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DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Tony Holmes

Volume 38 No. 8

September 2015

CONGRATULATIONS!!

100 Years of the Womens' Institute

As you have probably heard from various television and radio programmes, the WI is 100 years old this September, in the UK that is. The first meeting of the group was held in the Farmers' Institute in Stony Creek, Ontario, Canada, following a talk about the lives of rural families and the conditions they lived in. A local farming couple, so shocked by what they had witnessed, decided that they would form a Womens' Institute where country women could meet up and not only socialise but gain knowledge on hygiene, child care, and cookery recipes. This became so popular that it gained momentum across Canada, and slowly across the world. The Institute made it across the Atlantic, and after much coaxing and cajoling was allowed to start a group in Llanfair P-G on Anglesey (first meeting in a garden shed) and also in Sussex.

By the end of 1916 there were 40 Institutes, 137 a year later. Numbers have continued to expand, by 2010 there were 6,500 (with 205,000 members).

In the 80s, when many women had to work to pay a mortgage, numbers fell away. But we kept going. Then in the 90s, a group of Yorkshire ladies made a calendar. Not just any calendar, but one that shook England to the core and a lot of WI ladies as well.

1919 saw the end of WW1 and the government withdrew its funding of the Institute, their cooperation was no longer needed. This was the beginning of the independent 'National Federation Of Womens Institutes' and the decision was made to be non partypolitical and non religious, this is still our function today, but this does not mean we cannot lobby parliament about subjects we feel strongly about.

Messy Church

Drayton Community Primary School



Sunday 4th October 3-4:30pm

Fun for all the family. Craft and building activities, games, stories, informal worship and cakes. All Welcome. Contact Rebecca 531374 for more info. At every Annual gathering of the Institute, held for many years in the Albert Hall, ladies from all over the kingdom met to hear renowned people of the era speak, vote on the finances of the Institute, and to voice their opinion on topical subjects through a 'resolution' brought forward for discussion by the members. After a vote is held many of these resolutions have become a law that we now take for granted (NB **Some of these are really surprising**, see the continuation on page 7).

The very first resolution in the early 20s was:- 'The Members urge the government to provide money to build better houses, to improve the living conditions of many town and country families'. Living conditions for many then were appalling, causing many deaths from disease and malnutrition.

At the outbreak of the second world war, the WI limited its involvement to issues that concerned people. As the only organisation that had links all over the rural areas and met regularly, the government used this feature to gather information about bed space for refugees, women, children and old people that would come, at some point, to escape the expected bombing.

Together with the WVS the refugees were greeted and dispatched to homes in rural areas with great efficiency. The vacated houses and gardens left untended for a variety of reasons meant there was fruit and vegetables left ungathered and going to waste. Groups of people and children were instructed to gather the fruit and vegetables and bring them to the local village hall where groups were formed and preservation of this harvest began. The government provided sugar and the Canadians gave canning machines.

Jam was made, every grain of sugar was accounted for in logs kept by the leader of the group. Fruit and vegetables were canned, jammed and pickled, to be collected and distributed to areas where people were severely underfed, **it was a contribution that saved many lives.** This, together with the singing of Jerusalem, led to the link 'Jam and Jerusalem'.

Thanks to Ann Webb for supplying this article, which is continued on Page 7.

In This IssueP13 Be guided by GeorginaP15 Grab your Compost (bring shovel!)P10 Effects of Austerity;P9 WW1 CentenaryP15 Own a Pumping Station?!P3 Stardom awaits?!P11 Mobile Library on a new day!P2 Lucky winnersP5 RBL DinnerP14 Parish CouncilP15 Hall News/Pilates explainedP5 Exercise to music?P6 Digital Training for 16-24s.

COMING CHRONICLES

The **OCTOBER Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday Sept 25th**.

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, Sept 14th 2015.

<u>After this deadline</u>, 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 <u>EARLIER</u>, <u>Friday Sept 11th</u>, 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 <u>the later an item is received</u>, 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 <u>CONTRIBUTORS</u>

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

<u>Please remember to check</u> 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 (NOT a PDF file!).

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		
		Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
Nov Mon 19 Oct		30 Oct
Dec	Mon 16 Nov	27 Nov

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				
]	Number of	f Monthly I	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				£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.

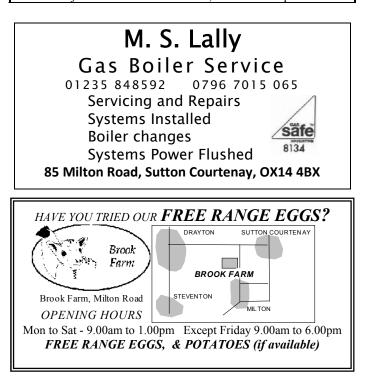
CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Carol Arnold, Hon. Promoter

RESULTS OF THE - AUGUST - LOTTERY

-		
Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr & Mrs R Walker Steventon Rd	Tamsin Meredith
£20	Mr & Mrs Dix Harvest Cottage	Julie Brown
£15	Mrs R Bruce Greenacres	Keith Clough
£10	H Brassington Chiers Farm	Doreen Mason
£10	S Thomas Henleys Lane	Andrew Bax
£10	Mrs Lacey Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	Mrs Haynes Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	G Stirling Abingdon Road	Julie Brown
£10	Mr & Mrs Quarterman Eastway MHP	Teresa Burnage
£10	F Long Binning Close	Cathy Norris

Winning tickets, from 1877 sold, were randomly drawn via computer (similar to Premium Bonds). Could YOU be an agent? - even if you just deliver some Chronicles, that would help.



