

CHRISTMAS CARDS
(by Doggerelle)

In December through my door
come Christmas greetings, cards galore.
I love to hear from friends widespread
and know what kind of lives they've led
Throughout the year that's just flown past

since greeting one another last. But what intrigues me a great deal

is choice of cards and how friends feel About for them what Christmas means,

as cards depict so many scenes.

Choir boys singing in the church,

rosy robins on a perch,

Christmas trees aglow with light,

carol singers out at night,

Children playing in the snow,

Christmas markets all aglow,

Santa Claus upon his sleigh,

excited kids on Christmas day,

Swans a-swimming, geese a-laying,

adoring angels sweetly praying,

Wintry scenes of countryside,

three wise men their beasts astride, Startled shepherds on the hill,

Bethlehem shown calm & still,

A gentle dove, a sign of peace,

a flock of sheep with cosy fleece,

Families feasting round the table,

the holy family in the stable.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

to <u>ALL OUR READERS</u> from the members of the

CHRONICLE TEAM !!



Also In this Issue:

P2: Extra prizes to be won

P3: Wives Christmas Tea - Dec 14th

P7: Christmas Fair - Rainbows - Dec 3rd

P8: Christmas Party (Dec 19th) – start knitting?!

P9: Whose Cat? P10: Traditional Turkeys problem!

P11: Home & Mobile Library services

P12: A better way to see the Head?

P13: Snowdrops Memorial P15: Flora Tubs!



(→) Let's celebrate this time of year With gifts and feasting and good cheer, But most of all let's greet with joy The special birth of one small boy.



COMING CHRONICLES

The Jan/Feb Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on Friday Jan 29th.

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, Jan 18th 2016.

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

STOP PRESS - **ADVERTISERS should note** that the deadline for ads is <u>EARLIER</u>, <u>Friday Jan 15th</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 the later an item is received, the less precedence it gets.

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

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

<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				
Issue for	Copy for publication to Editor by (nb Agents Lottery Packs Fri before)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-		
March	Mon 15 Feb	26 Feb		
April	Mon 7 March	18 March		

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

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

--- Number of Monthly Inserts -
<u>Advertiser Category</u> 1 3 6 12

Drayton Resident £6.00 £16.00 £31.00 £60.00

Non-Drayton Resident £7.00 £19.00 £37.00 £72.00

Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are

charged at half the above rates.

All requests <u>must</u> be accompanied by <u>cash or a cheque</u> 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

<u>Letters to the Editor</u> 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 - NOVEMBER - LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mr A Woodley 24 High Street	Ali Bone
£20	D Beeken Woodside Sutton C'y Rd	Claire Soper
£15	Margaret Jones 1 Halls Close	Ali Bone
£10	Mrs J Booth 87 Abingdon Road	Julie Brown
£10	Mr & Mrs Wells 56 High Street	Doreen Mason
£10	Ivor Berry 7 Eastway	Teresa Burnage
£10	Mrs Hallewell The Rambles Binning Cl	Kathy Norris
£10	K Humphrey Brook Farm	Claire Soper
£10	Mrs Webb 9 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£10	V Booth 6 Mott Cottages	Tamsin Meredith

Winning tickets, from 2045 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.

& RESULTS for the Christmas WINE Lottery:-

Winner	Agent
Mr & Mrs Harper 12 Church Lane	Susan Brooks
Denise & Harvey Thornhill 11 Eastway Pk	Teresa Burnage
R Bruce Greenacres	Keith Clough
Mrs Marshall 3 Meads Close	Daniel Scharfe
Berry 77 Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
Mr Davies Bay Tree House S'n Wick Lane	Julie Brown
Ross Butler 32 Steventon Road	Judy Henman
Liz Bronson 3 Chiers Farm	Doreen Mason
Mr McDaid Charles Lodge S'n Wick Lane	Keith Clough
Mrs Booth 87 Abingdon Road	Julie Brown

& RESULTS for the Christmas BISCUITS Lottery:-

Winner	Agent
Mr Shebbere 16 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
Mr Easton 38 Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
Mr Law Sutton Wick Farm House	Keith Clough
Kath & Les Quartermain 2 Eastway Pk	Teresa Burnage
D Manners 10 Halls Close	Ali Bone
Mrs P Taylor 10 High Street	Ali Bone
Mrs Tolmie 18 Corneville Road	Ruth Hudson
Ms Slack 41a Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
J Gould 16 Steventon Road	Judy Henman
Vanessa Denton 9 Lesparre Close	Amanda Drysdale

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ALL AROUND

Drayton Players

Jean Hager

Time for an update on our progress with rehearsals for our hilarious play – 'Busybody' - a murder mystery by Jack Popplewell which is set in an office back in the 1960s.

The cast have now just about managed to hold their own laughter back at the many comic situations and are tackling the script with great enthusiasm, also enjoying being together again, with the very welcome addition of several newcomers.

We shall be performing the play over two weekends in February, Fri & Sat – 5th & 6th, also the following week 12th and 13th.

Tickets will be on sale in Vickery's store, or can be booked by phoning 01235 200350.

We do hope you can be with us on one of those dates to enjoy a good family night out, guaranteed to send you home with a smile on your face.

