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# **DRAYTON CHRONICLE**

**Issue Editor: Derek Pooley** 

Volume 38 No. 10

November 2015

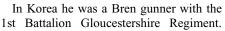
## A DAY TO REMEMBER Rosemary Chapman



At the end of August we received a letter from Brigadier Hughes at Aldershot telling us that we had been awarded the Elizabeth Cross. (see note below). A beautiful ceremony was planned with about 70 people in attendance; military personnel, local Gloucester dignitaries, and ex-Glosters. It was orchestrated from Aldershot, on instructions

from their Brigadier, and was held at Bicester Garrison.

Gerald Chapman was a village boy from Drayton, who was called up for his national service, aged just 19 years, and eventually sent to Korea with the United Nations Peacekeeping Force, to fight in the war between North and South Korea. He had to look on the map to see just where in the world Korea was!



At the start of the battle, the Bren gunners were sent down to the Imjin River to try and halt the crossing of thousands of Chinese soldiers who were trying to cross the Imjin in an attempt to reach, and occupy, Seoul. This position was crucial to the outcome of the battle because, if it fell quickly, the American Army would have been cut off and the Chinese able to capture Seoul. The Glosters' tenacious and famous defence there led to the American president awarding the regiment the American Citation.

Gerald lost his life in that battle, along with many more lads. Many of his fellow soldiers were taken prisoner spending  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years in captivity. Only 39 managed to escape, out of a total of one battalion of 600 Glosters, and 150 men of C Troop, 170 Mortar Battery, Royal Artillery.

We were very proud that some of the survivors could join us at this medal presentation, at Bicester Garrison on Monday 28 September. The medal was presented by Tim Stevenson OBE, the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, who is the Queen's representative. The veterans then came back to Haywards Road to have tea with us and see the house and garden where Gerald lived until his 'Call Up'. An excellent day and one which we will always remember with pride!

**Editor's Note:** The Elizabeth Cross was instituted by HM the Queen in 2009 and is given to recognised next of kin of soldiers who died in action after the end of WWII. The Chapman family would be very pleased to show their award and the photos taken at the ceremony. Just contact Derek or Rosemary on 531452.

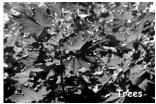


## A NEW PHOTO GALLERY Colin West

Drayton's New Photo Gallery opens – well to be more precise 'goes live' after considerable work by Jules Meredith. What we want now are some stunning photos for the categories set up that are ready and waiting.

The Gallery categories are: Chronicle Photos, Historical, People and Portrait, Plant and Nature, Sport & Leisure, Village Life and finally Spotlight – this will be an opportunity for villagers to show off their skills in a monthly themed category – the gallery moderator will select one of the photos as the photo of the month and the contributor will win a huge bucket of praise and recognition.

This month's theme is 'Trees'. The November theme is 'Gates' and the December theme is 'Christmas and Celebrations' – and do please make sure that you have permission from anyone in your photos to publish them.



Submit a maximum of five photos by email to gallery@draytonvillage.co.uk or via http://www.wetransfer.com. The closing date for submissions is the last day of the theme month.



The gallery can be accessed on www.draytonvillage.co.uk, the **new** village website

Author's footnote: Anyone submitting images must have the photographer's permission to do so and will, by submitting, give rights for them to be published. Any photos considered to be promoting a commercial activity or that contravene any privacy, pornography or child protection laws will not be published.

#### Also in this issue:

- P3: Sharing Millennium Walnuts
- P3: Dangerous roads and noisy aerobatics
- P8: Fraudsters are promising council tax rebates
- P9: Britain is the tops for transplant athletes
- P9: Are we really greener than before?
- P11: Looking for ideas for our new recreational space
- P11: Something to read on the 13 bus
- P13: Kerbside recycling of electrical goods and textiles
- P15: Not enough 'at risk' people having the flu jab

### Abingdon Decorative and Fine Arts Society FREE 'taster' lecture in November.

If you are interested in the arts then ADFAS is the place for you. Come along to Trinity Church, Conduit Road, Abingdon on Wednesday 18th November at *either* 10.30am or 2.00pm

Bertie Pearce will be talking on The Art of Visual Deception the profound mystery of perception and the ambiguous state of seeing things which are not there - yet are there!

Coffee and tea, before the lecture, is also free.

See www.adfas.org.uk or email info@adfas.org.uk



## CHRONICLE INFORMATION

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

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

Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday**, **13 November 2015** Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Monday**, **16 Nov 2015** Printed copies available: **Friday**, **27 November 2015** 

| Kev | dates | for | the | subseq | ment  | three | Chronicl | es:         |
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| Issue for | Deadline for contributions:<br>17.00 on Monday: | Printed Chronicles<br>available on: |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Jan/Feb   | 18 January 2016                                 | 29 January 2016                     |
| March     | 15 February 2016                                | 26 February 2016                    |
| April     | 07 March 2016                                   | 18 March 2016                       |

### NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **ADVERTISING RATES**

#### Charge for a Single Block Advert (about 9cms x 4.5cms)

|                      |           | - Number           | of Insert   | s         |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Advertiser Category: | 1         | 3                  | 6           | 12        |
| Drayton Resident     | £6        | £16                | £31         | £60       |
| Non-Drayton Resident | £7        | £19                | £37         | £72       |
| Double-size adverts  | are charg | ged at <b>twic</b> | e the above | ve 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 Vickery's or sent there (address above).

Requests for advertisements should (preferably) be emailed to **Stephen Fearnley**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager **at advertising@draytonchronicle.net** or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements please phone Stephen on 01235 531347

## CHRONICLE LOTTERY

### Carol Arnold, Hon Promoter

|       | <b>RESULTS OF THE OCTOBER LOTTERY</b> |                 |  |  |  |
|-------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| Prize | Winner                                | Agent           |  |  |  |
| £25   | Pam Bowker, High Street               | Liz Bronson     |  |  |  |
| £20   | Mrs Webster, 6 Newman Lane            | Keith Clough    |  |  |  |
| £15   | F Gill, 102 Abingdon Road             | Daniel Scharfe  |  |  |  |
| £10   | Mr Chapman, 138 Whitehorns Way        | Mirja Boyd      |  |  |  |
| £10   | Liz Bronson, 3 Chiers Farm            | Doreen Mason    |  |  |  |
| £10   | B Davis, 23 Abingdon Road             | Jayne Henderson |  |  |  |
| £10   | Margaret Jones, 1 Halls Close         | Ali Bone        |  |  |  |
| £10   | Mr Law, Sutton Wick Farm House        | Keith Clough    |  |  |  |
| £10   | L Griffiths, 7 Hayward Road           | Tamsin Meredith |  |  |  |
| £10   | P Hoyland, 14 Binnings Close          | Cathy Norris    |  |  |  |

