
£10	C Davies, 27 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	Margaret Jones, 1 Meadow Cottage	Alison Bone


Winning tickets, from 1689 sold, were randomly drawn via computer (similar to Premium Bonds). Do please see our appeal for more agents (page 1) - even if you only deliver some Chronicles, that would help.

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ALL AROUND

Drayton W.I. Brenda Malin

Drayton W.I. held its very own Antiques road show, admittedly not in stately surroundings, but in the familiar Caudwell Day Centre.

Mr Lynes, a local jeweller, did a sterling job valuing our sentimental, old and interesting, occasionally more valuable than thought (but some less so!) and one ghastly silver thingy incorporating a horse's shin bone, even the owner does agree with this description.

The meeting was very well attended and the proceeds collected from the valuation fees are to be donated by Mr Lynes to SHELTER.

Our next meeting is in complete contrast to the above. Ben Jones, an arboriculturist at Nuneham Courtenay (University of Oxford's Harcourt Arboretum), will be talking to us about 'Finding Rare Plants in Japan'. Ben has been to talk to us before and had us enthralled by his tales of plant hunting in South America so we look forward to more tales from the woods!

If you would like to get a feel of 'US', please do come to the Caudwell Day Centre on the second Thursday in the month (7.30pm). **All are welcome** and tea and biscuits are on tap.

NB For your diary :- Coffee morning June 14th 10am - 12noon The Bothy, Halls Close.

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Letters to the Editor

We welcome articles and letters on a variety of subjects. However, the Editors reserve the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter or text. If something is rejected, or held over to the next issue (this for space reasons) then the sender will usually be suitably advised.

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DRAYTON WIVES Gwen Price

Our talk in March was given by Ticia Lever. She showed us many different fabrics of various textures and colours, which she had used to make pictures, books and many other imaginative exhibits. She was very enthusiastic about her craft.

DATES for May:-

Mon 12th Coffee: Irma, Jac A, Ann C
Thurs 15th Walk around Cumnor Hill
Mon 19th Crafts
Mon 19th Whist: Barbara C
Wed 28th Meeting: Colin Fox - The Mary Rose
(tea : Brenda, Liz)

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MAY Dates Ab'don (3rd Fri) - 16th Didcot (2nd Sat) - 10th

TVFM news - ring 01235 227266 see website - Tvfm.org.uk

Usually the markets run from about 8.30 am until 1.30

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge (on maternity leave)	Revd Rebecca Peters	531374
Associate Priest	Revd Rosie Bruce	525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Val Cross	535183
	Mr Colin Arnold	531923
Organist	Vacancy	

CHURCH NOTICES

REGULAR SERVICES

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

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Weds	10.30 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room

CALENDAR for MAY

Tues 6th	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun 18th	10.00 am	Christian Aid Service	

PARISH REGISTER

Interment of Ashes Mar 22nd Reginald George Jones

YOU STAY – WE PRAY (May)

4th to 18th Abingdon Road; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Road

19th to 24th Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive

25th to 31st Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green

ART & STUFF

6 The Square, Abingdon OX14 5AR (by War Memorial)

New shop in Abingdon, selling modern and traditional watercolours and oil paintings, limited edition prints, antiques, collectables and loads of quirky stuff!

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Friday 12.30pm to 4pm

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CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – May 11 to 18th

If you had to leave your home at a moments notice what would you take with you? Most probably you would think of things of personal value like photographs or treasured items. But in reality what you would need are the basic items for survival. Being a displaced person brings you right down to what is most important for life - water, food, shelter. These are not easy to find when everyone around you is facing the same crisis. But these three basics also have needs: water needs a container to collect and put it in; food needs something for cooking; shelter needs strong materials easily erected.

Over the past 12 months there have been a number of conflicts and natural disasters around the world which have displaced people from their homes - often as refugees in a neighbouring country. At that point of desperate need something needs to be done quickly before more organised materials can be put in place. So Christian Aid has come up with an emergency survival kit which helps to meet those immediate needs, **each kit costs £15.**

In previous years the churches in Drayton have done a house to house collection and over the years raised considerable funds for Christian Aid work. This year we are encouraging people to give £15 to provide a survival kit for refugee families in South Sudan. **If you want to know more** about this **PLEASE come along** to the Christian Aid Service at 10am, Sun May 18th at the Church, this will be an informal service with a focus on Christian Aid work.

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(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

The 2013-14 season is over and what a great season it's been for Drayton TT Club! We have many success stories that resulted in our being the most successful club in the Didcot & District League.

