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DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Dave Lee

Volume 38 No. 9

October 2015

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT Richard Williams

Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th September

A number of members of the public attended the meeting to express their concerns about the application by Blue Cedar Homes to build 28 new houses on land at the back of Halls Close. It was explained that Blue Cedar first approached the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group with this proposal last summer (2014), but after the consultation period for the plan had expired. The Steering Group and Parish Council refused a meeting with Blue Cedar on the grounds that 1) the company's interest had been declared too late for its site to be included in the Plan, 2) further consultation on this new site was impossible if the Plan were to have any chance of meeting its referendum schedule, and 3) permitting the Blue Cedar site to go ahead would have set a precedent allowing yet more developers to come along with similar proposals. The Plan identifies three sites, which between them are expected to produce around 250 new houses, or 25% growth of Drayton village. This was felt to be as much as the village could comfortably absorb over the plan period to 2031.

Despite last year's rebuff from the PC, Blue Cedar have now submitted a formal planning application. An extension has been granted to the time allowed for consultation on this, and a public meeting of the Planning Committee will be held sometime in the next month to determine the Parish Council's 'official' response. This will be an important test case for neighbourhood planning not just in Drayton, but everywhere in the country, for if our Plan can be overruled, only 6 months after its approval by 90.8% of those who voted in the referendum, then why would other parishes invest time, effort, and public money in producing such a Plan in the future?

A complaint was received about the state of the land adjoining the 4 recently built houses along the eastern end of Marcham Road. Planning permission has now been refused twice for new housing on the remainder of this site, which, as a result, has been neglected by the developer and is currently left in an untidy and derelict condition. The Parish Clerk will write to the Vale requesting that the Planning Dept investigate, and require the site to be cleaned up.

The issue of school bus services was again raised, and in particular the practice of OCC in adhering rigidly to a 3 mile boundary line (measured from the designated nearest secondary school in Abingdon) to determine how much they charge to use the service. The line lies right across the middle of Drayton village, thereby creating significant disparities in the cost of concessionary fares for children living north and south of the boundary line, even though they use the same buses and bus stop! This appears to conflict with common sense and is manifestly unfair to some families. The PC will write to OCC (copy to Ed Vaizey) and ask them to reconsider their position on this.

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. The latter has now received an extensive redesign and makeover (our thanks to Jules Meredith for his IT expertise!) and a new web address at

http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/ The website also carries back copies of the Drayton Chronicle, information on the latest activities of the Drayton 2020 Implementation Committee, and details of events in the village.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 5th October 2015, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT Stuart Davenport

An important planning decision

Following unanimous approval by the District Council, Drayton's Neighbourhood Development Plan became a formal part of planning rules this summer. Applications for housing development in the village are now assessed by their accordance with the policies laid down in the Drayton2020 document.

With over two years worth of resident consultation, culminating in an overwhelmingly positive referendum result, the Drayton2020 project can justifiably claim to be the community's expectation of how the village will evolve in coming years. However our plan must remain in accordance with national planning policy, relevant case law and guidance on planning practice from central government in order to be enforceable.

While planning rules are generally complementary, occasionally they can appear to conflict when assessed against a particular development scenario. Planning moves from a science to an art when adjudicating which policy deserves precedence. Unfortunately these judgements are when planning matters can become contentious and controversial.

The recent application to develop land behind Halls Close threatens a site not allocated in our neighbourhood plan. In this instance, the developer's interpretation of the planning rules is very different to what the village expected when our plan was drafted. Understandably, many in the village feel aggrieved that the hard work invested in the Drayton2020 document is being challenged within months of its adoption.

Central government expects local authorities like the Vale of the White Horse to be able to demonstrate it has enough land to build housing units to meet expectations for the next five years (plus an additional percentage). Currently we cannot do this. Lacking this land supply means national planning policy, seen as more relaxed, engenders additional emphasis compared to more prescriptive local policy.

The developer proposing the Hall Close application argues that the Vale's lack of a demonstrable five year land supply should override the village's aims and ambitions as stated in the Neighbourhood Development Plan. This argument is forwarded because it would result in the application being judged against national policy which may be deemed more sympathetic to the application. Determining whether this argument is convincing will fall to planning officers and those councillors serving on the district council's planning committee.

I fully expect the village to make a full-throated defence of our plan. Given we are early adopters of neighbourhood planning, what happens here in Drayton may have ramifications for planning applications in other locations across the country. For this reason it is vital that the decision on this application is robust and justifiable; I hope to play my part in ensuring the rules are applied appropriately.