We no longer use counterfoils. Instead, winning numbers from the 2015 tickets sold last month were generated randomly using a computer, as for national premium bonds and in the national lottery

### **DANES/MACE STORE** Mon-Sat 5am-8pm - Sun 6am-6pm FOR ALL YOUR PAPERS, MAGAZINES,

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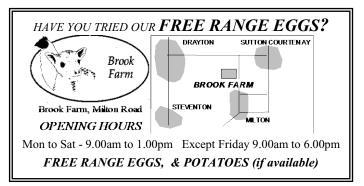
LOTTERY TICKETS

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

## YOUR LETTERS

#### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

#### Dear Editor,

This is just to say a very BIG thank you to everyone who came to the coffee morning - and to those who could not come but sent a donation. We raised £368.35 on the coffee morning itself, and also £20 on raffle tickets making a total of £388.35. Over half the money raised was gift aided, which means Macmillan can make the money go further and brings the total in real terms to considerably more.

Thank you all so very much!

Brenda Malin and Liz Kidd.

#### **Millennium Walnuts**

Dear Editor

Although, in last month's Chronicle, we were told to feel free to pick up fallen walnuts, it was noticed that one person appeared to be harvesting walnuts from ALL the trees and finished up with bags full of them. Surely the message in the Chronicle meant that the nuts were available to ALL villagers.

Daphne Samworth

#### Speeding between Drayton and Sutton Courtenay

Dear Editor,

In late September some Drayton residents will have seen Drayton Road on BBC South Today. This feature on road safety (or lack thereof) followed a further serious collision and injury on the road which again closed it for several hours - that's two serious accidents in as many months. There is now an online petition which asks for a 30mph limit and signage which encourages drivers to recognise the area as a village environment. The petition will be used to maintain momentum in discussions with the County Council, who continue to say that there need to be more accidents before anything can be done.

If anyone would like to express their concern about the road and show support please sign the petition, which can be found at www.change.org Please search for 'B4016' or 'Sutton Courtenay'.

This is not the first time residents have alerted the County Council to the dangers of the road. This time we need them to understand the full extent of the concern, so please sign the petition and share it with friends and family. Thank you to everyone who has already signed - the comments people have left are a good indication of people's experience.

With best wishes

Bryony Landsbert

#### **Noisy Aerobatics**

Dear Editor

May I share my concern about nuisance aircraft with other residents of Drayton? For a number of years we have been plagued by Grobb training aircraft flown by the University Air Squadron based at RAF Benson performing acrobatic flying over the village and surrounding areas. I and many of my neighbours have now had enough of this constant noisy activity so I have complained to our local MP Mr Ed Vaizey who has taken up this matter with the M.O.D on my behalf. He has sent me a copy of his reply from the M.O.D stating that performing this type of flying over any built up area is illegal - yet it still continues,

I fully understand that this type of training is important for future RAF pilots, but do we have to have it constantly in the skies around our village, I have copies of the letter if anyone who is also fed up with this practice would like to complain. Any complaints can be made to Flt Lt R Johnson, 3FTS Headquarters, RAF College Cranwell, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 8HB or the M.O.D or our local MP.

Douglas Whiting

#### Looking out for Neighbours

Dear Editor

I would like to say I am sorry that we no longer watch out for our neighbours. My friend was in hospital for three days, blinds drawn and no one cam to see if she was alright!

On saying this we would like to thank MY two neighbours who came to our rescue. Thankyou again to them

Sheila Cook



www.theredliondrayton.co.uk

THE RED LION

## **POST** Drayton Post Office

Mon - Fri 9 - 5.30 Sat 9 – 12.30

& CONVENIENCE STORE Open All Week 8 am – 10 pm

9, The Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA 01235 531359

## **ST PETER'S CHURCH**

| Priest in Charge | Rev'd Rebecca Peters531374   |  |
|------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Associate Priest | Rev'd Rosie Bruce07766421773 |  |
| Churchwardens    | Mrs Alison Bone202188        |  |
|                  | Mrs Linda Johnson527521      |  |
| Organist         | Vacancy                      |  |

#### Organist

#### **REGULAR SERVICES**

| Sunday   | 8.00 am  | Holy Communion (Common Worship -            |
|----------|----------|---|
|          |          | Traditional)                                |
|          | 10.00 am | Sung Eucharist (CW), except the 3rd Sunday, |
|          |          | when there is a non-Eucharistic All-age     |
|          |          | Service                                     |
| Thursday | 9.15 am  | Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.         |
|          |          |   |

#### **REGULAR ACTIVITIES**

| Mon. | 7.45 pm  | Bell Ringing Practice    | Bell Tower  |
|------|----------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Wed  | 10.00 am | Pebbles (term time only) | Church Room |

#### **CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER:**

| Sun  | 1  | 2.30 pm  | All Souls Service          | Church           |
|------|----|----------|----------------------------|------------------|
|      |    | 3.00 pm  | The Celebration Drayton    | n Primary School |
| Tues | 3  | 3.00 pm  | First Tuesday Connections  | Church Room      |
| Sun  | 8  | 6.00 pm  | Remembrance Service        | Church           |
| Sun  | 29 |          | no services at Drayton but | at:              |
|      |    | 10.30 am | Damascus Group Service     | All Saints, S.C. |

#### **CHURCH REGISTER:**

#### **Baptisms:**

| 20th | September | Charles Ron Jasper Selwood |
|------|-----------|----------------------------|
| 27th | September | Caitlin Georgia Scaysbrook |

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#### YOU STAY WE PRAY AUGUST:

1st to 14th: Abingdon Road, Oday Hill, Binnings Close, Haywards Road; 15th to 21st: Sutton Wick Lane, Greenacres, Newman Lane, Conifer Drive; 22nd to 30th: Hilliat Fields, Lyford Close, Manor Close, The Green



#### Letter from Rev. Rebecca Peters

Dear Friends,

On the refugee crisis the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said in a statement, "As Christians we believe we are called to break down barriers, to welcome the stranger and love them as ourselves (Leviticus 19:34), and to seek the peace and justice of our God, in our world, today." Whether we agree with the politics of what is happening or not, these refugees are people, people who want a



chance to live and flourish in life. Each of us may feel that we are not able to do a great deal individually to help the refugees; however, by working together, we can make a huge difference. We as a Church in Drayton want to support these refugees, so we will be collecting clothes, adult and children's and toiletries. There is a box in church and donations will be sent to Emmaus Oxford, a local charity who will be sending the donations over to Europe. If you would like to join us in supporting the refugees there will be a cardboard box in church on the welcome desk, for those who would like to contribute. We hope to take the donations to Emmaus Oxford towards the end of November.