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ALL AROUND

Drayton Players

Mike Davies

Sadly, the intended production for Drayton Players (a hilarious Comedy-Who-Dunnit called 'Busybody') has had to be postponed, probably until February, due to some unfortunate issues with personnel and availability.

The good news is therefore that **there is STILL an opportunity to get involved**! During the past few years <u>many new families</u> <u>have settled in the village</u> and we would very much like to hear from anyone (<u>all ages welcome</u>) who would consider joining us in what is a really interesting and fun-filled leisure pastime.

You may feel that being on stage is not your favourite place, but that is just the tip of the iceberg, with all manner of **backstage support** which is equally important, eg lighting, set-building, sound, wardrobe, front and back of house.

Readings & rehearsals are due to resume again in September, so this is YOUR chance to hear the roar of the greasepaint and the smell of the crowd! After all, the likes of Judy Dench and Michael Caine started somewhere! For more details please contact our Chairman Mike Davies on 01235 821351 or 07836 776 220, you can also email us via info@DraytonPlayers.org.uk or please check out our website www.DraytonPlayers.org.uk

For those needing a local theatrical 'fix', BreakaLeg Productions are presenting:- 'Witness for the Prosecution' By Agatha Christie (to celebrate her 125th birth anniversary), at the Unicorn, Sept 9 to 12th. This is apparently the author's favourite play, and was a famous film starring Charles Laughton & Marlene Dietrich.

It's directed by Deidre Jones, who has directed a few shows for Drayton (The Boyfriend, Good Companions and an Old Time Music Hall), and has cast members who also appeared in them at Drayton. Tickets via Bookstore (Abingdon) or contact as above.



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DRAYTON WIVES

Gwen Price

In July we had an interesting talk entitled Medical Dogs. Dogs have been used to help people with type one diabetes, they live with the diabetic person or child and alert them when they need to take action. Labradors, Retrievers and Spaniels are among the dogs used - it is very successful and saves the NHS a lot of money.

Special dogs are also used to help to detect cancer, with more research ongoing re other diseases. As many dog owners would agree with the saying "A dog is man's best friend". The speaker brought his own dog, and took him around the ladies, to enjoy a stroke from them.

In June Rosemary organised a very good trip to Brighton, which was enjoyed by all.

The next meeting is on Wednesday Sept 30th, and features a talk about "Dad's Underground Army at Coleshill".



ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in Charge	Revd Rebecca Peters	531374
Associate Priest	Revd Rosie Bruce	525284
Churchwardens	Mrs Alison Bone	202188
	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
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	9.15 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Weds	10.00 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room

CALENDAR for SEPTEMBER

Tues	1st	3.00 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun	6th	3.00 pm	Celebration Service	Drayton School

PARISH REGISTER

Funeral	July 29th	Thomas William Owen Cox
Baptisms	Aug 16th	Isaac Townsend
	&	Joel & Poppy-Jade Pownceby

YOU STAY - WE PRAY (Sept)

1st to 5th Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green 6th to 12th High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close 13th to 26th Lockway; Whitehorns Way

27th to 30th Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close



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Letter from St Peter's

Dear Friends,

I don't know why, but the transition from August to September always seems to catch me off guard. One moment it's all summer sunshine, holidays and relaxation. The next it's new term, busy-ness, dark evenings, Harvest, Remembrance – and Christmas in the shops. But deep down, I know I love both the change of seasons, and their familiar cyclical pattern. There is a security built into the created order, based on God's covenant promise to Noah that 'while the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, will never cease'. [Genesis 8;22]

But other changes are inevitable too; as certain, indeed, as death and taxes. And they can be really difficult and scary. In life, as in politics, events happen, and they often confuse, puzzle or deeply disturb us. Who would not be moved, and troubled, by the scene of immigrants crossing to Britain via the tunnel or the cruel behaviour of Islamic State forces? And closer to home, personal tragedies, whether by accident, illness, broken relationships or bereavement, are part of all our lives. The promise of Jesus, in all these things, is that, if we come to him, we will find rest for our souls. [Matthew 11;28-29]

We worship God who is both unchanging in his holiness, and endlessly creative in working out his loving purposes towards his creation – the world that he loves, redeems and gave Jesus to die for. So all we need to do is draw near to him as he draws near to us.

God Bless

Rebecca



(MORE) ALL AROUND

Royal British Legion

Al Costley

Well, it's almost that time, and full details are now available for this year's <u>Annual Dinner</u> at the Officer's Mess, Vauxhall Barrack, Didcot on 18^{th} September.

To attend, <u>please complete a booking form</u> (available from the contacts below), and return it to either any committee member or the postal address indicated. It must be stressed that due to the nature of the venue, <u>attendees must both pre-pay and register</u> <u>their personal details</u> to enable access through the Barracks security arrangements. The evening will see a series of events, including our annual general knowledge quiz, a three course carvery supper, and a short wreath laying ceremony at the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Memorial in the Barracks.

We're very fortunate to have such excellent support from 11 (EOD) Regiment RLC, a particularly heavily committed unit which is constantly operational. It would be great to make this year's dinner one to truly remember, and <u>we would very much like to see Legion friends and supporters, both old and new</u>.