I can be contacted on, Stuart.Davenport@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or telephone 01235521078

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Chronicle** will be the **November** issue: Editor: **Derek Pooley, 11 Halls Close (559454).** Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday, 16 October 2015** Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Mon., 19 October 2015** Printed copies available: **Friday, 30 October 2015**

Issue for	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
December	16 November 2015	27 November 2015
Jan/Feb	18 January 2016	29 January 2016
March	15 February 2016	26 February 2016

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)

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Advertiser Category:	1	3	6	12
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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 Carol Arnold, Hon Promoter

RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Jake Humes 6 High Street	Liz Bronson
£20	Ms Yeats 28 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£15	Elizabeth Morgan 6 Eastway	Teresa Burnage
£10	Mrs A Gurl 61 Steventon Road	Janet Dale
£10	John Cross 3 Mobile Home Park	Teresa Burnage
£10	Mr & Mrs J Knight Spindle Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	S Curran 57 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	Ms Brooks Middle Barn Sutton Wick	Keith Clough
	Lane	
£10	Mrs Angela Painton 21 High Street	Ali Bone
£10	Mrs J Booth 87 Abingdon Road	Julie Brown
W	inning tickets, from 1891 sold, were rand	omly drawn by a

Winning tickets, from 1891 sold, were randomly drawn by a computer (similar to the Premium Bond Draw)

Carol's contact details

For the area agents and also for any one who would like information regarding the lottery, Carol's details are: Carol Arnold, 95 Abingdon Road Tel: 01235 531923 e-mail, carolannarnold@sky.com



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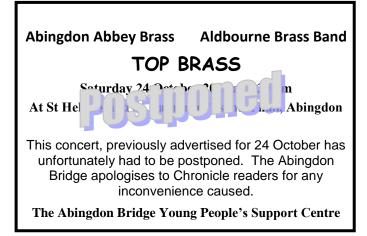
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CLASSIC MOTORSPORT COMES TO DRAYTON

Celebrating 50 years of vintage motorcycling, the Oxford Section of the VMCC (the Vintage Motor Cycle Club) visited Webb's farm for their annual Grasstrack race meeting. Some stunning classic machines were ridden enthusiastically by over 20 entrants ranging from seven to over seventy years of age.

Despite the looming rainclouds there was an excellent turnout of competitors and spectators and over 16 races were completed before rain stopped play.

Amongst the line up were well known marques such as Rudge, JAP, Jawa, BSA, Weslake together with some lesser known specials such as Ansell and Antig. The club's "25 year" rule meant that some newer machines with Honda and Yamaha engines were hustling the Methanol burning Castrol 'R' lubricated old timers round the circuit. Aaaah pure motorsport perfume.

As with all VMCC and Motorsport events, they can't go ahead unless they comply with strict safety rules and of course without the hard working volunteer team of officials and marshals.

Drayton is home to quite a few VMCC riders; so keep your eyes (and ears) ready for the occasional vintage machine gracing our streets.



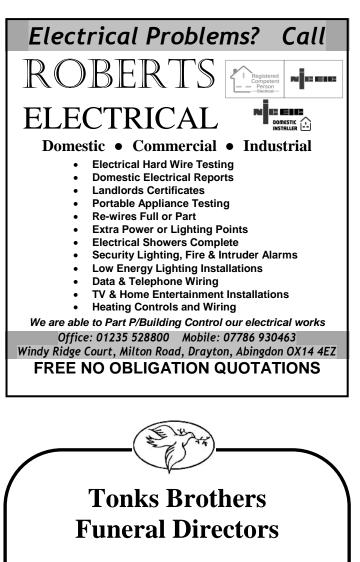
Michael Croucher (No. 17) on a 1968 Ansell 250cc



Phil Spencer (No. 921) on a 1964 Snowy Eso, Rob Snow, (No. 189), Kevin Ackers (No. 181) on a 1970 Jawa 500cc



Luke Tuck (No. 89) on a 1953 Peachey JAP 500cc, Stuart Tower (No. 13) on a 1930 Rudge 500cc



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Churchwardens	Mrs Alison Bone	202188
	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
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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 9.15 am Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Wednesday	10.00 am	Pebbles (Term Time only)	Church Room
Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Bell Tower

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

Sun 4th	3.30pm	The Celebration	Drayton	Primary School
Tue 6th	3pm	First Tuesday Conr	nection	Church Room
Sun 11th	10.00am	Harvest Festival Se	ervice	Church

YOU STAY - WE PRAY, OCTOBER

1st to 3rd	Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close		
4th to 10th	Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher		
	Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington		
	Court; Stone Hill		
11th to 24th	Steventon Road; Eastway; Eastway MHP		
25th to 31st	Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane		

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ST PETER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

I am so thankful to be part of this welcoming community. The refugee crisis hits our TV screens but has yet to impact on our daily lives. How will we respond? As a Christian you would expect me to say that we must welcome and give hospitality to all people, which is really important, however we must first understand what is truly causing people to flee their lands. Then trying to help these refugees has a voice and enables that voice to be heard. Political advocacy is also really important, so that a way forward is found. As the refugees travel to Britain we should extend hands of friendship, genuine hospitality, loving and caring for these people, because they are people too. This refugee crisis will be a real challenge for Britain and our communities, but it is also an opportunity to build a better Britain together.