November is also a month of Remembering. Remembering those we have loved who are no longer with us, at the Memorial service 2:30pm 1st November and also those who have laid down their lives serving their country, our Remembrance Day (8th November) Services are 10am and 6pm (with the Royal British Legion), all welcome. God Bless

Rebecca



#### FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 3.00 pm to 4:30 pm and you are invited to drop in during these times. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next two dates are 03 November and 01 December but in December we have our Christmas party and start at 2.30 pm. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.



## **BAPTIST CHURCH**

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

#### SUNDAY SERVICES

There is no 11.15 am service but a Family Service on the first Sunday of the month at 3.00 pm at Drayton School 6.00 pm Evening Service. Traditional format; frequently with a guest speaker

**EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME** 

### LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

### Christmas Messy Church

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December

**Drayton Primary School** 

3:30 -4:30pm



Games, crafts, worship, drama & story. Followed by cake & refreshments. For more info contact Rebecca 531374



Suzy Willis & Associates MCSP HCPC AACP CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPISTS Old Lodge, Henleys Lane Drayton, OX14 4HU Tel 01235 531269 Please ring for an appointment



## ART & STUFF

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

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



**Tony Holmes** 

Opening times: Weds, Thurs and Sat 10.30am to 4pm Friday 12.30pm to 4pm

TEL: 01235 533906 / 07415 855890 www.artandstuffgallery.co.uk

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS**

We extend a warm welcome to Denise and Harvey Thornhill, who have moved into Eastway Park from Abingdon. Best wishes to you both in your new home.

Welcome also to Adam Gillespie and Laura Harris who moved into 120 Abingdon Road during August. They too have come from Abingdon.

We send congratulations to Chris and Joke in Binning Close on the birth of a baby daughter, a sister for Josefien.

**DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL** 

As I write, we're looking forward to the arrival (much-awaited!) of the contractor teams to fit the new windows and fire doors for the main hall.



By the time this issue is read, everything <u>should</u> be in place, fingers crossed and prayers to the Good Lord (other deities are available!). We had a bit of a scare recently, with Govt changing some of the rules for grant funding, but again fingers crossed we seem to have survived that hurdle, now we just hope the fitters do their stuff as expected. **Grateful thanks** to our users who will have put up with some disruption while the fitting happens, and to those who've made contributions.

On 13th November we have the annual **WI 'Wit & Wisdom' Quiz** to look forward to, not sure which charity benefits this year but they always choose a good cause. WHY NOT ENTER A TEAM?? It's a great ploughman's at half time, and the bar should be open!

Friday 20th there's another Ladies' 'Pamper' night, which was very popular last time. Sat 27th there's a production from the Wantage Stage Musical company '**From the Record Collection**', which features a wide variety of hits from several decades (tickets at Vickery's), so the hall should be jumping that night!

Black marks to whoever managed to break our microwave – without telling anybody! – but I suppose it had done valiant service and we were due a new one.

Our **Sequence Dancers** are looking for a few new members, (Thursday nights), and some come from a fair distance so it must be a good night, some gentle exercise and decent chit-chat. Also our **Bowlers** (short-mat) are looking for new blood, their annual charity tournament is about to happen as I write, and they're building up to finals day in December when all the trophies get sorted out. You can play socially, or join one of the league teams, you'll be made very welcome. <u>Anyone who does crafts</u> may be interested in joining our group who come along once a month, they're on the 2nd Tuesday (so Nov 10th, Dec 8th, etc) from 9-ish to midday-ish, call Jenny Hedges on 535679 for more info.

Oh, and we have a **new group**, just started, called '**Home Education**', so mostly mums and smaller children, they're doing alternate Fridays (11 to 3) and in Nov are going to do a shorter session on Tuesday mornings (but not the day the crafts are in!) – call Cath Hopkins on 07525 178111 for more details.

### Alice's Nails and Beauty 86c Abingdon Road, Drayton

01235 523773

Treatments include Acrylic nails, Spray tanning, Facials, Gelish, Manicures and Pedicures, waxing and more.

½ price WAXING WEDNESDAY and £16 Tans on a Thursday.

Contact Alice at the salon for more information For full details including opening hours please visit website www.alicenailsandbeauty.co.uk



## The Beauty Spot

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<u>Email:</u>gemma@thebeautyspot.info www.thebeautyspot.info

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## ALL AROUND

#### **BOWLS CLUB**

**Roll up** 

We start these notes by recording that 36 members enjoyed a lunch and skittles afternoon at the Ferryman inn on August 17th, and the winning team was Jack Mitchenson, Josie Carter, and Iris Torrens. The prize for most skittles with 3 woods went to Bryn Jones; we thank Val and June for organising the day. The latest internal competitions to be completed are 'The Beryl James Triples', which had to be played as a pair because of lack of numbers, and the final on finals day will be between Cyril Carter -Marjorie Strachan, and Bryn Jones - Josie Carter. 'The Doreen Jones' never won singles will be between Marjorie Strachan and Jane Pimm; thanks to June and Bryn for organising the day.

The winter afternoon league is underway. Due to extra teams joining, the league has been split into two sections and the two Drayton teams are in different leagues; both teams have got off to a good start winning their first matches.

The proceeds from this year's 'Friendly Fours' competition, where we invite teams from around the county to participate, will be donated to charity, and the chosen charity is Cancer Research. This will be held on October 25th; Jane and Carol will be in charge of this function.

#### **TABLE TENNIS CLUB**

John Gould

The League season has started and our teams are all relishing the challenge. Our seven teams will play over the next 6 months league and cup matches against teams from the 11 other clubs that make up the Didcot & District Table Tennis Association. There should be weekly reports in the Herald newspapers so please look out for the results. Also you can look at all things ping pong on the website http://ddtta.org.uk/

We have several players making their debuts in the League this season so we wish them all well. Also several players are playing at a higher level for the first time. Local lad Lewis Waddup is playing for the 'C' team in division 2. His progress has been so good that he's also picked for the county junior's team alongside Kavan Warrender who is in our Division 1 'A' team for the first time. Both lads prove that hard work and listening to their coaches will pay off eventually. As usual we have new youngsters playing in our 5th division teams – Lewis and Kavan both started there.

At the moment our Monday nights are well supported with coaching for the first hour from 7.00 pm. This is followed by general social play and practice. The numbers indicate that we may well have to start a waiting list of any further potential members. Anyway, with the dark nights of winter looming it is at least good that we have a thriving club to keep us occupied through the months ahead.