In the Bidmead Cup our team of Matthew Davies, Kavan Warrender & Peter Weir retained this 'club' trophy beating Grove club in the final.

Furthermore, in the Handicap Shield Final the 'C' team of Kevin Davies, John Gould & Tony Krason beat R.A.L. 'C' by a mere 9 points to take the trophy! Tony was outstanding and inspired his team mates to a fine victory.

The star turn belongs to the 'A' team. They have delivered by winning the top division and are therefore League Champions. Captained by Rob Hudson and supported by Karl Bushell, Greg Boone & Matthew Davies the team won 16 of their 18 ties. Karl also finished as the Division 1 top player with a 100% record.

In Division 2 the 'B' team of Captain Steve Gardner, Geoff Cherrill & David Hudson won the title winning 5 more ties than the runners up. Geoff was joint Division 2 top player alongside Tony Krason who played for the 'C' team.

The 'C' team finished 5th, one place below the 'D' team captained by Roy Stocker, with the main players being Kavan Warrender and Alex Rodman, both young players who found the step up to the higher standard to be no problem.

Our 'E' team in division 3 finished a creditable mid-table. This was an excellent result as the team captained by Shaun Collins suffered with injuries and availability problems.

In Division 4 Drayton 'F' were Champions. The team captained by Allan Lovelock ably supported by Finlay Greenfield (in his first season), Janet Quarry, Peter Weir & Alec Winton only lost 1 tie throughout the season.

In Division 5 our 'G' & 'H' teams both had an enjoyable season. Neither gained honours but with many debutants they got valuable experience of competitive table tennis for the first time. Lewis Waddup & Scott Muil had a particularly good season.

So the DDTA season is over. All that remains is our Club Championships on 18th May.

ARE YOU IN THE DARK ? If your streetlight isn't working, or wastes resources by being on in the daytime, then PLEASE report it on the County Council hotline (free) 0800 317802 - help them by giving the town, road, and if possible the number on the post, or failing that the nearest house.

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Drayton 1st Brownies

Annette Mitchell

We would like to say a warm welcome to our new Brownies Imogen, Amber, Lucy, Isabella and Grace who started with us just after Easter.

Brownies are having the busiest time this year as Brownies all over the country continue to celebrate their 100 Big Birthday. So far we have had a Circus Day arranged by Abingdon Division at John Mason School, this included riding unicycles, trying out stilts and the low wire, juggling and spinning plates!!

On Saturday April 26th 450 Brownies took over the tracks!! First Great Western Railway provided a train to accommodate us all, we decorated our carriages and travelled to London and were met by some VIP's and had a grand photo shoot. We then had some time to visit Kensington Gardens for a picnic and visit Princess Diana's play area, before we travelled back to Oxford. Celebrations will continue for the rest of the year, so watch this space!

For this term our pack will be taking part in The Big Brownie Birthday Challenge, which is made up of activities themed around the events of the last 100 years. We will be choosing six activities to work on as a unit and another three challenges. When all activities and challenges have been completed the Brownies will be presented with The Big Brownie Birthday Challenge Badge. We will let you know how we get on!!

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. Further details are available from:-

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111

Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl) on 01235 528502

Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl) on 01235 555216

You can register your interest on the Girl Guiding Website; Join Us! Or you can email us on drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk

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BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Secretary:- Mrs Jayne Henderson..... 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)

Come and join us every Sunday – we look forward to seeing you. **EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME**



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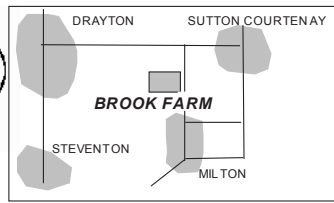
NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A Warm Welcome to Karen & Rodger Wood who have moved into Church Lane after twenty years living in Spain.

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WESTMINSTER VIEW

Ed Vaizey's column (Wantage & Didcot MP, also he's Minister of Culture, Communications and Creative Industries)

The subject of new housing has been top of my recent list of correspondence. People are understandably concerned about the large numbers of houses that the authorities say need to be built in our area over the next fifteen years or so – something like 100,000, an increase of almost 40 per cent (doubled in 15 years) in the numbers of houses in Oxfordshire

It is clear to me that the figure may be too high, and I am therefore going to lobby for a change in the way housing need is predicted so that it reflects actual, current housing need and a well-grounded view of new jobs, also based on what can, realistically, be delivered by developers in the local area, bearing in mind what can be planned and constructed within available resources. I shall also ask that the constraints imposed by the Oxford Green Belt, floodplains and the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty locally are taken into account.