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Drayton (on the village green)

ST PETER'S CHURCH HOME-VISITING GROUP

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

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

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DRAYTON WIVES Gwen Price

The title of our October talk was 'Failed to Return'. Tony Eaton was our speaker and he talked about Amy Johnson, the first female pilot who in 1930 flew alone from Britain to Australia. In 1941 she

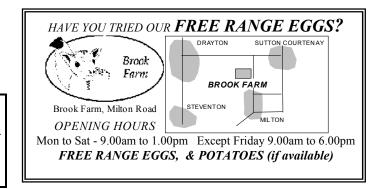
Controversy and speculation surrounded her death. She had become an air transporter, carrying equipment from air strips to R.A.F bases, when her plane plunged into the Thames estuary's murky waters. Her body was never found, although her flight bag was discovered.

vanished on a short simple UK flight when the weather worsened.

Another person to disappear without trace, while on a flight during the war, was Leslie Howard, one of Britain's most revered actors (best known in 'Gone With the Wind'). In May 1943, after completing a tour in Spain and Portugal while working for British Intelligence, he was anxious to return to England.

On June 1st, BOAC/KLM flight 777A took off from Lisbon to Bristol with Leslie Howard on board. During the flight the radio operator sent a message that the civilian plane was being followed and attacked by unidentified aircraft. The plane was shot down by the Nazis. It was widely speculated that Howard was the intended target. It was seen as a war crime and there was world-wide condemnation. It was a very interesting meeting.

Our meeting on 14th December will be a <u>Christmas tea</u> that's 2 o'clock at the Day Centre.



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ST PETER'S CHURCH

Priest in ChargeRevd Rebecca Peters531374Associate PriestRevd Rosie Bruce07766421773ChurchwardensMrs Alison Bone202188Mrs Linda Johnson527521

Organist Vacancy

CHURCH NOTICES

REGULAR SERVICES

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

Tues 1st 2.30 pm 1st Tuesday Connections Church Room Sun 6th 3.30 pm Messy Church Drayton School Weds 9th 10.00 am Pebbles Nativity Play
Sun 13th 4.00 pm Carol Service
Thur 24th 4.00 pm Crib Service
11.30 pm Midnight Mass

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms Oct 18th Ethan James Caudle
Oct 18th Matilda Manners
Oct 25th Amelia Ellen Davis
--- & --- Jamie Thomas Davis

YOU STAY - WE PRAY (Dec)

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 31st Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close



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Letter from St Peter's

Dear Friends,

I was talking to a young mum who had recently moved into Drayton and she asked me where the church was, as she had yet to find it. That being said, it took me a year to eventually visit the Drayton golf course. It's often the case whereby good things can be on our doorstep and we don't even know they are there.

In Drayton we are have a lovely church that is open for people to look around, pray and have some quiet time. However, we would like to open up the back of church by removing a few pews to create more space. This would enable us to have a more flexible community facility, that could be used by other groups or become a regular drop-in café area at the back of the church. This extra space would also help us to better serve the community, with more space for Tuesday Connections parties, Pebbles (mums' and toddler group) and Children's activities. However in order to get permission for the removal of pews we need to gain community support. As Sue and Val's letter suggests, please could you sign our petition: in Vickery's or at the back of church.

Also at the back of church will be paper stars, 'Stars for Remembrance'; if you would like to have a friend or loved one remembered at Christmas please write their names on a star and leave in the basket provided. We will then hang the stars up in the chancel throughout the Christmas services.

<u>Christmas services are</u>: - 'Messy Church' is Dec 6th, 3.30pm (at the school), the Carol Service is on Sunday Dec 13th, 4pm at church, Crib service is Dec 24th, 4pm, church, and in celebrating the birth of Jesus, also Christmas Eve at Midnight mass, 11:30pm, or on Christmas day, 10am at St Peter's church.

The Drayton school reception class will be helping with this year's Crib service Christmas Eve, 4pm, and <u>all are welcome</u> to dress up as an angel, shepherd or king and join in.

Looking forward to celebrating Christmas.

God Bless Rebecca

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.

(MORE) ALL AROUND

Drayton Baby & Toddler Laura Hughes

Toddlers runs from 9.30 to 11.30am every Thursday and we welcome all parents and carers with children under 5. Sessions are just £2, and 20p for any additional children, payable on the day.

We have a wide range of toys for the children to enjoy, from a dedicated padded baby area to larger ride-ons, trains, cars, dolls, lego, puzzles, books, kitchen - more than we can get out every week! Most weeks we have a craft activity, and celebrate special events, and include a drink and snack for the adults and children.

The build up to Christmas is always busy and exciting, and we have already been making things to give as gifts! We have made child-friendly sparklers and fire pictures to celebrate Bonfire Night and are planning a <u>lovely soft play party with a special visitor</u> for the <u>last session of this year on December 17th</u>.

Come along (to the Hall) and say hello... for more info, do see our Facebook group called Drayton Baby and Toddler Group, Abingdon 2014. It's a great place to meet other local parents and make friends. NB: We will be back after Christmas on January 7th.

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For more information Ring Glenn or Janet on 01235 531457 or visit

www.theredliondrayton.co.uk

Drayton DINERS Daniel Scharf

The DDs met at the Wheatsheaf as usual on the third Thursday of the month at seven thirty and <u>enjoyed the company</u>, the <u>beer/wine</u> and Gel's cooking.

Austin has kindly agreed that **we can meet on Dec 17th**, despite the closeness to Christmas. **Email me** if you'd like to join us for a convivial evening, that's to :- rippington@waitrose.com



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Drayton TABLE-TENNIS Club John Gould

The Didcot & District Table Tennis Association has 12 member clubs of which Drayton is one of the largest. We are also one of the clubs that offers practice sessions, a UK qualified coach, and cater for persons with disabilities. We have always tried to be a club that welcomes everyone. Over the years we've had many players from overseas representing us in the DDTTA. Some for a short time, others for longer periods dependent on their working situation in the UK. They have all been valued members and indeed friends.