#### ⇔

#### 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.



### **PAMPER & SHOPPING EVENING**

After the success of last year's event we are holding another evening of treats and treatments to raise money for Drayton Preschool Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 7pm - 9.30pm Drayton Village Hall Over 20 different shopping tables and plenty of treatments including manicures, teeth whitening, vintage hair-dos,

Indian head massage and many, many more

Entrance is £5 on the door – includes a glass of wine

#### ⇒ W.I.

#### **Brenda Malin**

The History and meaning of Nursery Rhymes was the subject of our talk at the October meeting. Yes, we all knew the rhymes, but the history? They were far from being rhymes for the nursery, more a way of having your say, reference politicians, church and royalty and keeping your head, pre ' Not the Nine O'clock News' era!

We welcomed two new visitors, hopefully members to be, discussed the excitement of the many September celebrations, held to commemorate the W.I. Centenary, and back to business with plans for our forthcoming ANNUAL QUIZ - 13th November, Drayton Hall, 7pm - for details see September's Chronicle, or contact Ann Webb 01235-531418 all welcome.

#### **DRAYTON WIVES**

#### **Gwen Price**

Our meeting in September was addressed by Bill King, an historian. The title of his talk was Dad's Underground Army at Coleshill, which is near Faringdon. It is only quite recently that what happened there has been revealed. It was an underground bunker requisitioned by the government in WWII. A lot of undercover operations took place here. Auxiliary units, usually local men, formed cells and went down for a fortnight at a time where a secret operation was set up to form the British Resistance in the event of a German invasion. The bunker lies in a park of woodland and is a small chamber made of corrugated iron, brick and concrete with a tiny hatchway, a ladder behind a blast wall at one end and an escape tunnel at the end.

He was an excellent speaker and told us much more. If you want to find out more, there is a lot of information on the Internet both about Coleshill and all the other many bunkers which are scattered around the British Isles. Open days at Coleshill are held occasionally.



## **Creative Catering**

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For more information or menus please phone 01235 850342 or 07743368373 http://www.creative-caterer.co.uk



➡ Our next meeting on 25th November is Christmas Customs given by Christine Bloxham. In future our Whist group will be on the second Thursday of the month at the Day Centre at 20'clock. New members are always welcome.

More All Around on page 10  $\Rightarrow$ 

### 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 www.hft.org.uk and go to the 'jobs' section.

Creative ideas Fulfilling lives

## NAG5 SAFETY CORNER

### Bridget Haffenden

#### **Reporting breaches of HGV restrictions**

Residents who wish to report a suspected breach of HGV regulations are asked to complete and submit the online form available on Oxfordshire Trading Standards web site by visiting *https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/weight-restriction-orders*.

Residents who do not have internet access are requested to write to Trading Standards with details of the date, time and location of the incident, the town or district, the direction in which the vehicle was travelling, vehicle registration number, vehicle make and model, company name or any other distinguishing marks, plus their own name, address and telephone number. It is essential that any report submitted is in writing rather than verbally. Please keep any notes as they may be required as evidence if the matter goes to court.

Send the letter to: Oxfordshire Trading Standards Service, Graham Hill House, Electric Avenue, Ferry Hinksey Road, Oxford OX2 0BY.

Please also note that it is the police, rather than members of the public, who have the jurisdiction to stop vehicles and enquire about their destination.

#### Speeding

Residents in the NAG5 villages continue to be concerned about speeding. Neighbourhood police will continue to conduct speed checks on a regular basis and NAG5 is requesting Parish Councils to consider purchase of speed indication devices. Updates on progress will be provided in village newsletters.

#### Cycling

Recent checks by neighbourhood police have found that some cyclists continue to cycle on the footpath to cross Culham Bridge. The traffic lights are phased to allow ample time for cyclists, even those cycling slowly, to cross before the lights change. Cyclists who don't wish to cycle on the road over the bridge, or are concerned for their safety and younger cyclists who don't feel confident cycling on the road, can dismount and push their bicycle on the footpath until they feel safe to re-join the road.

Please refer to the Highway Code, Rules for Cyclists (59 to 82) or visit the website at *https://www.gov.uk/rules-for-cyclists-59-to-82*, for further information.

NAG5 is exploring a community project to inform and remind all cyclists that cycling on a footpath is illegal. More information will be provided in the village newsletters over the next few months.

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

#### **Council Tax Fraud**

Fraudsters have been phoning victims telling them that they have been placed in the wrong council tax bracket for a number of years and are entitled to a rebate. They normally say that this rebate should be worth about £7,000. Once the victim is convinced, the fraudster tells them that in order to receive the rebate they will need to pay an administration fee in advance. The payment they ask for varies between  $\pounds 60-\pounds 350$ . The victim provides the details and makes the payment, but then is no longer able to make contact with the person they spoke to on the phone. When they phone their council about the rebate and the fact that they are in the wrong tax bracket, the council will confirm that they know nothing about it and that they have been contacted by fraudsters.

The fraudsters have mainly been targeting both male and female victims who are aged 60 and over and live in the Sussex area, but it is likely that the fraudsters will also start to target victims in other areas.

#### **Protect Yourself:**

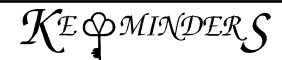
Never respond to unsolicited phone calls.

Your local council won't ever phone out-of-the-blue to discuss a council tax rebate. If you receive a call of this nature, put the phone down straight away.

No legitimate organisation will ask you to pay an advanced fee in order to receive money, so never give them your card details.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, hang up the phone and wait five minutes to clear the line as fraudsters sometimes keep the line open. Then call your bank or card issuer to report the fraud. Where possible use a different phone line to make the phone call.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report\_fraud or by telephone 0300 123 2040.



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LIVING WITH CANCER

**Rosie Young** 



Having an advocate from **Oxford Advocacy** at my appointments just made all the difference in the world, because I didn't have to be the Rosie-the-nurse, Rosie-the-patient, Rosie-the-everything. I could just focus on me and what people were saying to me, knowing that my advocate was writing stuff down and if I got it wrong, then she'd talk me through it but also would help me challenge things... If it hadn't been for the advocate being there and stepping in I think I might have ended up having completely the wrong type of treatment for me.

**Editor's Note:** Rosie Young is a retired nurse, living with cancer. **Oxfordshire Advocacy** is a new service run in partnership with Macmillan Cancer Support, providing one to one support for anyone aged 50+ who is affected by cancer, whether they are a patient or a carer.

Email them at copa@oadg.org.uk or give them a call on 01865 230203 if you know of anyone affected by cancer and aged 50 or more and you feel that they might benefit from having a Macmillan trained volunteer to support them at appointments or with getting the practical help they need

Or if you are interested in volunteering yourself!

#### LIVING WITH KIDNEY FAILURE Sam Pooley

**Editor's Note:** Sam is our 16-year-old grandson who was asked recently to give a talk to his school about the resilience needed to cope with major organ failure, and the miraculous change made to his life when someone gave him a loved one's kidney.