I have no doubt that this debate will continue for many months: I will continue to do all that I can to represent the views of my constituents to ensure that we get genuinely sustainable new housing to meet real need, but that we don't damage our local area in the process.

I have continued to lobby Network Rail to try to ensure that the impact of the electrification of the line will cause the minimum possible disruption. There are clear signs that Network Rail are taking more account of the comments they have received, particularly re the needs of local residents as closures are planned.

I have also received a number of emails and letters from constituents regarding the Care Bill. Many of those who have been in touch are campaigners for Macmillan Cancer Support, and I think it is important to pay tribute to the work done by this fantastic charity in their efforts to raise awareness of the most pressing issues facing cancer carers. It is vitally important that cancer carers receive the support they need to help them to continue this invaluable work. A particular concern has been on the identification of carers by the NHS. I am therefore pleased that the Care Services Minister has confirmed that accompanying guidance to the Care Bill will reinforce the importance of co-operation between the NHS and local authorities re their (the authorities) duty to identify carers.

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 020 7219 6350, write, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or you can e-mail me (quickest) on vaizeye@parliament.uk; the Website is www.vaizey.com with up to date news and surgery details.

Even More All Around!

Drayton MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST & Drayton COMMUNITY TRUST

The Annual General Meetings of these two Drayton Charities will be held on **Wednesday 17th June** in the Caudwell Day Centre. The meeting for the Millennium Green Trust will begin at 7.30pm and for the Drayton Community Trust at 8.00pm.

Both meetings are **open to the public** and anyone is invited to attend.
Andrew Bax

MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle one month you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to stock a few for us each month.

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Drayton BOWLS Club 'Roll-Up'

The 'Wasps' retained the afternoon league title when 'Stanford Greys' failed to get enough points from their last game away to 'The Astons'; this was a fine achievement, and a **5th consecutive time** they have won this league. Members of the winning team were Tony Wright (Captain), Olive Brown, Cyril Carter, Josie Carter, Bob & Marjorie Strachan, June Hyde, Bryn Jones, Doug Rich, Nevelle Ferris.

More internal competitions have been completed. The 'Attwood Cup' was played for in March and was won by Bryn Jones, with Gillis Tate second, and Jack Mitchenson third. The 'Rose Bowl Leagues' (Monday and Wednesday) have been completed and the winners of Wednesday were Barry Davis, Ian Norris, & Eileen Long, and they will play Monday winners Jack Mitchenson, Marjorie Strachan & Pat Mitchenson on Finals Day, which will be held on Sunday 14th December this year.

Also the 'Beryl James triples' was completed and going through to the final will be Jack Mitchenson, Ian Norris and Barbara Carter, who will play June Hyde, Len Smith and Gillis Tate, **thanks to Jane and Josie** for organizing the day.

The next competition will be the 'Doreen Jones never won' singles, this will be played for on May 18th.

And in closing, the **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Wednesday July 2nd, at 7.15 for 7.30pm in the main hall - do **PLEASE make a note in your diary**, and ALSO make a note for **lunch at Burford on May 11th**.



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YOUR LETTERS

Dottie Lister May 8th 1939 – March 25th 2014

Dear Sir, Drayton Road, Abingdon

A very big thank you for everyone who attended Dottie's funeral on April 14th. I know it was greatly appreciated by Jimmy, and myself, she was definitely sent off in style.

Also thanks for the cards Jimmy has received, it has been quite overwhelming. Colin did a grand job and I hope everyone has a good and happy memory of Dottie.

Special thanks to the Red Lion; Dottie loved her time spent there with family and friends, and it was a fitting place to celebrate her life.

Fred Stevens

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MARIE CURIE

Dear Sir, Sutton Wick Lane

I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to the residents of Sutton Wick Lane who once again gave so generously to the Marie Collection in March.

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Daphne Pointer



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Dear Sir, 70 Steventon Road

The collection for the Children's Society (in April) raised £201.85.

Many thanks to the people of Binning Close, Fisher Close, Haywards Road, Hilliat Fields, Lockway, Lyford Close, Marcham Road, Steventon Road and Whitehorns Way who very kindly contributed.

Yours sincerely

Doreen Bourne

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ART WEEKS

Oxfordshire Craft Guild (OCG) are putting on loads of exhibitions through May, both in the Abingdon area and further afield. Too many to mention in total, so there's just a few of the more local ones listed below. (For a full list of what's on, see www.artweeks.org, or call them 01865 865596).