Thank you to all those who attended the recent VJ Day commemoration service at St Michaels, Steventon. The sum of $\pounds70$ was given to the legion in the retiring collection which will be passed on to the Burma Star Association.

<u>We would also like to thank Mr & Mrs Turton</u> who have kindly offered to tidy the area around the War Memorial. We are very grateful to them and should anyone else like to assist with this work, please do get in touch with any committee member.

As ever, your local branch is always available to support and advise, and key contact details for the Committee members are:

President:- Pat Buckland, 07778 039967; Chairman:- Tony Ireson, 01235 831415; Vice Chairman:- Al Costley, 07832 340468, (e-mail = al_costley@hotmail.co.uk);

Secretary:- Paul Francis, 07799 026666, (e-mail = francisoxo@aol.com); Treasurer:- Rod Clewley, 01235 831206, (e-mail = rod@rclewley.orangehome.co.uk)

The next Branch meeting is 7.00pm on Monday Sept 21st at the Sports and Social Club in Steventon. New members are always most welcome, from across the Steventon and District area.



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Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

Well autumn is upon us and <u>another season of table tennis has</u> <u>commenced</u>. Drayton resumes activities on Monday 7th September from 7 pm with **practice and social play**. Janet Quarry our newly qualified coach will hone her coaching skills for the first hour of each Monday session, right through to May 2016.

If any adult or child reading this wishes to come along, they will be very welcome. We cater for all age groups, male 7, female from age 9 upwards.

We have obtained a new table through the very generous sponsorship of the <u>Oxford Fireplace Centre</u> – a company that also supports the Didcot league. This has enabled us to donate one of our older tables to a local school.

We have also installed new overhead lights – necessary as the old ones were getting very temperamental. This should enable us older players to at least see the ball a bit better!

The Didcot Association league season will commence late September. The club has entered 7 teams and as always we hope for success. Some of our players will be playing in higher divisions for the first time so we wish them well in their efforts.

Remember if <u>you wish to give table tennis a try</u> then it's Monday nights at the school.



EARTH TRUST Events in September

Heritage Skills Taster Session: <u>Fruit Foraging</u>; Sat 12th September, 11am-1pm; Discover the autumn fruits available around our site in Little Wittenham and some ways in which you can use them. Free; no need to book. More information:

volunteering@earthtrust.org.uk<mailto:volunteering@earthtrust.or g.uk> or 01865 409413.

Bats at Thrupp Lake Sun 13th Sept, 9pm-11pm; Local bat expert, Dominic Lamb, leads a walk at dusk to find out more about the bats that live around Thrupp Lake, near Abingdon (OX14 3NG). Learn how to use a detector to recognise different species. £5 adult, £2 child; **booking essential**: 01865 407792 or email to admin@earthtrust.org.uk

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

Please note:-	there is no longer an 11.15am Service.		
	Family worship can now be enjoyed at Drayton		
	School (first Sunday of the month, 3 - 4.30pm)		
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. <u>EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME</u>



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WESTMINSTER VIEW

Ed Vaizey's column (Wantage & Didcot MP, also he's Minister of State for Culture, & the Digital Economy)

The BBC have launched their 'Make it Digital Traineeship' which will be available in around 60 towns and cities in England. The BBC Academy and partners the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Skills Funding Agency (SFA) are calling on 16-24 year olds who are unemployed, have fewer than two A Levels and an interest in developing their digital skills, to register their interest via their local Jobcentre Plus.

The Jobcentre Plus network will then play a crucial role in identifying suitable candidates, who will be invited to take part by their Jobcentre Work Coaches. Training will be delivered by highquality local training providers across the country followed by structured work placements with local employers.

This is a good scheme for those who qualify, so PLEASE DO CHECK OUT the full details, which can can be found at http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/latestnews/2015/make-it-digital-traineeships-open

This month's postbag has been dominated by letters and emails on the upcoming parliamentary bill on assisted suicide. I have no moral objection to a law that would assist someone to die provided they were of course making a decision entirely of their own free will, and based on their circumstances. However, my very real concern has been and always will be what one might call 'the thin end of the wedge'. For every person that we might consider to have a clear and settled wish to end their lives, there are countless others who are vulnerable, despairing and often lacking in support who may feel under pressure to go through with this decision. Would we, in effect be encouraging those who might not otherwise have done so to decide to take their own life? This Bill legitimises the idea that suicide is a solution for disability and severe sickness. But, as years of debate on this issue in the House of Lords has shown, there is no safeguard that would be sufficient to stop a person who feels a burden on their caregivers from ending their life; nor can doctors accurately assess this, or worse, pressure or abuse which does regrettably exist in certain cases.

This is why none of the Royal Medical Colleges support a change in the law. In fact, the British Medical Association, the Royal College of GPs and the Royal College of Physicians, actively oppose such a change for that very reason. As evidence from other countries has shown, a right to die would for many be a duty to die. This is a matter of conscience, and as such, will be decided by a free vote. For the reasons set out above, we must fiercely resist this bill.

Please do contact me if you have any pressing issues that you'd like help with. Either myself or one of my fantastic team will get back to you as soon as possible and do what we can to assist.

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 020 7219 6350, write, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A OAA, or you can e-mail me (quickest) on vaizey@parliament.uk; the Website is <u>www.vaizey.com</u> with up to date news and surgery details (these are on Fridays, 5.30pm to 7pm, & need no appt).