In the 30 years of our existence we've had our ups and downs but it's fair to say that currently the club is thriving. Our members mix freely whether young or old and we believe this is the main reason why we continue to thrive. Our eldest member is 76 and the youngest 10!

The teams have started OK in their respective divisions. Our F team are the stars to date topping Division 5 having won their first 4 ties. However with 15 ties altogether there is a long way to go.

January will see the start of the cup competitions. Our Bidmead Cup team will be trying to win said trophy for the 5th season running. As the competition is now mandatory for all 12 clubs this may prove a tad harder this time around!

Remember if **you wish to give table tennis a try** then it's Monday nights at the school. **If any adult or child reading this wishes to come along, they will be very welcome**. We cater for all age groups, male age 7 upwards, female from 9.

Although a fair way off, the club's annual Quiz Night will take place on Friday 11th March at the school. Further details will follow in future publications. **Have a good Christmas**!!



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BAPTIST CHURCH

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 EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME



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WESTMINSTER VIEW

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

Earlier this month we stopped to remember those who gave their lives in service to their country, I was struck once again by the hundreds of people who turned up to parades and memorials. I had the honour of laying wreaths at both Wantage and Didcot along with veterans and serving men and women. Supporting our armed forces is vital, and I thank everyone that has donated to the Royal British Legion or any of the other Forces charities this year.

Another issue which may be of interest :- Last month I took part in an interesting Parliament debate re nuisance calls, an ongoing problem, especially for the elderly and vulnerable. I am pleased to say that the government and phone companies have taken steps to combat them, for instance lowering the legal threshold of what constitutes a nuisance call (and so making it easier to prosecute) and ensuring Ofcom and the Information Commissioners Office share information to tackle those who make these calls.

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 vaizeye@parliament.uk; the Website is www.vaizey.com with up to date news and surgery details (these are on Fridays, 5.30pm to 7pm, & need no appt).



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(Even More) ALL AROUND

Drayton Pre-School Laura Hughes

By the time this reaches you, we will have had our second Pamper Evening (Nov 20th) and hope to have seen lots of you there making it a big success! As always, **a big thank you to all the parents** who volunteer to help run this, and all our other fundraising events. Without them we would not have a preschool!

The run up to Christmas is always busy with gift making and parties, and the children will be enjoying their party in a few weeks. They have been making cards and decorations which family always love. We also learned about fireworks and safety in November, and made our very own chocolate sparklers by dipping one end of chocolate fingers into hot water and rolling them in sugar sprinkles. A big hit with everyone!

Our next intake will be in January 2016. At present all children are eligible for 15 hours of free early years education per term-time week from the term following their 3rd birthday. If you would like to arrange a visit or put their name on our waiting list, please email us at draytonpreschool@btconnect.com or contact Nadine on 01235 536094.

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

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1st Drayton Brownies Annette Mitchell

After half term we celebrated Bonfire Night with Sparklers, hotdogs and hot chocolate. We have been busy practising a couple of Xmas songs to perform to the parents on Wednesday Nov 25th at St Peters Church.

The Brownies enjoyed baking some cakes to sell in aid of Children In Need and they raised a total of £29! Many thanks to all the parents and Brownies for supporting this worthy cause.

More cooking when we prepared, baked and decorated the Xmas cakes over a couple of weeks. We made Snow Globes and Button Xmas Tree decorations. Xmas preparations continued with making cards and selling raffle tickets for hampers put together from donations. We ended our term with Ice Skating at Millets Farm and a trip to The Watermill Theatre to see Alice In Wonderland!

Phew - time for a Xmas break! We will return on Weds Jan 13th.

We'd like to thank all the parents that help out at our sessions, without them we cannot do some of the activities without an extra pair of hands! We would also like to thank: Gwen Mitchell and Mrs Taylor for their kind donations of buttons, Mrs Kidd and Theresa Taylor for donating so many bits and pieces to us, and also Jo Selby for donating prizes for our hampers.

I would like to thank the Brownie Team for continuing to run Brownies, we have great pleasure in being able to run a successful Brownie pack for Drayton Village and enjoy watching the girls having fun and taking part in some activities they have never done before! We wish everyone, the Brownies and their families a Very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!

<u>Meetings are held</u> at Drayton Village Hall, on Wednesdays during school term from 6pm - 7.30, meetings are open to all girls aged between 7-10 years old. <u>Further details are available</u> from:-

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111; Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl – 528502), or Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl – 555216).

You can **register your interest** on the Girl Guiding Website & Join Us! See www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved - OR you can email us on drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk

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Drayton Rainbows Mary Thompson

The Rainbows have had a busy term, working towards their Festivals badge. We also have been thinking about our Rainbow Promise to be "kind and helpful".

On Thursday December 3rd we will be having a **Christmas Fair** to raise **funds for education for girls** through a charity called Camfed (<u>www.camfed.org</u>); we will sell some crafts we have made and bulbs we have planted. There will also be a cake stall, books and toys, games and a raffle.

<u>Please put the date in your diary and come along to support</u> <u>us</u>: – December 3rd at 5.30, in Drayton Hall.

To make contact (Mary Thompson, or Victoria Wright) please email us via steventonrainbows@gmail.com

YOUR LETTERS

Frank Henry Beames

Dear Sir,

Kiln Lane

We are sad to announce the passing away of Frank Beames, aged 91, peacefully in his chair on the evening of Nov 11th, a year after his beloved late wife Margaret.

They had lived all their married life at 28 High Street, a total of 67 years! Their family consisted of two daughters, Susan & Lesley, and son-in-laws Mick & David; also grandchildren, Keith, Ian & Barry, (partners Helen & Lindsey), also great-grandchildren Finlay & Lily.