This Autumn we have two services whereby we remember together loved ones who have died, Sunday 1st November 2:30pm All Souls Memorial service and Sunday 8th November Remembrance Day Service 6pm with the Royal British Legion.

All are welcome to come and stand together to remember. God Bless Rebecca



BAPTIST CHURCH

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

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers.

Please note that there is no longer an 11.15am Service. Family worship can now be enjoyed at Drayton School on the first Sunday of the month, 3.00-4.30pm. 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. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. 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. Our next two dates will be 6th October and 3rd November. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.





ST PETER'S CHURCH ALL SOULS SERVICE

Sunday 1st November at 2.30 pm

A time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us and light a candle in remembrance of them.

If you would like a loved one's name to be read out at this service, there is a sheet on the welcome desk in Church to add their details (or contact Linda Johnson, email lindajjcw@gmail.com, phone 527521)





All rooms are en suite For more information

Ring Glenn or Janet on 01235 531457 or visit www.theredliondrayton.co.uk

THE RED LION

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COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT Richard Webber

Children's Centres

I am sure I am not the only one who remembers school exam multi-choice questions, where you thought you knew the answer and none of the options seemed right. Reluctantly, you were forced to choose what you thought was the least "wrong" answer. So it may well be the case with the latest OCC consultation on Children's Centres. There are three options to choose from and they all assume that, to make necessary savings, we have to get rid of all 44 across the County.

In the last budget, Council voted that over the next three years, it would make £6m of savings from the current £16m budget. These Centres have been providing a universal support service for families and children from infancy to adolescence, places where struggling families and parents can access support and advice on all aspects of family life and bringing up children. There is no doubt that the service they offer has prevented many children and families from slipping into extreme need. This has almost certainly saved the County budget millions in ongoing costs. Almost all those involved - trustees, governors, parents and children - are desperate to retain these Centres and are determined to fight the proposals. At a recent Cabinet meeting, a group of nearly a hundred members of the public witnessed heart-rending appeals, from people who had benefitted from the service, to retain the Centres. Many of the speakers asked to work with the Council to find ways of keeping their local Centre whilst making savings.

However, this consultation does not give them that option and, in my view, that is a mistake. The savings that any of the present options offer are very uncertain. There are a number of possibilities where joint managing and joint working would reduce costs. There are also instances where other bodies (Councils, schools and voluntary organisations etc) could relieve OCC of some of the costs, so allowing the council to focus on providing what it can in the way of social care expertise.

It seems certain that, for the time being, at least, the Council will be able to offer less back up for the Centres than in the past. However, getting rid of ALL 44 Centres will be a permanent step and the service will have gone for good.

Call me an optimist, but I would much prefer to see us retain as many Centres as possible so that there is a semblance of a universal service remaining on which one could rebuild – if/when circumstances improve. However you feel about the issue, please consider responding to the consultation on the OCC website.

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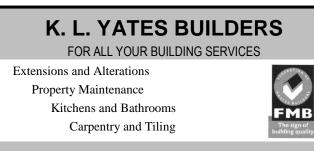
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WESTMINSTER LETTER Ed Vaizey

In my role as Minister of Culture, I am pleased that we have announced plans to publish a White Paper – essentially a national strategy – on the arts and heritage next year. It is 50 years since the first – and only - White Paper on the arts was published. Government's role in supporting the arts and culture has grown and changed since then; responsibility for the arts, museums, libraries and heritage has been brought together in one Department; the National Lottery has transformed funding opportunities; and free access has helped open up our national museums to new audiences. I'd love to hear your views on how to support our arts and culture, so do feel free to visit my blog on http://dcmsblog.uk/2015/09/share-your-ideas-for-a-new-culturalprogramme/ and email me your thoughts.

This month I have received hundreds of emails and letters regarding the Syrian refugee crisis. The photos and accounts we have seen are shocking and harrowing, which is why we continue to be at the forefront of the international response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria – including as the second biggest bilateral donor of humanitarian aid, having already pledged £1 billion. I know that Britain is a moral nation and we will fulfil our moral responsibilities. I have been moved by the number of people in the Wantage and Didcot constituency who have contacted me to say they would like to provide a room in their home to a refugee, and I will continue to discuss the issue with you as things progress.