I also send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please sign up at www.vaizey.com or email me at badyaljb@parliament.uk.

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

We wish Pat Percival a speedy recovery from her recent operation.

W.I. Anniversary (cont from P1)

After the war the Federation decided that a college was needed for women to study many and varied subjects not available through general education sources. After a long search Marcham Park was found and purchased. After some alteration, the house was renamed Denman College, after Lady Denman, whose achievements were numerous in the co-ordination of the Womens' Land Army and a WI founder member.

Denman in those days was the main house and a collection of wooden huts, but it was unique in that only women were admitted. When Denman was established, the Denman Cookery School was opened, and its reputation grew over many years as a standard of excellence and knowledge.

Jerusalem, adopted as our anthem, came in the early years through the connection with the suffragettes, they were given the rights to this hymn and carried it through to the WI. It is sung at ground roots level up to the Albert Hall by five thousand women, a sound not forgotten, once heard. \rightarrow >>

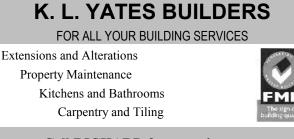




MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance your Area Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle one month you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop in the week after normal delivery time. Lawrence has very kindly agreed to keep a small stock for us each month.





Call RICHARD for an estimate on 01235 531275 or mobile 07788 738248

Back to the aforementioned resolutions (Ed's note:- some of these are a real surprise, especially considering the year proposed) These are a very important part of the AGM, put together by ordinary women, and voted on to be passed on to the relevant authority for serious consideration.

Here are a few that may surprise you, and when these forward-thinking women raised these issues:-

1926, To give civilian widows with children a pension to relieve them from poor relief. 1929, Bread should be wrapped on sale. 1931, Improvements in adult education for women in domestic economy, small holdings and have reserved places at Agricultural colleges and institutes. 1937, the dangers of hire purchase agreements hidden in the small print, followed by, in 1960, A copy of the hire agreement should be given to the purchaser. 1945, To ensure milk supplies were safe and clean to drink. 1946, Homes for elderly and sick people who are unable to live alone. 1947, Improve the standard of film content now they are more popular. 1947, Urge the government to ensure all houses being built should have water and sewage pipes built into houses, and water pipes buried low enough not to freeze. 1950, To allow parents to visit sick children in hospital. 1954, Keep Britain Tidy! 1956 Vaccinate all babies against smallpox. 1957, To remove purchase tax from domestic equipment in line with workman's tools that carried no tax. 1970, To limit the size and weight of goods vehicles on our roads. 1972 To provide free family planning advice in all local authorities.

These are but a few of the resolutions that we now take for granted in everyday life, and now you can see their origins and perhaps spare a thought for those pioneering women who against all odds (and more often than not without the blessings of their husbands), fought very hard to improve life for many people.

Drayton Womens Institute is 95 years old in December. We will put a potted history of the group in the relevant issue. We also hope to have our very first banner framed and displayed in the Drayton Hall to cement our links with the Hall and its origins.



YOUR LETTERS

History Book?

Dear Sir,

via email

Does anyone know where I can acquire or buy a copy of the Historical Society book (mainly photographs) of Drayton. It was produced over ten years ago.

Please contact me on 531205 if you can help. Thanks Gwen Price



<u>Tom Cox</u>

Dear Sir,

Hilliat Fields

<u>I would like to Thank</u> all who attended the funeral of Tom Cox on July 29th, our Husband and Father respectively.

Thank you also for the very kind donations to the British Heart Foundation.

Regards

Josie, Jeff, Valerie & family

All Saints' Church, Sutton Courtenay EXTRA LATE-SUMMER CONCERT ON 6TH SEPTEMBER

(at 6pm on a Sunday – like our Parish Proms)

The 20th Century Clarinet

Works by Finzi, Gershwin, Messaien, Bartok, Stravinsky

with David Mears

(Scholar-elect, Royal Academy, London) *accompanied by* Peter McMullin (piano)

Admission @ £8 includes complimentary interval refreshments 6pm, Sunday 6 September 2015 in All Saints' Church 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.

Did You Happen to See ??

Fellow Drayton Residents

Sutton Wick Lane

At the end of July, I was doing my annual two weeks of litter collection on the Millennium Green. I had just remarked that there now seems to be less litter to collect than in previous years, when I came across some 'fly tipping' in the hedge near the gate.

There were three large white plastic bags which had burst – or been opened by animals - containing an assortment of bottles and some paper which took me three trips to clear. There were over 50 Buxton Water bottles and about 20 assorted soft drink bottles. The absence of evidence of anything stronger suggests that the rubbish came from a large group of children. The fact that the bottles had been put into bags, suggests the presence of some adults.

As some of the paper consisted of copies of a 6-page document titled "Introduction to Nutrition" (U14601) it adds to the evidence of adult, possibly academic, involvement. At least 95% of this rubbish was re-cycleable.

Did anyone see a large party on the Green or a 'fly tipper' towards the end of July? Most people take their rubbish away or use the bins that are provided. If any culprits are spotted, please try to discourage them. Perhaps they could be persuaded to join the litter picking rota, as Community Service?