The funeral service, at St Peters', will have occurred (Nov 26th) by the time this issue reaches the village – but donations if you wish to Cancer Research UK (c/o S&R Childs - 01235 520808).

Susan Woodward & Lesley Lake



Planes? The A34 is Worse!

Dear Editor

Whitehorns Way

Re Douglas Whiting's letter damning noisy aircraft aerobatics, these manoevres are obviously necessary in the training of aircrews! These young men will be our future pilots prepared to risk all in the defence of this country.

Is this noise really so irritating? We have only occasionally heard them, but find the A34 noise far more intrusive to everyday life.

Some years ago a group of Drayton residents lobbied our councillor to put in place acoustic fencing, but to no avail. Also of concern is the noise that will be generated from the B4016 & 4017 when the proposed extra houses in Drayton and surrounding areas are completed.

Regards

Rosemary & Alan Barlow

(NB Editor's Note:- two letters on this topic, next one follows)

Planes? Not a Problem!

Dear Editor

Corneville Road

I write in reply to the letter complaining about the light aircraft over Drayton and surrounding areas.

I have lived in Drayton over 25 years and have never heard of anyone complaining about a light aircraft doing manoeuvres.

I know exactly which plane is being referred to, it's thousands of feet in the air and is only airborne for short periods at a time.

I have spoken to many people and not one has been concerned. Many say it's a joy to watch, others didn't even know about it. To complain about it is, I think, just petty.

I assume this person's next quest is to have all the helicopters at Edward Brooks (formally Dalton) Barracks grounded?

Regards

Mr R. Loran

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.



Dear Residents of Drayton,

As you may be aware St Peter's Church has no church hall and a very small church room. This can accommodate a small number of people and is therefore unsuitable for larger community activities.

Pews Petition – Please?!

St Peter's plays an important role in the life of Drayton village. We already have many activities both in and outside the church, and we'd like to increase this outreach (regular coffee mornings, etc) but to do so we need more room. To create more space we want to remove the back 5 rows of pews, however, **this must be approved by the church authorities**. We have to show a need, and support from the village, as one of the main approval criteria.

We are not asking for any financial help in order to undertake this project. We DO need your written support and if you agree that this would benefit Drayton could you PLEASE sign the form in Vickery's or the one on the table in Church. Alternatively you can leave a letter in church or at the vicarage.

Many thanks Sue Harris and Val Cross (PCC members)

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MORE LETTERS

Natasha - PACE

Dear Editor,

Steventon Road

May I thank all the people in Drayton who have continued to support us in our collections for Natasha's special school – the P.A.C.E. (Positive Achievement in Conductive Education) Centre.

Drayton Wives have generously supported us in sales, raffles, tea parties, etc and particularly in the purchase of quizzes (the whole village is wonderful in this). We have just reached the grand total of £22,000 for P.A.C.E.

Natasha, now 16, cannot use her right arm and hand, and is constantly in a wheelchair with pains in her back and legs. She is happy and funny and never complains, but is very concerned about our well-being. We talk every day and she is very funny - she would love to walk. Natasha loves her P.A.C.E. school; she now goes sailing, travel training and swimming, and loves playing the keyboard. Clare, Jeremy, ourselves and the other grandparents have been saving for an electric wheelchair (quoted at £20,000) for her. Now for the really good bit.

Out of the blue 'Whizz Kids' rang Clare and said that they wanted to buy Natasha a wheelchair! We don't know if anyone recommended them; they've never asked for anything. She's getting it after Christmas and can't wait. She's been for a practice and was very sensible with the controls.

Sincerely,

Judy Henman



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Scrapbooks, Albums, Memories?

Dear Editor,

I am writing to ask if you would you be able to include a request for help from the loyal readership of the Drayton Chronicle please, as follows:- 1) Do any Chronicle readers have any photographs or newspaper reports about the 1965 North Berks Cup final played April 17th between Drayton and MG & Riley FC at Abingdon Town FC? I would be very happy to receive any copies of materials by email if that is easier?

2) Or any programs, photographs or newspaper reports about the 1984/85 Saturday Intermediate Cup final, Chalfont St Peters Reserves vs Milton United, played at Marlow FC (on the off chance that someone with Milton Utd connections might read this?). Again, emailed copies would be really appreciated or I am very willing to pay postage and any reasonable costs or if anyone wanted to email me, it's :- adesmith@blueyonder.co.uk and my address is: 23 Brome Road, Abbeymead, Gloucester GL4 5YW

Any help would be very much appreciated from an ex-resident of Drayton!

Yours sincerely

Adrian Smith (07557 325656)

Lovely White Cat – Is it Yours?!

Dear Editor,

Over the last 18 months we've had several visits into our back garden from a beautiful white cat with a ginger tail and a ginger mark on its head. This lovely animal settles into our garden and stays for a day or so at a time. It's very friendly towards us, and seems very happy sitting and sleeping on our verandah, though it often asks to be let into the house. It's adept at climbing onto our roof or high fence without a problem.

We try not to encourage it by by feeding as although it has no collar we feel it must belong to someone fairly close by, perhaps Church Lane or High St, as it has an immaculate coat and seems well cared for.

If you own this lovely cat, please phone us (534272) as we'd really like to know that it has a permanent home locally?

Regards.

J & T Knight

(Ed's note: unusually two letters from one household this issue; I guess most over a certain age will agree with the next one?!)