This exhibition hosts two edges of Russian visual culture: the ancient, sacred and traditional form exemplified by icon painting and the newest, viral imagery of i-cats. They will be exhibited together in The Barn at Stonehill (Stonehill Lane, on the way to Abingdon). The artists will be available for talks and demonstrations. Call 01235 536011, or <http://www.stonehillhouse.co.uk> May 5-11 12-6pm

Now, two sites on Steventon Green. Lyn Harrison and Jo Bosley (of Steventon Green Pottery) are exhibiting hand built ceramics made of stoneware crank clay fired to a high temperature to make it suitable for outdoor use. The pots are decorated with slips and glazes with an unusual wood ash finish, they're at 17 The Green, Steventon, details 07714 761638; Dates: 3-5 & 8-11 May, Times: 12-6pm (Thurs 12-8).



Just nearby are Dave Luxton & Mary Reade, two potters teaming up, demonstrating wheel-throwing and hand-building techniques. Their functional domestic ware, is attractively decorated with slip patterning and/or glazes. The non functional pieces are quirky and original, see them at Laburnum Cottage, 33 The Green, Steventon, call 01235 831261; Dates May 3-5 & 8-11.

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Log on to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/fostering to find out more details or call 0800 7835724. They have an **upcoming information evening**, Weds May 22nd, 6.30pm to 8, at County Hall, Oxford to chat to the fostering team personally.

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Richard Webber

County Council Report

Many thanks to Drayton PC, to Milton PC, to Milton Park and to OCC for their financial contributions which have made the installation of a 40mph zone between Milton Village and Drayton a reality. This must, at last, reduce the risk of any more fatalities on that stretch of road (NB Ed:- decision to be ratified by OCC as we go to print).

It is no secret that OCC is short of money. Indeed as the District Council gets richer on the back of New Homes Bonus, it seems the County gets poorer. With the arrival of Academies and Fee Schools, many of the County's Education responsibilities have gone. The Roads and Transport budget is under huge pressure and the incredibly wet winter has not helped. The Social Service budget too is squeezed. There are outstanding OCC officers trying to take on ever more work.

Given the pressures, it is great to see OCC standing up for itself as it has over the proposed extra pedestrian crossing in Ock Street, Abingdon. This proposal was the result of the Planning Inspector's decision to allow 160 homes to be built on the Drayton Road - provided that the pedestrian crossing was completed. His decision effectively meant that "The need for housing" had trumped "the severity of the traffic". The question would now be would "the reduced safety of pedestrians including schoolchildren" be similarly trumped. To his great credit, the Cabinet member for the Environment said "No, the need for housing should not trump the safety of people". As a result, the house building cannot begin. A great result, but I fear the saga will not end there.

In conclusion, for Drayton, it has been a tough year, but also a landmark year. One on which people may well look back and say "that was the year that Drayton took charge of its own destiny".

If you have feeling on this, or any other County or District issue you would like me to hear, **please contact me** on 01235 534001 or Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

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District Councillor

With the arrival of new figures (the SHMA) predicting the need for 20,500 extra homes in the Vale, the administration has undertaken a consultation as to where these houses might go. There is general anger and confusion from Vale residents who see their towns and villages being swamped.

Having lived and dreamed 'planning issues' for the past 3 years, three general points occur to me:-

Given that we face the prospect of changing the Vale's villages out of all recognition and putting further pressure on an already strained infrastructure, it seems only sensible that we check that the predicted figures of housing shortfall are as accurate as possible. We are not short of boffins in the Vale – people well able to scrutinise the figures and the methodology which produced them. Before we act on the 'data', these people should check it.

The reason for 'Green Belts' is to prevent the coalescence of cities, towns and villages. We tamper with them at our peril. It is perfectly possible that the precise location of the Oxford Green Belt could be re-arranged. In places it is several miles wide, but Abingdon and Drayton are about 2 fields apart. A full Green Belt Review might well be useful, but each District nibbling at its bit of the Green Belt as currently suggested weakens the whole point.

The consultation has been delivered as though there is no alternative – we have to take the housing and it can only go where we are told. For a consultation of such major importance, it has been carried out in the minimum legal period required. Parish Clerks have been asked to organise the distribution of publicity material and most people have not seen it. Meetings have been arranged in rooms with inadequate seating and poorly functioning sound systems. The whole exercise appears to be a **rushed, short term solution**. But is it a solution at all? It is very doubtful that we have the bricks, or the builders to build houses at the rate suggested. We have never come close to it before. It is very doubtful that we will generate the jobs at the rate predicted, we have never done so before.