Regards

Keith Clough

(NB Editor's Note :- A swift look at Google suggests that this could be something to do with Brookes University, as U14601 is the reference number for a Nutrition course they run. Anyone know anything of a local connection with such a course?)



A Better Litter Letter

Dear Editor,

via email

<u>I'd like to thank the motorists</u> that stopped on Sunday the 16th August to help save the Abingdon end of the village from a litter explosion. Someone had dropped a large Filofax in the middle of the road and it had begun to cover the road and surrounding area with paper - lots of paper..... Two motorists blocked the road and at least four people leapt out of their cars and joined the litter hunt and in five minutes the litter disaster was resolved.

Litter really makes the village untidy and this was truly a minor disaster averted. **Thanks to the helpers** and apologies for the delay to those in the small traffic queue.

Colin West (Parish Councillor)



WW1: 100 Years On

Sadly September of 1915 saw 4 soldiers from Drayton give their lives in Flanders. <u>This continues our series of remembrance</u>.



In Memory of WILLIAM BENNETT (Private) Royal Berkshire Regiment (8th Battalion) Aged 27 Service Number – 16104 Killed in Action – 25th September 1915 Battle of Loos Son of Joseph and Elizabeth Bennett of 4 Steventon Road, Drayton, Berks

> Remembered with Honour LOOS MEMORIAL Panel 93-95



In Memory of TOM TOWNSEND (Guardsman)

Grenadier Guards (4th Battalion) Aged 25 Service Number - 21102 Died of Wounds – 27th September 1915 Battle of Loos Son of Thomas and Harriet Townsend of High Street, Drayton, Berks.

Remembered with Honour BULLY-GRENAY COMMUNAL CEMETERY (BRITISH EXTENSION)

The Battle of Loos was perhaps the major offensive by British & Allied forces in 2015. Loos is maybe 40 miles south-east of Calais, a little north of the town of Lens. It's a few miles southwest of the city of Lille, famous now as a stop on the Eurotunnel line to Paris or Brussels. Unfortunately the action failed in its attempt to make a major breakthrough of German lines, and nearly 20% of all the Allied casualties of that year were at or near Loos.

The two tributes in this column are especially tragic, as they were brothers, same regiment and battalion, killed on the same day. It's hard for us to comprehend how family and friends would have felt when they heard the news.

In Memory of REGINALD BUXCEY (Private)

Royal Berkshire Regiment (2nd Battalion) Aged 20 Service Number – 10080 Killed in action - 25th September 1915 Action at Bois Grenier – (Loos) Son of Henry and Hannah Buxcey Resident of Drayton, Berks

Remembered with Honour PLOEGSTREERT MEMORIAL Panel 7 and 8

In Memory of FREDERICK BUXCEY (Corporal) Royal Berkshire Regiment (2nd Battalion) Aged 25 Service Number – 9733 Killed in action - 25th September 1915 Action at Bois Grenier – (Loos) Son of Henry and Hannah Buxcey Resident of Drayton, Berks

Remembered with Honour PLOEGSTREERT MEMORIAL Panel 7 and 8

(This is the Ploegstreert Memorial)



Anyone who has visited the Flanders area has probably seen one

or two of the **many military cemeteries and memorials** which are scattered either side of the France/Belgium border.

The main road through the Somme area has masses of them, reflecting the immense amount of fighting and huge loss of life involved. Our July edition next year is likely to have many more names, reflecting the huge volume of casualties July 1/2/3 1916. The huge **Thiepval memorial** there (by Lutyens) features the names of many thousands whose bodies were never actually found.

Any of the cemeteries, whether the large ones like Tyne Cot in Belgium (near Passchendaele), or any of the many small ones, are incredibly moving. Headstone after headstone features names of those who died on similar dates. Occasionally you'll find someone who won military honours, a Victoria Cross or two amongst them. We visited one near Ypres (an area of multiple battles through the war) that had the graves of several nurses, whose nursing station behind the lines was shelled.

All are beautifully maintained by the Commonweath War Graves Commission, who keep detailed records. Anyone who wants to be reminded of the horrors of war might think of a visit to the museum in Ypres – but a visit to any of the relevant cemeteries with their massed rows of headstones gives the sombre message.

Richard Webber

Oxon County Council Report

Austerity...This is an appeal to all residents for understanding of the very difficult position in which County Officers (not to mention Councillors!) find themselves.

The age of austerity has not been even handed with local government. Cuts in government grants have hit all councils, but New Homes Bonus (the grant awarded to councils for every house they allow to be built) has been split 80% to Districts and only 20% to Counties. Unfortunately, the bulk of the expensive infrastructure that the new houses need (roads, schools and social services) fall on the County Council budget. This imbalance has led to increasingly wealthy District Councils and increasingly cash-strapped County Councils.

Few of us involved in Local government thought that the only decisions we would be making were "What should we cut next to balance the books?". Local government officers have to face often angry and frustrated residents with the only answer they can give – "I'm sorry, we'd to do x and y, but we have no budget for it".

Adjusting the New Homes Bonus split (to say 50:50) would allow the County to save many services - roads, buses, children's centres and so on - services which are at the moment under threat. It would not involve asking government for more money - the money is already there. At the Council meeting on Tuesday 14th July, I proposed a motion calling on Central Government to take another look at the way New Homes Bonus is apportioned between Councils. I am delighted to say that it was passed unanimously gaining full support even from those councillors who were also District Councillors. No-one wants Districts to be under the same strain as Counties, but until the split is more fairly apportioned, we will be in danger of superb Leisure Centres with gold-plated taps (District responsibilities) which no-one can get to through the potholes and lack of bus services (County responsibilities). We all now need to persuade our MPs to take the message to Westminster before we lose any more vital services in the next budget round.