Dear Editor,

What a wonderful piece "Being Green is the New Thing" (Nov Chronicle) was, and how true the information therein. We do sometimes notice our grown-up children looking at us quizzically when we say "don't thow that away, we can use it again", or "we don't have leftovers, we use them in a 'chuck it in' pie"!

Back then – in our youth – we ate what we were given, the portions were smaller and healthier and there was no such thing as a fussy eater.

But let's not decry the wonderful progress we have made over the years, it's good to know we have conquered polio and rickets, dispensed with the work-house, and have space exploration.

But, how very much better it would have been if we'd combined progress with a degree of sense in maintaining and also protecting our natural world, and not developing into such a consumeroriented society.

Regards,

Mr & Mrs T Knight

Richard Webber - Oxon CC

Has Scrooge taken over Christmas? The Health Service is in serious trouble, Europe cannot agree with itself, austerity is biting everywhere, the roads are full of potholes and there is no way out. The County Council is threatening to cut Children's Centres, get rid of subsidized bus services and reduce the number of Recycling Centres together with many other social services in an effort to make a further £55m of savings on top of the £200m it has made in the last three years. Bah! Humbug! It's enough to make you want to give up on Christmas altogether. But, even Scrooge saw the light in the nick of time and became a benevolent optimist.

So where is the light? The national problems are, thankfully, above my pay grade. I do believe there is a small chink of light on the County Council's dilemma, if the County (that means the residents) were to agree to ask Govt for permission to change to Unitary Status, savings would be generated of at least £30m per year. That's enough to save all the services currently under threat with money over to fix the potholes – and it wouldn't involve asking Mr Osborne for a penny. A happy Christmas for all!

The problem is turkeys, all reluctant to vote for Christmas!

It would mean asking District Councils (and the County Council and Oxford City Council) to agree to disband themselves in favour of ONE Council responsible for all local services. More than 200 Councillors would lose their jobs along with hundreds of employees as duplication was eliminated. It would involve smaller political parties agreeing to vote for a system, which would, for the forseeable future, make it unlikely that they would ever control anything. And turkeys just don't vote for Christmas.

But the decision should not be in the hands of self-interested Councils and Politicians. They are all there to serve their residents, and the decision to switch to a single new council should be in the hands of the residents. It would be a big, brave decision - but it is a discussion we need to have urgently and it is the duty of politicians to stimulate it.

Like Scrooge, I want to defy the forces of darkness and wind up optimistic. I am certainly going to enjoy consuming large amounts of Turkey.

A very Happy Christmas to everyone!

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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from Oxon CC working with Age UK and RVS that brings books, DVDs, music CDs and audio books and info about other library services on a regular basis to you at home, through the help of volunteers. The service is offered to people of any age that are housebound and can't get to the library due to disability, illness or full time caring responsibilities. This includes people who might need the service on a short-term basis following a hospital stay or a debilitating illness.

As part of the registration process we will discuss the kind of books, DVDs, music CDs or audio books that you like to read or enjoy. We then arrange for a library volunteer to deliver these to you. Volunteers wear ID badges and provide a helpful and friendly service. Whenever possible, we try and arrange for the same volunteer to visit you each time, materials will be delivered and collected every 3 weeks. The delivery service is free of charge, and there is no charge for requests or late returns.

To register for this service or for further information, email librarycustomerservicesunit@oxfordshire.gov.uk or call them on 01865 328905 (Ed's note – this service may well be at risk from the OCC services cuts being discussed, notwithstanding the recent spat between David Cameron "I'm disappointed with your cuts", and the leader of OCC "we're down to essential services now, and must cut far more, what do you suggest?").

MOBILE LIBRARY LOCATION & TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

<u>Drayton</u> (Tuesdays):- Now only one stop (NB complain to OCC!) The Green 2:20 to 2:40 Dec 1st/15th, Jan 12th/26th, then alternate Tuesdays

Drayton School Marc Knight

My name is Marc Knight and I am the Head Teacher (since March) at Drayton Community Primary School. It has been an action packed 10 weeks since the children returned from their summer break, but I'll attempt to pick out some of the highlights.

Just before the summer break, our school community collaborated to select 12 values which are important to us all and that we want to promote in our school. They are: respect, responsibility, positivity, resilience, courage, honesty, aspiration, community, democracy, peace, freedom and diversity. These values underpin everything we strive to do. Each month there is a different value – the value for November has been courage, which tied in nicely with the work we did to commemorate Armistice Day, when lots of families joined us for quiet reflection. Each value is introduced in a whole school assembly and reflected on in classrooms for the rest of the month, December's being 'peace'.

Each class began the academic year learning about significant turning points in British history, which included:- the Battle of Britain, the Great Plague, and the cracking of the Enigma code. Indeed, Kingfisher's class actually visited Bletchley Park.

This term, as part of a literacy topic, classes have been focussing on significant writers, including: Dahl, Shakespeare and Julia Donaldson. Again, these topics have provided us with scope for educational visits, with one class visiting The Roald Dahl museum (Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire) and another visiting The Watermill in Newbury for a performance of Macbeth.

In mid-Sept, children in Year 6 spent a week at the PGL centre in Liddington. They got to sample abseiling, orienteering and other outdoor pursuits. **I'm very proud of their exemplary behaviour**.

At Drayton we a very keen on educating 'the whole child'. All of the children in Key Stage 2 (age 7-11) get the opportunity to learn a brass instrument. Children in Y4 are taking part in a literacy project, which will culminate with them giving a performance for friends and relatives at the Pegasus Theatre in Oxford. We offer numerous extra-curricular clubs, including:football, choir, French and performing arts.