In terms of the action we have taken - we have sent the Royal Navy to the Mediterranean, saving thousands of lives; we are the second biggest bilateral donor in the world to Syrian refugee camps; and have granted asylum to nearly 5,000 Syrians and their dependents since the crisis began. But I absolutely accept that we can do more, and welcome the Prime Minister's proposal that Britain should resettle up to 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years. Simply taking people is not a solution to this crisis. We need a comprehensive solution that deals with the people most responsible for the terrible scenes we see: President Assad in Syria, ISIL, and the criminal gangs that are running this terrible trade in people – we have to be as tough on them at the same time.

Last month I wrote about the Assisted Dying Bill – and it is interesting to see that Parliament overwhelmingly voted down the measure when it was debated. I voted against the Bill.

As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or dicksonce@parliament.uk. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly.



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WHAT'S IN A NAME CHANGE?

Our village website has just undergone it's first major update and rewrite to bring this valuable resource back up to date. Society now wants access to the internet via tablets and smart phones (as well as traditional laptop and desktop PC's), our website was first designed several years ago and as modern technology changed our website didn't – we now have a site that will adapt its layout depending on your device and screen size.

The first major change to report is the name change from www.drayton-near-abingdon.org to the easier to remember www.draytonvillage.co.uk. The original site has now been taken down but all of its content has been sifted, sorted & ported and it is now available on the new site. If you have the old website bookmarked in your browser you will be automatically taken to our new site but you should update your bookmarks.

By linking the website to popular social media technologies such as Facebook & Twitter we hope that we will now reach out to even more people in our community. Our news feeds will be automatically posted to our Facebook page and twitter account. Our Facebook page can be found at www.facebook.com/DraytonVillage and by simply liking our page, you will see our updates in your news feed. You can also help spread our news by clicking on the "share" or "like" buttons either in you news feed or those on our website.

By following our twitter account @*DraytonVillage* you will receive all our tweets and again you can help us spread the news by retweeting them. You can also subscribe to our RSS feed or via email, look out for the social media buttons on our webpages.

There are four main sections to the website covering - Village Information, The Drayton Chronicle, Drayton Parish Council and Drayton 2020.

The Village Information section is a repository full of facts and details relevant to village life in Drayton. You will find a "what's on calendar", lists and contacts for local organisations and businesses and much more.

The Drayton Chronicle will be posting electronic copies of the Chronicle every month in PDF format and all previous copies can be accessed via the archive section.

The Parish Council's section will have all their meeting minutes uploaded, there is also a wealth of information pertinent to the work and responsibilities of the Parish Council.

Lastly the Drayton 2020 section contains all the information relating to the *Drayton Development Neighbourhood Plan* and details all the work carried out by the individual working groups. The Neighbourhood Plan is now in the implementation stage and updates will be posted in this section.

We are also planning to introduce a photographic gallery and everyone will be welcome to submit images that will reflect the dynamism of village life in the 21st century.

We will endeavour to keep all our information accurate and up to date but recognise that errors or omissions may pass us by. If you have any information you would like to be added or you identify a mistake then we would love you to send us an email to admin@draytonvillage.co.uk

The village website draytonvillage.co.uk is intended to complement the excellent village newspaper the Drayton Chronicle, and they both come under the auspices of Drayton Community Trust. Drayton Parish Council has provided financial support which we acknowledge with gratitude.

Jules Meredith

(Editor's note: Jules has carried out the web redesign at no cost to the village, he has even borne registration costs himself and we are grateful for this and for his expertise)







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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Implementation Update Richard Williams

A meeting of the Implementation Committee was held on Friday 4th September in the Village Hall. A number of residents attended to discuss the Blue Cedar Homes planning application to build new houses at the back of Halls Close. Many of these residents also attended the Parish Council meeting three days later for the same purpose, and I would refer readers to the separate Parish Council report on page 1 of this Chronicle, which sets out the PC's position on this matter in more detail.

Several working groups have been set up to look at particular projects. One of these will focus on the recreational facilities on the Barrow Rd site, especially the proposed new pavilion. It will consider aspects of the building design, the possible appointment of an architect, and all the various factors around feasibility and funding. A second group is looking at liaison between the preschool and primary school, with a view to replacement of the preschool's ageing and inadequate terrapin classroom. A third group will look at tree-planting. It is hoped to make a start on this in the next couple of months, and although public consultation will take place before any sites are confirmed, Hilliat Fields is one of the areas the group has in mind. There will also be further public consultation on our traffic calming scheme, with a second public workshop to be held later in the autumn, probably in November, and hopefully on a Saturday to enable maximum numbers to attend.