Directing the blame...In an effort to balance the books, the County has already had to take some tough decisions. **One such is the decision to charge for dealing with DIY waste**. The County does not have a statutory obligation to provide this service, but has done so for some time. Recent conversations with staff at the Drayton Waste Collection depot, have exposed the fact that staff have to cope with irate residents who do not think they should be charged. (The fees are very modest and only kick in when more than 3 sacks are being delivered). These disputes happen almost daily. **It is certainly not the fault of the staff** and I would argue (although as an Opposition Councillor I don't have to!) that it is not the fault of the country voted for austerity, and the need to charge for non-statutory services is what austerity brings with it.

In the coming weeks, the **Council will be consulting on its plans to cut Children's Centres and Early Intervention Hubs**. It is inevitable that there will be much anger at the potential loss of a major universal service particularly valued by many hard-pressed families. The Council is trying to cope with a budget cut in this area of 50% whilst trying to continue to provide a service to the most vulnerable families in the County. <u>The County Officers do not want to have to do it</u>. The County Councillors do not want to <u>have to do it</u>. It is being done as a result of national austerity policy. **Right or wrong it is a national issue and there is little local government can do about it**.

If you have feelings on any County issues you would like me to hear, **please contact me** on Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001. *Richard Webber* (Cllr OCC)

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Stuart Davenport

District Council Report

What does devolution mean for Oxfordshire? There has been much talk recently about devolution, be it nationally or locally. Oxfordshire County Council is proposing forming a 'strategic alliance' with Bucks and Northants to seek additional funding from Govt for strategic transport. This falls short of a full devolution deal that the Govt are encouraging. Councils within Oxon, including Vale, are looking at the potential benefits of such a devolution deal and are talking to Govt about the options.

The Vale's Corporate Plan... The Vale is beginning the process of reviewing its Corporate Plan. This rather dry subject sets out the strategic direction of the Council for the next few years. Residents will have the chance to contribute to the process with the launch of a consultation later this year (Oct/Nov?).

Recycling centres...OCC is again considering the closure of recycling centres across the County. Whilst we recognise their financial challenges and that improved kerb-side collections in recent years have changed the way we use recycling centres they remain valued community facilities. Whilst this is a matter for the County Council the Vale has restated its support for the retention of recycling centres in the district for the benefit of all residents.

If you would like to contact me then please do not hesitate to do so. My telephone number is 01235 521078 and my e-mail is Stuart.Davenport@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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MOBILE LIBRARY LOCATION & TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

Drayton (Tuesdays):- Now only one stop (NB complain to OCC!) The Green 2:20 to 2:40 Sept 8/22, then alternate Tuesdays

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OTHER LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

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Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG5 Safety Corner)

Rental Fraud – targeting empty properties

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) has received several reports of rental fraud, whereby empty premises are being targeted and the locks are being changed for the purpose of adding legitimacy to a rental fraud. The suspect(s) will find and enter an empty property for the purposes of changing the locks and then advertising it on online platforms, such as Gumtree, as a rental property. The suspect(s) then invite interested victims to visit the property for a viewing. Those interested in renting the property are then requested to pay a deposit and/or rent up front in cash. In some instances the victims have moved into the property only to be evicted by the real property owner, or have found that the locks have been changed after they have received the keys. There are several instances where this fraud has left victims homeless.

Prevention Advice:

Property owners should visit properties regularly to ensure locks have not been changed and no damage has occurred.

Avoid communication with only email or mobile phone, request to see the property owner and ask for valid ID. You can also check ownership of the property using the Land Registry.

The landlord will carry out their own due diligence and should request all of your details, references and proof that you will be able to afford the rent. Make sure that these checks are completed prior to paying a deposit/rent. Always view the property and the tenancy agreement before paying any upfront costs.

If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by this fraud or any other scam please **report it to Action Fraud** by calling 0300 123 2040 or visit the website at hpp://www.actionfraud.police.uk.

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

It's a team-cheering, socialising, few hours a week kind of job Relief Workers

If you can spare a few hours a week or more, this could be your ideal casual job. You'll be supporting people who have learning disabilities in your local community with a huge range of everyday tasks and activities like seeing films, swimming, cycling, shopping, meeting friends, and taking day trips. £8.55 ph (inclusive of payment in lieu of holiday) For more details, please contact Tina Watkins on 07767 298571 or for an application pack, call 01235 827605 (9am - 3pm, Mon-Fri) or apply online at <u>www.hft.org.uk</u> and go to the 'jobs' section.

GUIDING SUCCESS

Georgina Arnold recently achieved her Chief Guides Award which is one of highest awards you can achieve within Guiding. The award was presented by the Chief Guide, Gill Slocombe.

← The picture is of Georgina receiving that award.

The award is made up of Octants which are:- Out of Doors, Fit for life, Community Action, Creativity, Personal Values, International, Independent living & Leadership.

Georgina had to complete several challenges and activities from each octant meaning that the award has taken her over 2 and a half years of hard work to complete.

Georgina first joined the Guiding movement at the age of 7 when she became a Brownie, attending 1st Drayton Brownies.