As your elected representative on the DC, I will continue to argue, as strongly as I can, that once we have verified the figures, we should plan to solve the problem over a realistic period. After all, our shortage of housing has been built up over at least 20 years, it is simply unrealistic to think we can solve it in 5. Trying to do so risks doing untold damage to the Vale of the future.

In the midst of the Vale's planning mayhem, our Drayton Neighbourhood Plan nears completion. I believe that we have truly engaged with Localism over the past two years, we have accepted the need for growth and we have planned for it in a controlled and sustainable way. Our Plan already carries planning weight, indeed more than the emerging Local Plan at present. Eventually, it will have to comply with that Plan, but the Drayton2020 Steering Committee is working incredibly hard to make sure that its ambition to produce a well laid out, fully functioning and interconnected village, with good facilities, is not going to be upset by all the ructions going on in the wider Vale. I believe that our Neighbourhood Plan needs all our support more than ever as it nears completion. **Richard Webber** (OCC & VWHDC)

Millennium Green Wardens' Rota 2014

MAY	1-14 Andrew Bax	15-31 Angela Edgington
JUNE	1-15 Steve Clarke	16-30 David Mitchell
JULY	1-15 Ann James	16-31 Keith Clough
AUGUST	1-16 Andrew Bax	17-31 Julie Yeates
SEPTEMBER	1-15 Rosie Bruce	16-30 Catherine Webber
OCTOBER	1-16 Christine West	17-31 Alison Dewar
NOVEMBER	1-15 Donald Bruce	16-30 Fran Adams
DECEMBER	1-16 Janet Woolley	17-31 Derek Pooley

Many thanks for offering your help. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. Here are a few pointers to help you with your duties. The wand (litter picker) can be collected and returned at the end of your stint, to the car port at 39A Sutton Wick Lane. Main duties are to litter pick from the whole of the field not just the paths.

Week ends can be especially bad, particularly by the main Sutton Wick entrance. School holidays also need more scrutiny. You may leave your full bags at the top of our drive. If there are any problems or observations please let me know. The rota will not change until further notice. *Gwen Price (531205)*

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Nominations Community Sport & Recreation Awards

The Sport and Recreation Alliance are inviting nominations for their Community Sport and Recreation Awards. These awards celebrate the work, often unsung, that goes on at grassroots sports level, and the opportunities for recreation offered to local communities by grassroots sports clubs. **Community clubs** can nominate in the following categories:-

Community Sport & Recreation overall winner; School links; Volunteer management; Green thinking; Innovative projects; and Professional club community programme of the year award.

Applications must be received by 5pm on 4 May (QUICK!!). Category award winners will receive £1000. The overall winner will receive £2500. Prizes will be given at a special ceremony in St James Palace, London on 9 May, hosted by HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. **For more information** and to complete an application form, visit the Sport and Recreation Alliance website:- <http://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/webforms/community-sport-and-recreation-award-nomination>

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Young Dementia ?

Over 64,000 people in the UK are thought to have young onset dementia, and yet information and services for younger people with dementia can be very hard to find. However, Young Dementia UK have recently launched a new website:- www.youngdementiauk.org to try to help.

This will be full of **advice and information** on living with the condition as well as inspiring stories, many written personally by people who are living with young onset dementia.

Volunteers Key to Locks

Volunteer Lock Keepers (assistants) work alongside paid lock keepers. They help boats pass through the lock safely: taking ropes, directing traffic, and operating sluices and lock gates. They help maintain the site, by painting, tidying and gardening, and also provide information to visitors, to enhance their time on the river.

The Environment Agency, (navigation authority for the Thames), is now recruiting for this season – they're looking for **volunteers** who can commit to assisting at least one day a week between May and the end of September. Volunteers can agree their hours with lock keepers but need to be available at least from 11 to 5, they're especially needed between Reading and Lechlade.

It's a great way to meet people and discover more about the river, its history, wildlife and management, and volunteers know they're doing **something worthwhile and really appreciated**.

All applicants are invited to a local assessment, to have the role explained and be shown what it involves. They'll also be assessed to decide which site may be most appropriate, and to ensure they have the physical capabilities required. On successful completion of the assessment, they attend an induction course which focuses on safety and preparing them for the lock side.

The volunteers follow a **documented training programme** before being signed off to take charge of the lock on their own. This is only for short periods, maybe while the paid keeper is at lunch. The volunteers are there to augment the service provided by paid staff rather than to replace them.