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→ The clock is ticking and Christmas is fast approaching – we have a number of exciting events lined up, including the traditional nativity performances and our Key Stage 2 extravaganza! Keep an eye on our website for info on tickets.

As a school we strive to be as 'outward facing' as possible – parental involvement is key. On Fridays we invite **parents** into classrooms in the morning to look through their child's books. We host a very popular **sharing assembly**, which is also on a Friday, when families are invited to join us to celebrate the achievements of the week. I write a **weekly newsletter** which is a handy source of information on what is happening in school – this can be accessed via our school website. Our website provides information on our governing body – please take the time to have a look!

We have highly dedicated members of staff who every day strive to make our school an amazing place to be. **I am very happy to show you around** to see for yourself – please contact our school office (531316) to arrange a visit.



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Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG5 Safety Corner)

Avoid becoming a victim of Christmas crime

As the festive season approaches and the days shorten many homes will have gifts, and perhaps cash, in the house in preparation for Christmas. A house in complete darkness, with undrawn curtains and no car in the drive is a sure sign to an opportunist burglar that there's no-one at home. Deter thieves by:-

Using a 24 hour timer (available for around £5) to switch on lights, the TV or radio to give the impression that the house is not unoccupied; Keep valuables and cash out of sight; Use forensic marking such as Smartwater, an ultra violet pen or similar on valuable items; Ensure all doors and windows are closed and locked. (If you've a uPVC door, make sure it's double-locked).

If you're going away over Christmas or the New Year:- Cancel milk and paper deliveries; Ask a trusted friend or neighbour to close and open your curtains; Consider leaving important documents and valuable personal items with family or your bank; Ask a neighbour or friend to park, ad hoc, on your drive while you're away, and before you go, DON'T advertise the fact on Facebook, Twitter etc; Double check all external doors and windows are locked before you leave the house, and remember to set your burglar alarm if you have one.

Council Tax & Lottery scams

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, perhaps several thousands, 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 £60 and £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. A **very similar scam** is a call about winning a lottery, quite possibly one you don't recall entering!

As the old saying goes, if it sounds too good to be true - & you know the rest. But − despite constant warnings in papers, on radio, TV and internet, people do get caught out, either through being too trusting, or just unwary. Don't let it be YOU! →

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Snowdrops - Memorial

Nearby residents must have wondered, a couple of weeks ago, what three local householders were doing, on their knees, surrounded by shaving foam, adjacent to the Postbox on the Green (Sutton Wick Lane)? Up to no good, maybe a new Fracking site?

No, it was Brian Eastoe, Angela Stevens and Geoff Samways, planting 400 snowdrops, in memory of the eight RAF police doghandlers (known as 'Snowdrops') who died on March 5th 1957 when their 53 Squadron 'Beverley' crashed, killing 18 on board, and 2 on the ground (two crew and 2 passengers survived, also just one dog of the eight).

Amongst the dead were those 8 'snowdrops', so local residents decided to establish a lasting memorial of 400 plants, 8 clumps each of fifty. Thanks to a generous stallholder at the Ab'don market, we purchased 400 bulbs, the planting to be a lasting memory of their sacrifice every Spring.

Brian is working on a permanent memorial for those who died, recording their names, details of the crash, plus a suitable epitaph in their memory, all to be carved in English Oak. Hopefully this will be located close to the postbox some time next year.

So, when you see the snowdrops appear next Spring, please pause and remember them.

Regards Brian Eastoe

(Ed's note, Brian sent a photo, it's on the <u>back page</u>, as we have colour covers this time; the crash did prompt a redesign, to stop 'fuel non-return valves' being inserted back-to-front, which had caused the engines to lose power. Wikipedia has more crash info)



→ (NAG5 Continued) Protect yourself:-

Never respond to unsolicited phone calls. Your local council will never phone out-of-the-blue to discuss a council tax rebate. If you receive a call of this nature put the phone down immediately, and speak to a family member or friend (or Action Fraud).

No legitimate organisation will ever ask you to pay a fee in advance, so NEVER provide your bank account or card details.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud hang up the phone and wait five minutes. Try making a call to a friend, to ensure the line isn't still connected to the scammers (a favourite ploy now). Then call your bank or card issuer to report the fraud. If necessary, use a different phone line to make this call.

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

PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Parish Council Meeting, Monday Nov 2nd.

Three members of the public attended the meeting in addition to the councillors. **Gary Hibbins** gave the meeting an update on the work of DAMASCUS. For anyone new to the village, the name Damascus is an acronym, short for the initial letters (give or take a couple) of Drayton and the surrounding villages, so Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon. Damascus is helping young people in all these communities, although the larger villages tend to call more on the services provided. In return, they probably contribute more towards the funding of those services.

As Gary explained, DAMASCUS is far more than just a youth club. It works the streets, meeting and talking to young people who might be out and about. If they are unemployed, they may be helped to put together a CV and given practical advice on job hunting and interviews etc. If they are depressed say, or have issues with alcohol or drug abuse, they can be given counselling or mentoring, or other appropriate assistance. Not only have many young people in our villages been diverted away from vandalism and other anti-social pursuits, a significant number of them have become mentors in their turn. In these circumstances, peer-group influence is often more effective than advice given by adults, although experienced help is obviously important as well.

Drayton and its neighbouring villages have become pleasanter and quieter places to live over the last few years, with a **noticeably reduced incidence of vandalism**, and much of this is undoubtedly down to the efforts of DAMASCUS. The PC is grateful to Gary and Roxy and all the other DAMASCUS workers, and it is hoped to increase their yearly grant from Drayton from the present £3000 to £4000, in the next financial year.