While she was a Brownie she took part in two Oxford Gang Shows. She then moved on to Guides, where she achieved the Baden Powell Award, the highest award that a guide can get, as part of this Georgina became the first Guide in Oxfordshire to go up in and take the controls of a glider. Following this she moved onto senior section.

Georgina is now working towards her Leadership qualification and is volunteering at 1st Drayton Rainbows. She is also working towards her Commonwealth Award as well as the Highest award you can achieve within Guiding, the Queens Guide Award.

Well done Georgina!

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PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Parish Council Meeting, Monday August 3rd.

The meeting was attended by three members of the public as well as the councillors. Richard Seamark enquired whether the PC had made a decision on funding for a new lawnmower for the football club. The meeting agreed to pay for the repair of the existing mower, £760, but in view of the likely cost of a new mower – circa £4000, decided to defer consideration of this matter to the next Finance Committee meeting on 2^{nd} September. Grants of £100 each were also made to the Drayton Pre-School and Drayton Toddler Group to fund their stalls at the DFEST, held on 8^{th} August. Those who attended this event (held on the football field by the Village Hall) will know that it was a great success and very well-attended, helped by outstandingly fortunate weather conditions on the day – cloudless skies and blazing hot sun.

Iain Henderson, who led the memorial service for the people killed in the 1957 Sutton Wick Air Crash, thanked the Parish Council for retrospectively accepting and approving the **plaque that was erected on 7th March 2015** on the green opposite the duck pond. Iain explained that the plaque was temporary, and next year the memorial team would like to return to install a more lasting memorial.

Daniel Scharf expressed concerns about pre-planning application discussions with developers that were being conducted by the Implementation Committee, and felt these should be more properly the province of the Planning Committee or indeed the full Parish Council. It was pointed out that 4 of the 7 voting members of the IC were already Parish Councillors, 3 of them also members of the Planning Committee. The remaining 2 members of the Planning Committee had declined to join the IC because work commitments did not permit their attendance at the number of additional meetings (formal and informal) required. It was not practical to discuss these matters in detail in the full Parish Council meetings as they would take up too much time. It was accepted that any meetings with developers should be held 'without prejudice', but of course this principle would be violated if every aspect of negotiations had to be minuted. The Implementation Committee meetings are minuted, and their discussions are fed back to the PC in any case. No formal planning applications have yet been received for the South of High St and Manor Farm sites. When they are, they will be dealt with, as always, by the Planning Committee. $\rightarrow >>$





→ Stuart Davenport, our District Councillor, reported that the Vale has a legal obligation to cooperate with neighbouring councils to ensure that regional housing targets are met. In practice, this means that the Vale may need to accept additional housing because neighbouring councils, particularly Oxford City Council, claim they are unable to meet their projected housing needs. Obviously, this is a contentious issue, and Vale have called on the City Council to review its own Local Plan and ensure it is maximizing the use of land within the City boundaries.

Four companies have now been met with, regarding the **further upgrading of the Lockway playground**. All will be submitting schemes and quotes within the next month.

To contact any members of the PC, all enquiries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, David Perrow. David may be contacted via email at draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk, or by phone on 07909 176061, and he will ensure that any messages are passed on. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the emailing list, to receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents. In addition, all PC minutes are now archived on the village website: www.drayton-near-abingdon.org which also carries back copies of the Drayton Chronicle, Drayton 2020 info, and details of other events in the village.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th September 2015, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, **all are welcome to attend**. *Richard Williams*

Drayton Neighbourhood Plan – Implementation Committee

No meetings of the Committee were held in August. However, negotiations on Section 106 contributions from the Barrow Rd site continue, and four companies have been invited to tender for the further refurbishment of the Lockway playground. The next IC meeting will be on Friday 4^{th} September in the Village Hall (Small Hall) at 7pm. Note the change of usual venue, due to the fact that the Caudwell Day Centre was not available.

This is a public meeting which anyone may attend.

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. <u>Our next dates</u> are Sept 1st & October 6th.

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

DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Bookings seem to be hotting up for autumn weekends, so don't leave it too late for your child's party.

We have a dog training session Tues Sept 1st, 9am or so on the rec, run by Abingdon Dog-training and aimed at younger people, it's in partnership with Sovereign so for more details please do call Liz Hann on 01235 536001.

The **Bowls club** tell me they've space for a few new members, a friendly bunch and it's an easy game to get the hang of; the **Sequence Dance group** (Thurs eves) are also on the lookout for a little new blood, so do consider that for a spot of gentle exercise and a <u>good social evening</u> (a number of their group travel a fair distance, so it must be good!).

<u>Any budding actors</u> (Helen Mirren & Timothy Spall both started somewhere!) DO SEE that the Players are looking for new talent, just re-starting readings/rehearsals again (see page 3).

Oh, ladies, one more thing, our Bra Bank (you remember, for 2 excellent charities), just needs a little more support.

Our **Pilates** instructor (Gillian, Tuesday evenings) has a few spaces left to fill (any aches & pains need sorting?). <u>She does</u> several other sessions at local halls, and **attendees can mix & match** at any of her locations to suit (good for shift-workers, perhaps?). **She's prepared a short text** to answer any questions:-

Our classes are small and friendly, welcoming people of all ages (teens to octogenarians!) from complete beginners to experienced Pilates students. The benefits will be different for each of us but may include improved sleep, better posture, flatter tummy, stronger back, greater muscle tone, improved balance and increased flexibility. If you already exercise regularly (e.g. running or playing a sport), Pilates will help you to attain the core strength for which athletes strive to support these activities.