Volunteers are provided with some uniform and can claim mileage for travel; they also receive a monthly newsletter which keeps them in touch with what is going on along the river and other activities of the Environment Agency.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering on the Thames and to receive an information pack and application form, please contact the Volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email thames.volunteers@environment-agency.gov.uk

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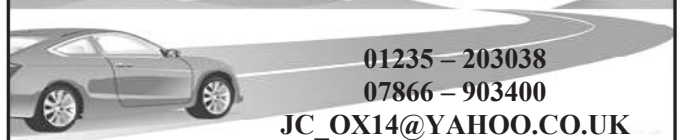
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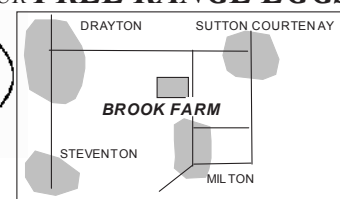
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PARISH COUNCIL (Richard Williams)

Report of the Annual Parish Assembly, and Parish Council meeting, held on Mon 7th April in the Village Hall.

The Parish Assembly was attended by 20 or so people, in addition to the councillors. All were served with free refreshments in the break between the Assembly and the usual PC meeting. **Our thanks** must go to those who supplied the tea and coffee, and especially to Janet Manning, who made the excellent muffins!

Richard Williams gave his **Chairman's Report**, summarising the work of the PC over the previous year. In it, he acknowledged that planning issues had dominated the agenda in recent times, and for better or worse, would probably do so for many years to come. He pointed out that most people recognise the need for new housing and accept that the Vale is a relatively prosperous area with good prospects for economic growth. Even so, they wonder how the present road network will cope with the expected increase in traffic without more radical improvements to the infrastructure than are currently promised, and they worry about the creeping urbanisation of what is still a predominantly rural landscape.

Richard Webber, in his District and County reports, stated that in his opinion, building new garden cities might be a better way to resolve the housing crisis than the present strategy (or lack of it) of allowing houses to be imposed on villages in unsustainably large numbers – 1400 new homes in Milton Heights being an extreme example. Although it appears that the Vale have ruled out the garden cities approach, on the grounds that it would not deliver the required housing fast enough, at the national level Nick Clegg recently made a speech suggesting that garden cities are the way forward. Other than an announcement about Ebbsfleet in Kent, the government has been carefully unspecific about locations, although sites 'between Oxford and Cambridge' have been mooted. A start has already been made on one so-called 'ecotown' in Oxfordshire (i.e. North West Bicester), but it will be very interesting to see how this debate develops, and whether the Vale are persuaded to change course in the light of it.

Other items mentioned in the Chairman's Report included the newly created **Parish Council logo**, soon to be visible on equipment belonging to the PC, such as the bus shelters on the Green; the **40mph speed limit along Milton Rd** which has been agreed and funded; the **blue plaque** for St Peter's Church, celebrating the life of the Rev FE Robinson, Vicar of this Parish in the late 19th century and famous in bell-ringing circles (which also influenced the design of our logo); and the **defibrillator** which will be installed outside the Village Hall later in the summer. Graham Webb gave a short report on the work of the Rights of Way Committee and expressed the PC's thanks to Steve Sadler for another year's hard work keeping Drayton in trim as Village Caretaker. Laurence Zipson also spoke briefly about the Press and Public Relations Committee and the PC's work in responding to the Airports Commission about the proposed London (Oxford) Airport. The Commission does not finally report until summer 2015 (after the general election, be it noted), but its interim report, published in Dec 2013, rules out any options which do not involve existing airports, except for an indication that it will look again at the feasibility of proposals for a Thames Estuary site.

Gary Hibbins and Roxy Elford spoke about the very important work DAMASCUS does with young people in Drayton and the surrounding villages, and, representing also the football club, Gary explained how the recent improvements to the Drayton FC clubhouse have boosted morale and attracted more users of the bar and other facilities.

Ann Webb and Tony Holmes from the Village Hall committee spoke about various improvements to the Hall, a new cooker and fridge, the recent redecoration (re-painting of the main entrance and foyer), and further upgrading of the kitchen, and new windows (if grants do get approved). Bookings are holding up and the hall appears to be well-used, which is encouraging news.