Richard Seamark reported on the progress being made at the community garden at Stonehill House and also enquired about funding for **Drayton Football Club**. It is the PC's view that the football club also provides a valuable social as well as sporting function in the village, and that in principle, it too should receive financial support on a regular basis. Both grants were considered at the Finance Committee on Nov 9th, and will be taken back to the December PC meeting for final approval.

Daniel Scharf noted that **estate agents' signs** appeared to be proliferating in the village in unauthorized places, despite all attempts to get the Vale and/or OCC to deal with the matter. (It is illegal to erect signs on land other than that of the actual property which is for sale). It was agreed to make further enquiries.

The agreement for the **transfer of land** for playing fields on the **Barrow Road site** from the landowner to the Parish Council has now been finalized after various drafts and amendments. It was signed by the Chairman and one other Parish councillor.

The **next Parish Council meeting** will be held on Monday Dec 7th, 7.30pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. As ever, **all are welcome to attend**. The next **IC meeting**, (see next column), also open to the public, is scheduled for Friday Dec 11th, at 7pm in the **Church Room at St Peter's**, a new venue as both the Caudwell Centre and Village Hall are booked that evening.

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Implementation Committee meeting - Friday Nov 13th

An update was given on the **three housing developments** proposed in Drayton's **Neighbourhood Development Plan**. There was no further news on the Manor Farm site. The Decision Notice on Barrow Road has now been issued, and work continues on the allocation of Section 106 contributions.

The <u>planning application for south of the High St</u> has now been submitted. It was considered in a well-attended public meeting of the Planning Committee on Mon Nov 16th. The Planning Committee **approved the site in principle**, as it was bound to, since this is an allocated site in the NDP, which had received the support of 90.8% of the voters in the March referendum.

Nevertheless, <u>reservations were expressed</u> by members of the public, and Committee, regarding certain aspects of it, eg: housing mix, proposals for carbon reduction, traffic plans, vehicle access, and drainage, amongst other issues. The PC is preparing its full response, which will go on the Vale website in due course.

For some time, the Committee has been wanting to appoint an 'Implementation Director', a professional person with relevant skills, who can oversee the various projects envisaged in the Neighbourhood Plan and drive the whole process forward. Two excellent candidates were recently interviewed and we are delighted to say that one of them, Nigel Porter, has accepted the post. Nigel is a civil engineer, with considerable experience of managing major construction projects, both in the UK and in the Middle East. He has a particular expertise in the design of drainage infrastructure, so he should be ideally placed to deal with all aspects of the development of our three housing sites. He has worked for over 25 years on the redevelopment of Milton Park and knows Drayton well. We are sure Nigel will be a great asset to Drayton 2020 and look forward to working with him.

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'll 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 (new) village website: http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/ (also has back copies of the Drayton Chronicle), info re Drayton 2020 Implementation Committee, and details of other village events.



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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 **2.30pm** to 4:00pm (NB **NEW start time!**) 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 Dec 1st & Jan 5th.

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

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) David Perrow (draytonclerk@yahoo.co.uk

OR phone 07909 176 061);

District (VofWH) Stuart Davenport (01235 521078) & Oxfordshire County richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DRAYTON MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

We have had two very successful clear up mornings in October, **thanks to all that came along and helped**. We will be looking to continue them next year and will let you know about dates via the Chronicle. **Also a big thank you to the paper shop** (Abingdon Road) who kindly donated milk and tea to keep us going, it was very much appreciated.

We also had a days help from a team from Lloyds Bank, they gave a day to help on a very wet day. Bulbs were planted that had been donated by the Parish Council and posts around the pond painted. Lloyds also provided the funding for the materials used on this day and really got stuck in on one of the most miserable days we've recently had.

Our plan for early next year is to prune the apple trees and start to chop back low-growing branches on the trees around the edges of the Green. However if you have a spare couple of hours in the week and would like to help please contact me or Keith Clough, who is very keen to get some help to finish the path!

One of the things we are looking into next year is the possibility of starting a '100 club', we might sell tickets at say £10 for a year, you could buy 1 or 10! There would then be 2 draws a year with £500 total prize money (if 100 tickets sold) with the remaining revenue being used for ongoing maintenance on the Green. It would be really useful to have some **feedback** as to whether this would be popular, please email me, it would be really appreciated.

Thank you to all the Friends of the Millennium Green this year for their help both financially and with hands-on work, I am sure you will all agree we have all really made a difference. Let's continue into 2016.

Jane Mcwhirter chair.millenniumgreen@gmail.com & Keith Clough Krc@imf.co.uk

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LISTINGS

<u>'Above the Dreaming Spires'</u> - 'Oxfordshire's Great War Aviation Story' by Peter Dye. Taking place on Weds December 2nd, 7pm to 8.30pm, at the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (Woodstock). The First World War was the first conflict in which air combat became a major focus. Men from all nations and walks of life were drawn to the skies and the romance of flying. Peter Dye, former Director General of the RAF Museum Hendon, presents an evening of high flying adventure with stories of the men and the advancements that came with the emergence of the Royal Flying Corps (exhibition visit included).

Tickets cost £10 and are available to purchase from the museum or online at www.sofo.org.uk/shop.php

Oxfordshire Craft Guild their Christmas selling exhibition, also at Woodstock Museum, runs to Dec 23rd. Features many of the county's leading craft designer & makers, ceramics, textiles, jewellery, & textiles, keepsakes, etc. Some unusual, unique items, great quality and value, perfect for a special Christmas present!