No special clothing or equipment is required, our classes focus on matwork, following the **traditional Pilates method**. I've taught Pilates for 14 years and many of my students have been with me since the beginning - we just can't imagine giving it up!

The classes are held in Drayton, Didcot, Harwell and Newbury, with morning and evening options and a flexible attendance plan. I don't offer an Internet booking facility as I prefer to answer your questions personally, so if you are almost ready to join us - please give me a ring on 01235 814299 or 07981 362867.





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Could you foster? We need short term and long term foster carers as well as carers who can just help out for weekends and school holidays for children of all ages from babies to teenagers.

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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 two upcoming information evenings, Wednesdays Sept 23rd & Nov 4th at County Hall, Oxford (6.30pm to 8) for a chance to chat to the fostering team personally (ie our recruitment team, social workers and experienced foster carers). Why not come along, you just might be able to make a difference to someone's life?

<u>LISTINGS</u>

Meditation? Experienced Meditation Tutor, John Patching, is now running Open Meditation Sessions at The Complementary Healthcare Practice in Abingdon. Open Meditation Sessions are specifically designed for all, beginners and regular mediators. If you would like to come along and try meditation in a group setting, just call John on 03302230303 (local call rate) for more details. Tuesdays, 7.15 - 8.15pm but pre-booking is advised.

<u>Compost?</u> Another OCC <u>FREE COMPOST GIVEAWAY</u>. Abingdon, Rye Farm car-park, Sat Oct 3rd, 9 to 11am, then on Sunday Oct 4th at the former OCC HQ (Benson Rd, Crowmarsh Gifford – easy to find, burnt-out offices nearby, courtesy of arsonist lunatic!) also 9 to 11am. Free recycling goodies on offer, PLUS special offer 50% off compost bins, now just £10 (cash).



PUMP HUNT : SEWAGE STATION OWNERS?

Thames Water is to take on the responsibility of 4,000 sewage pumping stations from property owners and managers, it will take over electricity & maintenance costs under new legislation, potentially saving customers thousands of pounds.

This is due in October 2016, **but needs to track down 1,800 currently off its radar**. Customers will know they have one as they'll be paying to maintain and power them.

"Please get in touch if you think this applies to you and we can take on the responsibility forever." - Anyone with a private pumping station can make Thames Water aware via the website at www.thameswater.co.uk/pumphunt

DRAYTON DIARIES

DIARY FOR SEPT

	All	e	vents held	in Drayton Hall <u>unless otherwise stated</u>
NI	B To	b	ook Drayte	on Hall call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180
	or	v	isit the (im	proved) website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk
Tu	es 1	1	9.00am	Ab'don Dog Training (rec)
Fri	2	1	7.00pm	Implementation Committee (p14)
Sat	4	5	2.00pm	Private Function
Su	1 (5	9.00am	Bowls Club (to 5pm)
Mc	n 7	7	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting Caudwell DC
Fri	11	1	2.30pm	Private Function (to 5pm)
Sat	12	2	5.00pm	Private Function
Mc	n 14	1	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline (p2) – Ads 12th

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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.

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise NB <u>PLEASE</u> – if an entry is wrong – tell one of the editors (page 2) MONDAYS 8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 10.30 am Pilates (depends on numbers - 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) 6.30 pm Table Tennis (New Players - returns Sept) School Caudwell DC 7.15 pm Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) 7.30 pm Table Tennis (Senior practice, returns Sept) School 7.45 pm Bell-ringing (for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours) St Peter's 8.30 pm Badminton (Private Group) TUESDAYS 8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 9.45 am 'Boogie Beat' (Pre-school music & movement) 1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) Caudwell Day Centre 3.00 pm First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) Church Room 5.45 pm Zumba Fitness 7.00 pm Pilates (1 hr - call 01235 814299) 7.30 pm League Table Tennis (returns Sept) School WEDNESDAYS 8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer gp – p4) Church Room 11.00 am Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) Haywards Rd 11.20 am Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) The Green 11.45 am Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) Lyford Close 1.45 pm Whist – now each week Caudwell Day Centre Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month) 2.00 pm Badminton 2.15 pm 6.15 pm Brownies 7.00 pm Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (returns Sept) School 7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) 7.30 pm Bingo Session Caudwell Day Centre THURSDAYS 8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 9.00 am Foot Clinic (1st Thurs) Caudwell Day Centre 9.30 am Holy Communion St Peter's Lady Chapel 9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY) 2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours) 5.00 pm Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 years, call Mary 832077) 7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) Caudwell DC 7.30 pm Sequence Dancing (01235 531701) FRIDAYS 8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) Sch'l Ground Bldg 11.00 am The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466 CaudwellDay Centre 7.00 pm Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends) Caudwell Day Centre SUNDAYS 8.00 am St Peter's Holy Communion 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday) St Peter's 11.15 am Family Time (1st Sun) **Baptist Church Evening Service Baptist** Church 6.00 pm 7.00 pm Zumba Fitness

<u>NB :- The ARCHIVE of past Chronicles</u> can be found at the village website http://www.drayton-near-abingdon.org/

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