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In the ensuing PC meeting, a question was asked about the petition from some residents of Barrow Road/Abingdon Road regarding the proposed housing development behind their properties at the northern entrance to the village. It was explained that this would be treated as part of the response to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan consultation. It was not possible to reply to every respondent individually, but a report reviewing all the replies would be compiled, and their comments would be taken into account when the Plan is revised. The residents have already been invited to send a representative along to the next meeting held with the developers of this site.

The Parish Council received an offer of assistance from OALC (Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils) to help it set up a Twitter and/or Facebook account. After a brief discussion it was felt that the village has a very good website, and that anyone wishing to know about the activities of the PC would find all the information they needed on there. The general opinion was that Twitter or Facebook would require constant maintenance, could be open to abuse, and would not add any particular additional benefit to the Council. It was decided not to take up the offer.

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 by phone on 07909 176061, or email at draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk 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 PC meeting will be the AGM, to be held on Mon May 12th, 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. Please note that this date is a week later than usual, as the first Monday in May is a Bank Holiday. As ever, **all are welcome to attend.**

ST PETER'S CHURCH HOME-VISITING GROUP

will visit anyone who is, or has been, ill or is recently home from hospital, or unable to get out because of a disability, or is in any other circumstances where support would be welcomed.

Please contact:- Jean Hager (531558), Sally Dixon (531547), Ros Blogg (535589) or Margaret Watts (527145).

Drayton 2020 - latest update

Only a short report this month as we are in something of a transitional phase. We have to process the responses received from all those who replied to the consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. These include a detailed critique from the Vale which addresses both content and formatting. To sum up, there will be a lot of work involved in amending the Plan in the light of the comments made and producing the next version.

We also have to contend with the Vale's proposals as outlined in their Housing Delivery Update, and will continue to argue the case for restricting the number of houses on the 'South Drayton' site to no more than 100. There will be a further consultation period of 6 weeks probably around May/June time for people to submit their responses to the revised version.

There have been no further face-to-face meetings with developers since the last report, but it is planned to invite all of them to display their designs for the three proposed Drayton housing sites (south of High St, Manor Farm, and Barrow Road) at a **special exhibition to be held in the Village Hall** at the end of June (planned for 27th & 28th). If the weather is good, there may also be outdoor activities arranged on the rec outside to encourage people to attend, a barbeque being one suggestion.

If you wish to be kept up to date with our progress, please contact the Parish Clerk, see contact details on page 13, or via the Drayton 2020 website: draytontwentytwenty@gmail.com

In addition, the agendas and minutes of all Steering Group and working sub-group meetings are available on the village website: www.drayton-near-abingdon.org

Steering Group meetings are **open to any Drayton residents**, and they are held on alternate Friday evenings in the Caudwell Centre in Gravel Lane at 7pm. The next scheduled meetings after publication of this Chronicle are on Fridays 2nd and 16th May – and **we look forward to seeing you there.** *Richard Williams*

OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

Methodist Chapel Sunday Service: 10.30 am
High Street, Milton
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

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Could YOU possibly help with our **Chronicle team**?
We have several areas of Drayton not covered by an
agent to help with our lottery – each usually about 20
to 25 houses – but even just delivering the Chronicle
would be a **big help**. If you can, please call Gareth on
529510.

NOTICE BOARD

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

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 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 dates are May 6th & June 3rd.

If you need transport or further information please give me (Jean Hager) a call on 531558.

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) David Perrow (draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk)
OR phone 07909 176 061;

District (VofWH) Richard Webber (534001) or
& **Oxfordshire County** richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Firstly we need to get the attention of parents, or at least certain ones. The Hall has had a couple of instances recently of children or teens getting onto the roof, we're not sure whether to retrieve a ball or something, or perhaps climbing the local 'Everest' (because it's there)? Whatever the reason may be, it's certainly not a good idea. The Hall dates back to the early 70s, and the roof sub-frames are probably not as sturdy as people might think, especially to withstand running or bouncing about on it. Similarly the drainpipes and guttering are of a certain age, and could well come away with little warning, leaving an intruder literally clutching at thin air.

An Oxford college recently had an incident where a student went through a roof, and suffered what were described as 'life-changing' injuries. The younger generation tend to think they know best, and are invulnerable, but we'd like to avoid one of our 'guests' meeting a grisly fate and so they (& their family) find out the hard way?!

The repainting of doors and corridor has been generally well received, and we must issue **grateful thanks to Camilla King and the Corneville Charity**, who've enabled us to get a new larger cooker, and a giant fridge, both of which should help caterers choose us for future relevant bookings.