The former BMX track, accessed from Lyford Close, has lain unused for some time now. The land was gifted to the Parish Council for recreational use, but it is not clear to the PC that it is suitable for that purpose, being insufficiently overlooked, and generally hidden away from public view. When the site was actively in use, the village caretaker had regularly to clear away quantities of discarded bottles, lager cans and smoking materials, suggesting perhaps that our young people were congregating in this area for activities not necessarily related to bike riding. Other uses for this site have been suggested. They include: a community orchard; a wildlife area with seating and/or pond, possibly maintained by the school; a memorial garden; a smallholding rented out to an individual; a paddock rented out to an individual. It is intended to distribute a leaflet to householders living in and around Lyford Close to ask their opinions, but if in the meantime, any readers have constructive suggestions as to how this land might be used, you are invited to submit your ideas to the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, via E-mail: draytonclerk@gmail.com

Please also contact David if you are interested in being part of a project group, or would simply like to find out more about the work of the Implementation Committee. All of our meetings are open to the public, and the next meeting is scheduled for Friday 9th October at 7pm, venue to be confirmed.



MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

Over the summer we have had a pruning of the walnut trees and a major grass cut. We took lots of advice on this and all areas have been cut to allow us to choose where wild areas will be, rather than the field dictating to us! It's great that the orchard is now accessible and I hear the Brownies are due a visit to pick some apples. The area by the pond now shows off the lovely memorial trees that have been planted over the years. We are also working with Waitrose looking at the possibility of getting some benches made of recycled carrier bags from them, these need no maintenance, so an added bonus! If anyone in the future would like to commemorate a loved one on the Green perhaps a contribution towards a bench maybe a fitting idea.

It looks as if we will have a bumper crop of walnuts this year, please feel free to pick up those that have fallen, please do not shake or hit the trees for more and please no selling for personal profit.

We are planning two further clean up mornings both between 10.00 and 12.30, the first on Sunday 4th October followed by Saturday 31st October. Hopefully there will be further work on widening the path, ivy removed from the now exposed walls and hopefully some planting. Please come along and help, bring spades, wheelbarrows, edging tools and of course a mug!

We are a team of volunteers trying around our rather hectic lives to do the best we can for the future of the Green and rely on the support of the growing number of friends of the Green. Please come along on one (or both!) of the clear up mornings and show your support, if you would like to financially help in even a small way please contact Victoria Griffiths (victoria@griffinpc.co.uk) who will be delighted to provide you with details.

> Jane McWhirter Chair.millenniumgreen@gmail.com



YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Re: Fatal Crash, Drayton Road, Sutton Courtenay last July. At the end of July, an unimaginable scene unfolded on Drayton Road in Sutton Courtenay, one that the residents had feared was sadly inevitable. During the afternoon, a car mounted the verge and collided with a tree, with the passenger losing her life. The Air Ambulance and around 30 fire fighters, paramedics and police attended the scene and did an amazing job. In the days after the crash the police erected a yellow 'Crash' sign and flowers were laid at the site. Drivers slowed to a sensible speed to pass as a mark of respect and to take a moment to consider the impact, and strangely the road felt safer than it had done in years. Sadly this reduction in speed only lasted about 4 days and by the weekend traffic was again speeding down Drayton Road.

This was not the first accident of this kind on this stretch of road, but we would like it to be the last, and it is this that has prompted this letter. Since the fatal crash we have not been surprised to learn that about 15% of people speed down the road, with most being local residents (that's nearly 1 in 5 of you!). Local residents have counted 14 occasions that cars have left the road in recent years on this stretch and have lost count of near misses. The accidents have involved men and women of all ages and vehicles of all sizes. It is not just the 'young drivers and motorbikes'. It is 40mph for many reasons, including a blind bend on a hill, lots of homes and the exit from the Peep-o-day Lane cycle path. In fact the stretch may even meet the criteria for a 30mph limit. You might be thinking 'but I know the road... it's ok to break the speed limit a bit.' It is not. You don't know what is just around the corner as you speed towards it. There could very easily be a tractor, a car pulling out of their drive, a fog/ice patch, a horse, a large puddle, a slow moving bicycle or a pedestrian walking on the narrow road. These are all regular occurrences here. There is barely enough room for two large vehicles to pass and there is no pavement.

It is less than a mile between where the crash happened and the middle of Drayton. Slowing down by 10mph would just cost you around 18 seconds. That's all. Is it really worth speeding, especially when keeping to the speed limit could save you a life-time of regret?

If, like us, you have concerns about the safety of this stretch of road, please share these with Sutton Courtenay Parish Council and the Highways team at the County Council

We would like to end this letter by thanking those of you who do drive safely down our road. It honestly makes a huge and very noticeable difference.