Britain is by far the best country in the world at helping people with transplanted organs lead a physically active life. In the World Transplant Games held in Argentina this summer Britain won 122 gold medals and 246 medals in total. For comparison the equivalent numbers for the USA were 30 and 87, for Germany 26 and 62, France 24 and 75 and for Australia 8 and 24.

#### Listen to Sam:

'I am standing here today to give a speech about resilience and my battle with kidney failure. But the thing is, I would not be standing here at all if someone else had not done something very remarkable 12 years ago.

I do not remember most of what I am about to tell you, but when I was born, the umbilical cord was wrapped around my neck which strangled me. The lack of oxygen in my blood caused a massive haemorrhage which in turn caused multiple organ failure. My heart stopped beating, my kidneys and liver stopped working, I was unable to breathe without a respirator and my brain swelled so much that I started having fits. At this point my chances of survival were less than 5%! The doctors told my father that they wanted to turn off the machines keeping me alive, because even if I survived they thought that I would be severely brain damaged.

Miraculously I did survive and my organs began to recover one by one with the exception of my kidneys. I went on to dialysis when I was one and was on it for 10 hrs every day for the next 3 years of my life. I also had to be fed through a tube because the kidney failure made me feel permanently sick so I could not eat properly. I was too young to remember this part of my life very clearly but I do remember how horrible it is to have a nasal gastric tube inserted up your nose, down your throat and into your stomach. But this period was far worse for my older sister Abi. She had to do a lot for herself because my parents were spending so much time looking after me, that she did not get as much attention as she needed. Dialysis rules not only a kidney patient's life but also that of their family. We could not go on holidays or even do simple things like go for a swim.

When I was 4 I went on to the kidney transplant register. I don't have a very common blood group so my family were not expecting things to happen as quickly as they did but when I was 4 1/2 my parents got a phone call at 5.00am. I had 5 hours of surgery to transplant the kidney and fortunately it worked very well, almost straight away. I slowly recovered over the next few months and although I still needed tube feeding until I was six, I quickly grew stronger and felt much better. The biggest change was in our family life. We were no longer tied to our house and could all start to do things that most families take for granted. In fact, the only thing I can't do is play rugby - which is a huge loss to the first 15!

So what about resilience? I suffered a bit when I was younger but that is a distant memory. I take 11 different anti-rejection, blood pressure and blood chemistry drugs each day, I have to drink 3 litres of water every day and unlike most of you, I can never drink alcohol in excess, but this is a small price to pay for having a normal active life.

Where I think real resilience has been shown in this story is by the parents or partner of the person who gave their kidney to me. They had lost a loved one, probably in a road accident, and had just been told their son or daughter or husband or wife had been killed. They then agreed to allow their loved one's kidney to be surgically removed and given to me. That one incredibly difficult decision, at the worst possible time, transformed my life.

I always remember this and knowing that I have been given a chance to lead a happy healthy normal life makes me realise how fortunate I am. Many people don't get that chance. Three people each day die in Great Britain alone, waiting for a transplant.

Every year I compete at the British transplant games and this year I went to Argentina to compete for Great Britain at the World

Transplant games. They are fantastic events to be part of and as well as celebrating the new life we have all been given, they raise awareness for transplants of all types. It is fantastic to see all the athletes from around the world who all have remarkable stories of resilience to share.

I would like to finish by asking you all a personal favour. If you don't already have one, **get yourself an organ donor card**. I realise that none of us wants to think about death, least of all our own, but one day it will happen to us all. It is possible that at that terrible time, we might be fortunate enough to create new life out of our own death, through the medical miracle of organ transplantation.

Thank you for listening.

#### BEING GREEN IS THE NEW THING Colin West OR IS IT?

In the queue at the store, the cashier told the older woman that she should bring her own grocery bag because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologised to him and explained, 'we didn't have the green thing back in my day."

The clerk responded, "That's our problem today. The former generation did not care enough to save our environment.' He was right, that generation didn't have the green thing in its day.

Back then, they returned their milk bottles, lemonade bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilised and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over, so they really were recycled. But they didn't have the green thing back in that customer's day.

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the shops and didn't climb in a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks. But she was right. They didn't have the green thing in her day.

Back then, they washed the baby's nappies because they didn't have the throw-away kind that now fill the rubbish tips. They dried clothes on a line, not in an energy-gobbling machine burning up 240 volts - wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that old lady is right; they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

Back then, they had one TV, or a radio, in the house - not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of all Yorkshire. In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for you. When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used a wadded up old newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn petrol just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; they didn't have the green thing back then.

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled their writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But they didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people walked to most places, took the tram or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or went on the bus instead of turning their mums into a 24hour taxi service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But isn't it so sad that the present generation laments how wasteful the old folks were just because they didn't have the green thing back then?

Submitted by Colin West with the kind permission of the LE Velocette Club

## MORE ALL AROUND

#### FIRST DRAYTON BROWNIES **Annette Mitchell**

We have been working on our Seasons badge in the last 4 weeks. Using fir cones the Brownies made animals and with lard and seed made bird puddings to hang in their gardens. We also talked about hibernation and learnt about the mammals that hibernate in Great Britain, only the hedgehog, dormouse and bat actually hibernate in this country along with the butterfly and bumble bee!

One of our meetings was all about sewing! The Brownies did a fantastic job of sewing together an owl and then had a go at some tapestry.

The church room at St Peters once again provided us with a cosy room for an evening of pampering. Facials, hair styling, pedicures were all enjoyed by the Brownies in their pj's and onesies!

We ended our term on a spooky note with pumpkin carving, making glow lanterns and playing ghoulish games with some 'horrible' snacks!

Meetings 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 and 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)             | 01235 205111 |
| Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl)          | 01235 528502 |
| Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl)         | 01235 555216 |



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#### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

Al Costley

November is upon us once again, and as ever your local British Legion will be fully supporting a range of activities across the Branch area, particularly the series of local Remembrance Services on Sunday the 8th of November. Details of these services are: Drayton - 6.00 pm, Milton - 10.45am, Sutton Courtney -10.45am, Steventon - 3.00 pm.

This year is particularly poignant, as we mourn the loss of a real Legion stalwart, our much respected Chairman, Mr Tony Ireson. Tony was a key member of the local Branch for many years, and it is safe to say that without his dedication and enthusiasm, even in the most difficult of times, the Steventon and District Branch would probably have withered on the vine in the way that so many small Branches have in recent years. His ready smile, constant enthusiasm, and real dedication to doing the best he could for others, was an example to us all, and he will be sorely missed.