Childrens' parties continue to be very popular, and a booking to look out for in June is likely to be for the 2020 Group, with an **exhibition of possible new housing** (see page 14). That's likely to be on a Friday evening and all day on the Saturday, but the dates will be confirmed in the next issue.

One new booking in May is for a **Craft Fair**, (ad on page 8), the hirer is new to us so please do support it if you can. It's on **Sat May 24th**, 10am to approx 3pm, 16 stalls selling unique, high quality, hand crafted items. Examples include:- wood turned gift ideas; fused and stained glass decorations; jewellery; cards and paper crafts; bespoke wall art; and much, much more.

Entry is free and refreshments will be available for a small cost. MiLou Craft Fairs will also be **collecting for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)** and 50% of all money raised from refreshments will be donated. Please make a note in your diary, come along and help make this a great success both for the talented crafters who will be displaying and selling their creations - and for the RNLI.

LATE (good!) NEWS :- minutes from going to print, just heard we've been awarded a major grant (from 'WREN' - thanks!), a big step towards new kitchen cupboards, work surfaces, tiling, flooring, etc, and hopefully hall windows & fire doors. That leaves one more grant application to hear from. More next time!

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MOBILE LIBRARY LOCATION & TIMES

Drayton (Wednesdays, see below):- Haywards Road 11:00 to 11:15, The Green 11:20 to 11:40, & Lyford Close 11:45 to 12:00.

Upcoming dates are :- May 14th/28th, June 11th/25th, then alternate Weds from then on.

POST OFFICE

Drayton Post Office

Mon - Fri 9 - 5.30 Sat 9 - 12.30

& CONVENIENCE STORE

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LISTINGS

Island Farm Donkey Sanctuary, Brightwell cum Sotwell

This is a great charity, and does need support. Due to the tricky economic times of late, their rescued donkey population has increased to over 100. **MAY 24th & 25th**, they're holding a **COUNTRY SHOW**, (from 10am):- attractions include a Donkey Parade, Roundabouts, Steam Engines, Falconry, Steam Engines, Craft demos and much more. ALSO a **FUN DOG SHOW**, with many classes, both days at 2pm. Entrance £5 (concessions £3, & under 5s free). For details call 01491 833938.

Appleford Fete on the Recreation Ground, Sat May 3rd, noon to 4pm. Traditional attractions including steam engines, dog show, band, live music, side shows, refreshments, teas, stalls and car boots (these only available if booked in advance, £5, contact Mary Hancock on 848336) and a new venture - a beer tent with local beer. Come and enjoy a day out in Appleford!

FLOG It? Fancy being on the BBC show? Have something old that could be valuable? (sorry Madam, hubby doesn't count!). Thurs May 22nd, they're at Gloucester Cathedral, (College Green, Gloucester GL1 2LR, doors open at 10am), not local but it's a reasonable trip to see if your treasure really is worth zillions. Details 0117 974 7839 or email flogit@bbc.co.uk

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DRAYTON DIARIES

DIARY FOR MAY

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

NB To book Drayton Hall call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180 or visit the (improved) website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk

Sat	3	9.00am	Dog Show	
Sun	4	1.00pm	Private Functions	
Mon	5	5.00pm	Private Function	
Mon	12	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting (p13)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
Sat	17		Private function	
Mon	19	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline (p2) – Ads 16th	
Sun	18	9.00am	Bowls (all day tournament)	
		10.00am	Christian Aid Service (p4)	<i>St.Peters'</i>
Thurs	22		Euro Elections (polling station)	
Sat	24	9.00am	CRAFT FAIR (see pages 8 & 15)	
Sat	31		Wedding Reception	

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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – tell one of the editors (page 2)

MONDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Pilates (1 hr - call 01235 814299)	
1.15 pm	Baby sign-language classes (1 hr – 07927 339102)	
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	Table Tennis (New Players)	<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	Table Tennis (Senior practice + playing 2 hrs)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	

TUESDAYS

8.45 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>
5.45 pm	Zumba Fitness	
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Pilates (& 8.00)	
7.30 pm	League Table Tennis (now every night to Fri)	<i>School</i>

WEDNESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer gp – p4)	<i>Church Room</i>
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green</i>
11.45 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Lyford Close</i>
1.15 pm	More-Life (Lifestyle, check dts/times 01865 487216)	
1.45 pm	Whist – now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
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)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

THURSDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing (01235 531701)	

FRIDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.00 pm	Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.15 am	Family Time (1st Sun)	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Service	<i>Baptist Church</i>
7.30 pm	Zumba Fitness	

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