(Editor's note: Name and address supplied but not published by request)

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Austin and Geraldine and customers of the Wheatsheaf who sponsored my daughter on her 26 mile walk which she finished, also my pregnant grandaughter, all in aid of Breast Cancer. Many thanks also to Austin for letting us celebrate my brother's surprise 80th birthday, this was enjoyed by everyone there.

Margaret Cox



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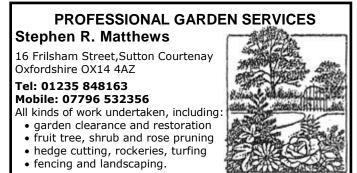
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ALL AROUND

DRAYTON WIVES

Gwen Price

On Tuesday 25th August we had a Bring and Share lunch. About forty people came and it was a very successful occasion with good food and good company. Thanks go to the committee for all their hard work.

The next meeting in October is a talk by Tony Eaton. His subject is titled "Failed to return": The mystery of Amy Johnson and Leslie Howard. His talks are always fascinating.

1st DRAYTON BROWNIES Annette Mitchell

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break!

Welcome to our pack to Paris and Alice who have started with us. We hope you enjoy your time with us!

We started the first week of term at St Peters Church and used the lovely church room for our pow-wow and introduction to the new term. All the Brownies started term by drawing a heart map, starting with a large heart on a large piece of paper they then drew in the middle who and what was important to them. Of course, they all put their families, and from that they then worked outwards and created a map within their heart showing what makes them who they are. Lots of drawings and colours were used to show that school, chocolate, pets, music etc. are some of the things that they like but they also included things that they didn't like! It was lovely that some of them shared their hearts with the rest of the pack and we learnt a lot about them as individuals.

Because of the fabulous grass cutting that has been carried out on the Millennium Green, we were able to have a meeting there. The Brownies went to the orchard to pick apples and then went looking for blackberries. This was part of our season's badge, but the Brownies are also taking the cooking badge, so the next meeting was spent making apple and blackberry crumble!

We are collecting buttons for an activity, if anyone has any buttons sitting in drawers that they do not need we would love to have them! You can drop them into us at the hall on a Wednesday evening. Many thanks.

Meeting are held at Drayton Village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term from 6pm - 7.30pm, meetings are open to all girls aged between 7 - 10 years old. You can register your interest on the girl guiding website, click on

"Join Us!" at 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

Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl) on 01235 555216

DRAYTON TABLE TENNIS CLUB John Gould

The Club is now in full swing. We have our League fixtures for the new season and these will commence in the week of 5th October 2015. As usual our home League ties will be played on Tuesday Wednesday & Thursday nights at the school. The Didcot League will have 12 clubs with a total of 43 teams participating as at the time of writing. The league always allows for late entries into Division 5 should new players enable that to happen.

Our Monday nights are well supported with coaching for the first hour from 7.00 pm and then 2 further hours of general social play and practice. Our newly qualified club coach Janet Quarry has drawn up a formalised coaching plan for each session. That will hopefully see improvement in player's abilities although for some of us it may be 40 years too late!

We welcome new members whether they've played table tennis or have never held a bat! If you are reading this and wish to come along please don't be shy – we don't bite! I turned up one Monday over 30 years ago and have made lots of friends over the years in what is still a thriving club. It's great to see young children (from age 9) and old stagers mixing and enjoying sport. All are welcome.





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MORE ALL AROUND

W. I.

Ann Webb

Meeting 10th September As this was the nearest meeting to the centenary celebrations day 16th September 1915-16th September 2015, we decided to have an informal evening. We listened to quirky verses about getting older and the freedom it allows you. Listened to the first annual report of Drayton Womens' Institute formed all those years ago by ladies of the village with the help of Lady Rucker. Finally we all celebrated this achievement with a glass of something fizzy and a slice of a beautifully iced cake topped with the W I emblem, icing flowers and green and purple ribbon, and it tasted as good as it looked. The cake was made by Gill Pett one of our Abingdon members.

On Tuesday three of our group attended a service in Christchurch Cathedral Oxford to which we took our banner. This was the nearest date to our centenary that we could all meet together. The banners, carried by two members, paraded up St Aldates from Christchurch Meadow through the gateway under Tom Tower and around the quad, they waited outside the Cathedral doors until everyone else was in and then processed down the aisle, to the altar, to some very stirring organ music. The service began with Jerusalem. There was no doubting who was inside as the rafters rang with our voices. The service continued with various speakers, one the chairman of the Welsh federation, another was the chairman of our own federation. Lastly Sir Hugo Brunner, whose mother was a founder member of the W I and a force behind the foundation of Denman College. A soloist sang two wonderful songs followed by rousing hymns climaxing in the National Anthem. We all left the Cathedral and many photos were taken of banners, some large and some smaller but all very beautifully made and carried proudly by their members.