On a happier note, it is with the greatest of pleasure that we congratulate Mr Vernon Jones, a long term Legion member and D-Day veteran, for his recent award by the French government of the rank of Chevalier in the Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur (National Order of the Legion of Honour). This is a considerable honour, and our congratulations go out to Vernon and his family.

On a more administrative note, actual and potential Legion members may have noticed a series of ongoing changes to the mechanism for paying annual subscriptions and joining the Legion. The preferred system is now web based, and further details can be accessed at the following website http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/members/become-a-member/. Please don't hesitate to contact any Branch Committee member if you would like support to use this service.

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  |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Vice Chairman: | Al Costley,    | 07832 340468, |
| e-mail         | al_costley@hot | mail.co.uk    |
| Secretary:     | Paul Francis,  | 07799 026666, |
| e-mail         | francisoxo@ao  |               |
| Treasurer:     | Rod Clewley,   | 01235 831206, |

The next Branch meeting will be our AGM, and will be at 7.00pm on Monday 16th November 2015 at the Sports and Social Club in Steventon. This will be immediately followed by our monthly meeting at 7.30 pm.

New members are always most welcome, from across the Steventon and District area, and it would be particularly great to see any volunteers to get more involved with committee or other Branch activities.

## 2020 UPDATE Richard Williams



meeting of the Dravton А Neighbourhood Development Plan Implementation Committee was held on Friday 9th October in the Caudwell Day Centre. Updates were received on the three housing development sites in the Neighbourhood Plan. Although earthmoving operations have begun on the Barrow Road site, these are part of an archaeological survey, and do not indicate (yet) the start of actual building

work. The details of the Section 106 agreement have still to be finalised, and the Vale's Decision Notice remains pending. Bloor Homes have signalled that they will very shortly be submitting a planning application for the South of the High St site. The Earl of Plymouth Estates have appointed a builder (CALA Homes), but there is no other news to report on the Manor Farm site.

As most readers will know, in the summer of 2014, Blue Cedar Homes canvassed a scheme for a fourth housing site in Drayton, with a proposal to build 20 new houses at the back of Halls Close. This scheme came too late to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan, being put forward after the consultation period had ended, and as a result, the Steering Group of Drayton 2020 refused to meet with the company. One year on, Blue Cedar have now submitted an outline application for planning permission, and on 29th September, the Planning Committee of the Parish Council held a public meeting in the Caudwell Centre to consider this application in detail. It noted that the number of houses proposed has now increased to 28. It was felt that our Neighbourhood Plan makes more than adequate provision for the village's future housing needs on the three existing allocated sites. Approval of the Blue Cedar development would in all probability open the floodgates to further planning applications on other sites in and around the village. This would completely undermine the Neighbourhood Plan, and indeed the whole concept of localism. The Committee therefore concluded that the application should be opposed. Its full official response may be found on the Vale of the White Horse website: application no. P15/V2077/O

Three project groups continue to meet. These are dealing with the Barrow Rd recreational facilities; a possible replacement for the existing pre-school building; and tree planting. The pre-school group is now being assisted by an architect, who is also a local resident.

Please E-mail the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, at draytonclerk@gmail.com 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 13th November at 7pm, in the usual venue of the Caudwell Centre.

#### PLANNING THE 2020 PAVILLION Colin Arnold

As part of the Barrow Road development, the village is going to be provided with a new large recreational space. The 2020 implementation committee are starting to look at what sports and activities the people of Drayton would like to see making use of this space and what sort of pavilion will be needed to support these. It may not



be possible to satisfy all of the suggestions that were put forward in the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) consultation, but if you currently or would like to play, coach, support or have any other involvement in any sort of sporting activity we would appreciate your input. A questionnaire will be distributed very early in 2016, but to enable us to get an initial feel for the project, **PLEASE e-mail your thoughts and suggestions to colinharnold@sky.com** We would ultimately like to be able to reduce the need to travel to take part in this type of activity and also to provide a building of a high standard that will be designed to accommodate a wide variety of activities for the entire population of the village and that will last well into the future.

If anyone thinks that they have any experience or expertise that they would be prepared to share then we would very much like to hear from you.

Thank you on behalf of the 2020 pavilion subcommittee. Rob Durry- Dryden and Colin Arnold

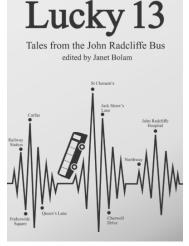
## **NOTICE BOARD**

#### AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT! Derek Pooley

Drayton resident and chairman of the Drayton Community Trust, Andrew Bax has turned from publishing to writing. He is one of the contributors to *Lucky 13*, a collection of short stories

based on the No 13 bus which plies between Oxford Station and the John Radcliffe Hospital.

All proceeds from the sale of the book are being donated to the Hidden Heroes Fund of the OUH Charitable Funds (reg 1057295) to support staff recognition, development and training across all the Trust's hospitals. The price is £8.00 and copies are available from all booksellers, including Amazon, or direct from www.bombusbooks.co.uk The charity earns £4.80 from



every order placed through the Bombus Books website.

Andrew is a member of Oxford Inc, a group of Oxford writers. He is also the author of *From Cool Shade to Cowley Road*, published last year by Bombus Books. So far this book has raised some  $\pounds1500$  for the Oxford Community Soup Kitchen.

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of Oxfordshire Trust (SOFO) museum at Woodstock.

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Sir Peter Jackson, the Oscar winning director, responsible for Hollywood Blockbusters, 'King Kong', 'The Hobbit' and 'Lord of the Rings' is supporting the exhibition by providing his film, 'Crossing the Line', a story of a young infantryman and a pilot as they go into battle.

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## PARISH COUNCIL

### Richard Williams

Report of the Meeting held on Monday 5th October 2015.



Five members of the public attended the meeting in addition to the councillors. Frazer and Jennifer Wood, who live along the High St, expressed concerns about cars travelling past their house at speeds well in excess of the 30mph speed limit. The Chairman, the Deputy Clerk, and County Councillor Richard Webber explained that they recently attended a NAG (Neighbourhood Action Group) meeting in Sutton Courtenay, nearly all of

which was taken up with a discussion about traffic and speeding issues. Evidently these are having a serious impact on both our neighbouring villages.

It was noted that the road between Drayton and Sutton Courtenay has seen many accidents and near misses in the last few years. Last month, sadly, there was a fatality when a car left the road and hit a tree. PC Keith Morton and PCSO Sue Haynes confirmed that the police do carry out regular speed checks at different locations in Drayton. The data indicates, unsurprisingly perhaps, that people are most likely to drive too fast when traffic is relatively sparse, e.g. in the very early mornings and late at night. However, there was no foolproof solution, and very often, the offenders were residents of the villages they speed through.