Sixth Extinction? George McGavin is a world authority on the world's fauna and Timothy Walker has been in charge of Oxford Botanical Gardens; they'll be discussing this topic on Dec 12th, at 11 High Street Drayton from 12.30 (bring and share lunch) to about 6.30pm. Call 01235 531107 to register (free but donations welcome).

Royal British Legion (Steventon) The next Branch meeting will be 7.00pm, Mon Dec 21st at the Sports and Social Club in Steventon. New members are always most welcome, from across the Steventon and District area, and it would be particularly great to see any members who fancied a pre Christmas drink.

And a particular note of thanks must go, as ever, to Mrs Diana Hasting, our local Poppy collections co-ordinator.

Flora Tubs4Tablets Tokens

Drayton CP School are currently collecting Tubs4Tablets tokens, this will help us bring cutting edge technology into the classroom. We are asking for families to help us collect as many tokens as possible, these can be found on promotional 500g tubs of **Flora Original, Light and Buttery**. Just 50 tokens will get our school one brand new **Samsung Galaxy Tab 7.0**" touch screen tablet – by simply collecting tokens from special tubs of Flora you can open up a world of possibilities.

Please drop your tokens into school anytime between 8am and 3pm weekdays, **NB we have to submit the tokens by Dec 18th**.

Many thanks for your support, Annette Mitchell, School Admin

DRAYTON HALL NEWS

At last – hurray! – the project for a new kitchen, and latterly replacement fire doors and windows, has finished, despite a last-minute scare re grant funding. Thanks to all grant providers, so WREN, OCC and Vale councils, the Corneville Trust and all our groups who helped with contributions. But there's always more to do, so now we're looking to get a modern PA system, the bar furniture needs to be replaced, plus there's car park repairs.

A couple of new groups, Home Education (mums and small children), 2 mornings a week, & 'Bounce-fit' (Monday evenings).

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!).

Oh, do see the ad (in with the letters, page 8) for the **Christmas party on Dec 19th**. I see there's a £50 prize for the best (that may mean 'worst'?!!) Christmas jumper, so check the loft!

DRAYTON DIARIES (well, partly)

DIARY FOR December

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

Thurs 3 5.30pm Rainbows Christmas Fair Sat 5 9.00am Private Function (all day) Sun 6 9.00am Boogie Beat party

7.15pm Carols Concert (inc Bellringing)
Mon 7 7.30pm **Parish Council** Meeting *Caud*

Mon 7 7.30pm **Parish Council** Meeting *Caudwell DC* Weds 9 11.45am Private Function (Small Hall)

Fri 11 11.00am Wedding Reception (all day)

Fri 11 7.00pm Impl'tion Committee (p14) Caudwell DC

Sat 12 11.00am Private Function 7.00pm Private Function

Sun 13 9.00am Bowls Club - Finals Day

Weds 16 9.00am Preschool Party

Sat 19 7.00pm Christmas Party (ad page 8)
Sun 20 noon Private Function (child's party)

Thurs 31 11.00am Private Function (all day)

St.Peter's Church, Drayton – Christmas 2015

MESSY CHURCH – Sunday 6 December 3:30pm at Drayton Community Primary School

CAROL SERVICE – Sunday 13 December 4pm
Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies will be served after the Service.

CRIB SERVICE - Thursday 24 December 4pm **

(** NB SEE PAGE 4 – children dress up?!)

MIDNIGHT MASS – Thursday 24 December 11.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY – Friday 25 December

8am Holy Communion

10am Family Eucharist with Carols



FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Sunday 27th December 9:30 am (said) Holy Communion

All are welcome at every service.

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(Here's the picture of Angela & Geoff, see page 13 'Snowdrops')

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

SORRY! As usual with the Christmas Edition, just no space for this list this time. You CAN see it, check out the archive of previous Chronicles on the village website, now a new improved site:-http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/

It'll be back next month, with a couple of changes re 'Pebbles' (10am, see page 4), also the 'First Tuesday' group (2.30pm, see page 15), & Preschool, to be 9am and so called, not 'Playgroup' etc

CHRONICLE NEWS

I would like to take this opportunity to **thank all of the**Chronicle agents and distributors who do a wonderful job in
delivering the Chronicle to almost every home in the village. Over
the past few months we have seen a steady rise in the sales of
Chronicle Lottery Tickets, this is fantastic as it helps to secure the
future of the publication itself. So a huge thank you to all of the
agents who have made a concerted effort to achieve this increase.

I would like to say a **special thanks to Trudi** who every month assists with the draw, and reconciling the money taken against the tickets sold, <u>as well</u> as having an agency and selling tickets.

There are still some areas that need an agent and others where one person is covering several areas, I am sure that these people would be only too willing to cut back their commitment by handing something over to someone else. It's not a particularly onerous task and the more agents there are, the easier it would be.

So please give it some thought, <u>could YOU help</u> by taking some of the strain off of the willing but overloaded agents or by taking on one of the vacant agencies? It's a great way to meet your neighbours and give something back to the community, especially if you can sell a few lottery tickets too; if you have young people in the house they can help and put the time down towards community service in relevant extracurricular activities, eg Scouts & Guides, Brownies, and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

If you think you could help PLEASE contact either myself (531923) or Gareth (529510).

Once again thank you to all of you, and I hope that you have a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Carol Arnold - Chronicle Lottery Manager

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.

Candlelight Carol Service



Drayton Hall at 7.30pm Sunday 6th December

Music by Abingdon Town Band, Drayton School Children and Wallingford Hand-Bell Ringers

Also readings and other items
Bell ringing from 7.15 - Come and join us!

Free admission Mince pies, tea and coffee Collection for Action for Children