HALL REPORT

Tony Holmes

Regular groups should please be aware that work on replacement windows and fire doors is upcoming in the Main Hall (yes, at last!).

Obviously there could be some disruption, but we're well aware who's in on what days, so we'll try and keep the impact to a minimum.

Hopefully some car park repairs are on the way too (grateful thanks to Parish Council) so with dark nights now upon us it won't be necessary to spot the holes in the headlights and swerve round them

WI members should note we have some craft demos on Oct 10th; at time of writing I don't know which crafts, but when this issue comes out that will have been clarified. If you'd like to attend, I think they have a few spaces to fill, so contact Gillian Gay or Ann Webb?

Doggie people will see on the back page diary that we have two dog shows this month, Finnish Lapphunds (17th) & Griffon Bruxellois (4th). They're quite specialised breeds, but if you know anyone with that type of dog, and they might like to come, can they please contact the respective clubs (both have websites). The Hall hosts shows and/or committee meetings for several dog groups, as we're conveniently central in the country.

Our sequence dancers had a good crowd the other night when I popped in, but could still find space for a few more. Nice gentle exercise, and a good social night too (they also have some weekend functions) with quite a few coming some distance to attend. Speaking of exercise, our Pilates class could help with your aches and pains, and they let you attend other venues if that suits on a given day. And the Bowls Club would welcome you to try out a new hobby, and they have a big biscuit tin to share out at teatimes!

Oh, and if anyone hasn't noticed, we have Wi-Fi now, (password prominently displayed), so you can stay connected at any group (tricky at Zumba, I grant you, quite hard to type?).

NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP No. 5

With shorter days and approaching colder weather it's a good time for safety and security reminders.

Pedestrians

Use pavements whenever possible: be seen, wear ٠ bright clothes or flourescent/reflective items.

Cyclists

- At night white front and red rear lights must be lit. Flashing lights are permitted but it is recommended that steady front lamps should be used. Bicycles must be fitted with a red rear reflector.
- Check that brakes work efficiently.
- Tyres should be in good condition and inflated to the correct pressure.
- All traffic signs and traffic light signals must be obeyed.
- You must not cycle on a pavement.
- Wear a helmet and light coloured or fluorescent clothing in daylight and reflective clothing at night.

Vehicle drivers

- Keep your windscreen and other windows clear.
- Ensure the windscreen wipers are in working order and keep the screen wash reservoir topped up.
- Ensure lights are in full working order and free from dirt.
- Keep number plates clean and visible.
- Tyres should have a minimum 2mm of tread and preferably 3mm or above.
- Avoid the water pump freezing by using antifreeze.
- Car batteries rarely last longer than five years. Consider replacement if it's nearing the end of its life.
- Remember that stopping distances are 10 times longer in ice and snow.
- Carry an emergency kit in the car.

The Highway Code & ROSPA

The Highway Code is available online at https://www.gov.uk/highway-code/contents. A copy of The Highway Code e-book can be downloaded at http://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/download-pdf.html.

Alternatively, visit ROSPA's website at http://www.rospa.com, or call ROSPA's general information line on 0121 248 2000.

Contact NAG5 by calling 01235 848694 or e-mail neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com



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NOTICE BOARD

THE EARTH TRUST

The Trust is holding events in October: Autumn Water Festival - Sunday 4th October, 11am - 4pm Woodland Adventure - Wednesday 28th October, 10am - 12pm Discover and Play - Friday 30th October, 10am - 12pm Spooky Dusk Walk - Friday 30th October, 5.30pm - 7.30pm For more details, ring 01865 407792 or email admin@earthtrust.org.uk

CORNERSTONE LISTINGS

Our autumn programme is now in full swing, come along and enjoy a selection of family friendly activities. Families are well catered for at Cornerstone, with high-chairs, booster seats for the auditorium and a friendly team of staff on hand to welcome and assist families during their visit.

Sunday 11th October: Pitschi, The Kitten with Dreams.

Thursday 8th October: Perfect for families and children aged 6+, **Baccala Clown: Pss Pss** offers an evening of ace clowning, superb circus skills and a trapeze.

Friday 9th October: English musician and guitarist Martin Simpson and American guitar and banjo player Dom Flemons come to Cornerstone as **Simpson and Flemons**.

Saturday 17th October: More comedy for ages 12+ and families in **He Had Hairy Hands**.

Sunday 18th October: Laugh your socks off with **Patrick Kielty: Help** as he returns to his stand-up roots with a brand new show.