The longer-term answer in Drayton will hopefully be the traffic calming scheme first discussed in the Village Hall last November. Attempts are being made to arrange another such workshop in the next couple of months. Meanwhile, Sutton Courtenay has been considering the purchase of one or more Moveable Vehicle Activated Signs, possibly sharing the cost (and the signs) with Drayton. Richard Webber agreed to approach the Highways Dept at OCC for their opinion on the use of this type of sign.

Two residents of Crabtree Lane drew attention to dangerous parking at the junction of the road with the B4017, which obscures the view for drivers both leaving and entering Crabtree Lane. It also forces pedestrians to walk on the main road. A petition with 29 signatures on it was presented to the Parish Council. The Clerk, David Perrow, explained that there are real difficulties in getting parking regulations enforced in Drayton, but he would raise the matter with the police and the owners of the two adjacent shops.

Colin and Christine West attended a Town and Parish Forum in Oxford at which OCC outlined their plans to save money by devolving some of their functions to parish councils. It is clear that cuts in central government funding have left OCC's finances in a very depleted state, and the future for services across the county looks gloomy indeed, with cutbacks affecting almost every area of local government. Drayton PC is not opposed in principle to taking on additional responsibilities, e.g. for extra grass cutting, but obviously there would be funding implications for the parish.

To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, in the first may be contacted via instance. David 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: note 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 other events in the village.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 2nd November 2015, at 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, all are welcome to attend.

## DISTRICT COUNCIL

### Stuart Davenport

#### Recycling to work...

The district council has recently submitted a response to Oxfordshire County Council's consultation on the future provision of household waste recycling centres. The county council proposes to reduce the number of recycling centres in order to save £350,000 from this section of their budget. Our response presses the county council to consider the relevant data on



recycling centre demand and usage before implementing any costsaving measures that may be detrimental to our community.

The county council's proposal includes plans to close the recycling centres at Oakley Wood and Stanford. Such closures would increase travel times for many people seeking to recycle, an inconvenience that may lead to an increase in fly-tipping. Closer to home, there may be knock-on effects for the Drayton recycling centre. Queuing and traffic at the Drayton site is already a problem, and the closure of the Oakley Wood and Stanford centres can only make this worse. Over time, this is likely to escalate with the planned housing growth in the area.

Some individuals that have traditionally used the Oakley Wood or Stanford recycling centres may also resort to placing inappropriate items into kerbside collections to avoid a lengthy trip to an alternative recycling centre. These actions risk breaching the terms of our recycling contractor, and may seriously jeopardise the excellent recycling rates currently achieved in the Vale. The district council has therefore suggested that the county council explores other options for making the necessary savings, such as taking contributions from housing developers, charging for certain services, and seeking alternative service providers.

On a practical note, a new scheme began in October that allows recycling small electrical goods and textiles at the kerbside. If you wish to use this service, please leave any items to be recycled in a tied carrier bag along with your green bin. Further details are available on the recycling section of the Vale website, and on the information hanger that has recently been attached to your bin.

Concluded opposite 7

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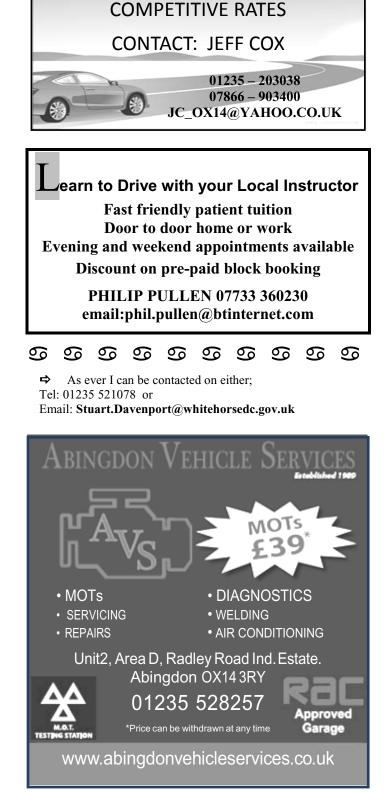
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# COUNTY COUNCIL

### Richard Webber

In tough economic times, tough choices have to be made. Making savings within an already hard-pressed budget is not much fun and certainly not what any of us got involved in local government to do. The problem with making cuts is that some will be very difficult to put back if/when things improve. It is very possible that we could lose all our children's centres, all bus subsidies and most of our recycling centres in an effort to make the books balance over the next 5 years.



However, it is possible that the Government will allow a fairer allocation of New Homes Bonus (presently 80% goes to Districts and only 20% to Counties). Although it may be too late to stop some of the cutting, the newly announced Business Rate arrangement (where Councils will keep all the revenue, but not be allowed to raise rates, and where other obligations are likely to be passed on to Councils to manage) will probably have a small overall benefit to thriving counties like ours. Senior staff restructuring could yield a small saving, and a major review of Council-owned property a rather larger saving.

Councils are also encouraged to consider ways they can generate extra income. With all this mid-term uncertainty, we need to be very careful when making irreversible cuts to highly valued services. In the case of Children's centres, the future cost impact of more people falling into vulnerability will need to be carefully considered.

Oxfordshire is a wealthy county. There is plenty of money out there. The problem is that too little of the money is in the hands of the Council, which has to provide the infrastructure – hence infrastructure cannot keep up with economic growth.

Many people, whose opinions I would value, have told me that many of the Council's contracts represent poor value for residents, and the County is paying way over the odds for them. All this tells me that we should be considering investing in a new department. I haven't got a name for it yet – but let's call it the County hardnosed department. Employ a small team (well paid to get the best) to oversee all major contracts as they come up for renewal- a team which would ensure that residents are getting the best possible value and that there are tough penalty clauses for non-delivery of good service. The same team would be responsible for developing a commercial arm of the council to consider ways the council's current expertise can be marketed to businesses, academies and other organisations at a fair price. I suspect that such a department would pay for itself in a very short time in savings, and might well have the capacity to generate a sizeable additional revenue.

I would urge everyone to look at the budget ideas out for consultation on the OCC website, form their own opinions and send in a response.

Contact me at:

richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or on 01235 534001



## **WESTMINSTER**

### Ed Vaizey



Earlier this month I attended the annual Conservative Party Conference in Manchester. I'm always impressed by how many charities attend - and it's always useful to meet them to hear what they are doing nationally and locally.

Amongst those I visited was the Cancer Research stand whose admirable ambition is to accelerate progress so that 3 in 4 people survive cancer within the next 20 years. I will do all that I can in order to help them achieve this goal.

Pharmacy Voice gave me some statistics about the health and wellbeing of the people of Oxfordshire. One which staggered me was that only 52% of at risk individuals receive the flu vaccine, well below the target level of 75%. At this time of year I would urge anyone reading this, who is in that at risk category, to have this jab as soon as possible. A further check I would also suggest to those eligible is the NHS Health Check at a GP's surgery or Pharmacy. It appears that only 21% of those entitled to this free check in Oxfordshire are taking advantage of it.

This month, my mailbag has been dominated by emails and letters about adding mothers' names onto marriage certificates. Currently, marriage certificates include the couple's fathers' names, but not their mothers'. This is clearly outdated, and I would agree that mothers should be able to add their names. The Government is currently reviewing the marriage certificate system and will be looking at making appropriate changes. Others issues featuring this month are the TTIP free-trade agreement, changes to the Student Loan system and the Volkswagen emissions tests.

P lease feel free to contact me if you have any pressing issues that you would like help with. Either myself or one of my team will get back to you as soon as possible and do what we can to assist. You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, dicksonce@parliament.uk or by phoning 020 7219 6350. 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. I also send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please do email me at badyaljb@parliament.uk or sign up at www.vaizey.com.



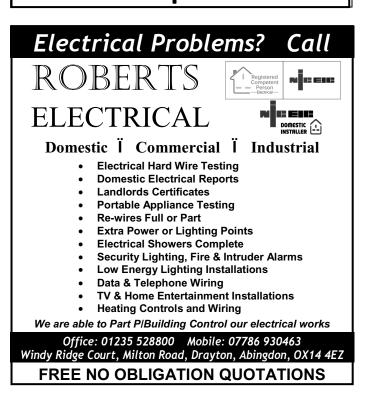
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## DRAYTON DIARY

| FOR NOVEMBER |    |              |   |
|--------------|----|--------------|---|
|              |    | Re           | gular Events are listed opposite            |
|              |    | All events a | are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise |
|              |    | To book D    | rayton Hall call Tony Holmes on 531180      |
|              |    |              | or visit www.draytonvh.co.uk                |
| Mon          | 2  | 7.30 pm      | Parish Council Caudwell Day Centre          |
| Sun          | 8  | 9.00 am      | Dog Club Seminar                            |
| Fri          | 13 | 7.30 pm      | Wit and Wisdom Quiz                         |
| Mon          | 16 | 9.15 am      | Chronicle Lottery deadline Vickery's        |
|              |    | 5.00 pm      | Chronicle copy deadline Vickery's box       |
| Thurs        | 19 | 7.00 am      | Abingdon Young Farmers                      |
| Fri          | 20 | 7.00 pm      | Ladies' Pamper Night                        |
| Sat          | 28 | 7.00 pm      | Wantage Stage Musical disco - see below     |

### SOBELL CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR

At RADLEY COLLEGE Saturday 21st November 10am – 5pm Sunday 22nd November 10am – 4.30pm \* Over 60 stalls \* Refreshments \* Unique Gift Ideas



talls \* Refreshments \*Unique Gift Ideas Come and support Sobell House Hospice Charity www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk Charity number 1118646

Entrance £5 - Concessions £2.50





Friday 27 Nov - Old Mill Hall, Grove Saturday 28 Nov - Drayton Village Hall Friday 4 Dec - Steventon Village Hall Saturday 5 Dec - Old Mill Hall, Grove

> 7:30pm (Doors and bar open at 7pm) Tickets: £9 (£7 concessions)



**REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS** 

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

| weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise |   |
|--|---|
| MONDAYS  |   |
| 8.45 am  | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg         |
| 10.30 am                                       | Pilates Class. Tel: 814299                                |
| 1.15 pm  | Baby Sign Language Classes. Tel: 07927 814299             |
| 2.00 pm  | Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)              |
| 5.45 pm  | Beavers (Boys/girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall |
| 7.00 pm  | Table Tennis- coaching and socialSchool                   |
| 7.00 pm  | Scouts (Boys/girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall |
| 7.15 pm  | Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) Caudwell DC              |
| 7.45 pm  | Bell Ringing Practice St Peter's bell tower               |
| TUESDAY  | S   |
| 8.45 am  | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg         |
| 1.45 pm  | Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) Caudwell Day Centre        |
| 3.00 pm  | First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) Church Room       |
| 3.00 pm  | Junior Netball (for 1 hour) School                        |
| 6.00 pm  | Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour) School                       |
| 7.00 pm  | League Table Tennis School                                |
| 7.00 pm  | Pilates Class – also at 8.00 pm - call 814299             |
| WEDNESI  | DAYS  |
| 8.45 am  | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg         |
| 10.30 am                                       | Pebbles (Babies & Toddlers – in Term) Church Room         |
| 11.00 am                                       | Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 15 min) Haywards Rd      |
| 11.20 am                                       | Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min) The Cross        |
| 11.45 am                                       | Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 15 min) LyfordClose      |
| 1.15 pm  | More Life: call 01865 487216                              |
| 1.45 pm  | Whist Caudwell Day Centre                                 |
| 2.00 pm  | Drayton Wives (last Wednesday)                            |
| 2.15 pm  | Badminton   |
| 6.15 pm  | Brownies  |
| 6.15 pm  | Cubs (Boys / girls, 8–9 yrs, Tel. 512834) Steventon Hall  |
| 7.00 pm  | League Table Tennis 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 (First Thursday) Caudwell Day Centre          |
| 9.30 am  | Holy Communion St Peter's Lady Chapel                     |
| 9.30 am  | Parent & Toddler Group (in Term)                          |
| 2.00 pm  | Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)              |
| 5.00 pm  | Rainbows (call Mary on 832077)                            |
| 7.00 pm  | League Table Tennis School                                |
| 7.30 pm  | W.I. (2nd Thursday) Caudwell Day Centre                   |
| 7.30 pm  | Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701                             |
| FRIDAYS  |   |
| 8.45 am  | Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg         |
| 11.00 am                                       | Friday Club (fortnightly) - 202466 Caudwell Day Centre    |
| 7.00 pm  | Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends)Caudwell Day Centre             |
| SUNDAYS  |   |
| 8.00 am  | Holy Communion St Peter's                                 |
| 10.00 am                                       | Sung Eucharist (All Age Service 3rd Sunday) St Peter's    |
| 11.15 am                                       | Family Service (1st Sunday)Baptist Church                 |
| 6.00 pm  | Evening Worship Baptist Church                            |
|  |   |

If you want an entry in our 'regular events' column, please email editor@draytonchronicle.net. You must include your name and phone number as well; otherwise we will take no action.

### NEW DRAYTON VILLAGE WEB-SITE

Don't forget that you can find the latest Chronicle by visiting www.draytonvillage.co.uk, the new village web-site.

You can also use the site to look up Parish Council minutes, contact the Parish Clerk and see details of the Drayton 2020 Neighbourhood Plan Projects.