Saturday 31st October: An evening of fast-paced musical comedy for ages 10+ and families in **Dickens Abridged**

Full details of our autumn season programme are available on our website http://www.cornerstone-arts.org. Online booking is available or bookings can be made by telephone from the Box Office on 01235 515144, or in person. (Open Tuesday-Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 11am-4pm. Closed Monday).

POLICE MESSAGE Parcel Mule Scam

People are being targeted to become "Parcel Mules" as part of a reshipping scam, which results in them handling stolen goods and losing out financially. Victims are predominantly recruited through job advertisements and dating websites. They are persuaded to have items delivered to their addresses and to pay for postage before sending the items elsewhere. Victims are contacted through Freelancer websites and invited to become a "Freight Forwarder" as an employment opportunity. The items being delivered have been purchased through fraudulent means. The items being delivered are often pieces of electrical equipment or high value goods such as trainers, perfume and the latest phones. You will not get paid the promised salary and you pay for the postage and delivery of the packages personally. Additionally, you will have provided enough of your personal details to allow identity theft to occur.

How To Protect Yourself:

- Do not agree to receive packages at your address for someone that you do not know and trust.
- Be cautious of unsolicited job offers or opportunities to make easy money.
- When accepting a job offer, verify the company details provided to you and check whether they have been registered in the UK.
- Be wary of someone that you have met only online who asks you to send money or to receive items. Protect your privacy and do not give your personal details to someone that you do not know and trust.

If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by this fraud or any other scam, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk. Saturday 3rd October between 9am – 11am at Rye Farm car park, Culham Road, Abingdon, OX14 3NN.

Sunday 4th October between 9am– 11am at the old South Oxfordshire District Council car park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ED

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse residents are invited to come along with your own box, bag or container to fill up with local compost!

There will be Master Composters on hand to answer your gardening and composting questions, Love Food Hate Waste advisors to help you reduce your food waste and save money, and the waste and recycling team will also be there to answer any recycling queries or questions.

Grab yourself some recycling goodies, compost bins (£10 cash!) and replacement kitchen caddies, buckets and liners (all while stocks last). Don't forget to bring a shovel!



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DRAYTON DIARY

FOR OCTOBER

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise		
	(To book D	rayton Hall call Tony Holmes on 531180)
	webs	site address www.draytonvh.co.uk
Sat 3rd	12 noon	Children's Party
Sun 4th	9 am	Griffon Bruxellois Dog Show
Mon 5th	7.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting
		Caudwell Day Centre
Sat 10th	10 am	Children's Party
Sat 10th	9 am	W.I Craft Demos (Small Hall)
Sun 11th	9 am	Bowls Club
Wed 14th	9 am	Company Seminar (to 12.30)
Sat 17th	9 am	Finnish Lapphunds Dog Show
Sun 18th	10 am	Christening Party
Mon 19th	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline (p2) – Ads 16th
Sun 25th	9 am	Bowls Club (Main Hall)
Sun 25th	9 am	Dog Club Committee (Lounge)
Sat 31st	7 pm	Private Function



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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 - 2.1	5 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. 5	12834) Steventon Hall
6.30 - 8.0	Opm Damascus youth group	
7.00 - 8.0	Opm Table Tennis (Coaching)	School
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 51	2834) Steventon Hall
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monda	ay) Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	Caudwell DC
7.45 - 8.4	5 pm Drayton Drop In (Except	Bank Holidays)
8.00 - 10.	00pm Table Tennis (Social play) School
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1 ¹ / ₂ hours)	St Peter's
8.30 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
ΓUESDAY	S	
8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
11.00 am	Dietician	0
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tu	
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	School
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	School
7.00 pm	Pilates – also at 8.pm	
7.00 - 10.	-	School
WEDNESI		5011001
8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	School Ground Bldg
10.30 am	Life diet advice	Senteer Grennin Shag
	0am Pebbles – Baby, Toddler ar	nd Carer group
	(in Term)	
11.00 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 2	
11.20 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min	
1.45 pm	Whist – now each week	Caudwell Day Centre
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday	•
2.15 pm	Badminton	in the month)
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8–9 yrs , Tel. 51283	34) Steventon Hall
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session	
	.00pm League Table Tennis	School
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	Caudwell Day Centre
FHURSDA		Cauawen Day Centre
8.45 am		School Crownd Plda
0.4 <i>J</i> am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) followed by lunch club and aftern	
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (First Thursday in Mo	
9.00 am 9.30 am		St Peter's Lady Chapel
	•	, i i
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (in Term	
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session	
7.00 - 10.		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)	
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	Caudwell Day Centre
SUNDAYS		~ 5
8.00 am	Holy Communion	St Peter's
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (All Age Service :	
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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