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DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley Volume 40 No. 9 October 2017

Sport for All in Drayton Andrew Bax

Have your say on Sunday 15 October from 3.00pm

One of the principal objectives of Drayton's Neighbourhood Development Plan is within our grasp: the creation of the new sports facilities at Walnut Meadow, at the northern end of the village. In Drayton Community School in Hilliat's Field on Sunday 15 October from 3.00pm the plans will be unveiled. Everyone is invited and tea and cake will be provided. If you have an interest in any of the sports that will soon become available or, as a parent, you know your children would enjoy such facilities on their doorstep, come along, see the plans and have your say.

The Sports Fields

They will be laid out to provide three football pitches – for adults, intermediates and juniors. In recent memory Drayton had seven teams vying to play on the single pitch by the Village Hall; no longer will players have to travel miles just to get a game. The same space could also be used for hockey, cricket and other team sports. And for those who want to test themselves against the clock there will be a running track.

The Pavilion

There are a lot of talented people in Drayton including Peter Emptage, one of the architects at the Rio Olympics; he provided us with the design concept. Within the constraints of regulation it offers a measure of flexibility. As well as changing rooms there will be space for table tennis, fitness, dance, martial arts and more. Its catering and bar facilities make it suitable for business meetings, wedding receptions and parties; it could also be used as a community café.

Multi-User Games Area

This high-fenced, all-weather court will be marked for tennis, basketball, netball and five-a-side football, with external target sports. There will be low level flood lighting so that games can be played in the evening as well as during the day. In time we hope to extend it so that these facilities can be doubled.

These plans show Drayton at its enterprising best. Construction and maintenance of the sports fields and pavilion will be financed by some £1m to be derived from all those new houses, and a generous £90,000 from Paul Caudwell; the Parish Council's business plan should secure the balance through a combination of loans and grants.

Addicted to Drayton Rosemary and Alan Barlow

Last September we made the move into Cygnet Court Abingdon after spending 47 years in our Whitehorns Way house. Many times we have asked ourselves how we came to stay so long in one place when we initially only intended to stay for two years!

Village life had not been experienced by either of us, having grown up in a large seaside resort and spending the first ten years of our married life on military bases at home and abroad. We decided within five minutes of viewing Whitehorns Way that this was the house for us even though we had had to consult a map to see where Drayton was! continued on page 8 ⇒

Also in this issue:

P2: Buy lottery tickets from agents or at Vickery's

P3: The Chronicle needs younger editors

P4: In praise of William Tyndale

P6: Unauthorised hedge removal from the MG

P8: What do you know about thatching?

P10: Remembering Drayton's WWI heroes

P14: Evaluating our neighbourhood plan





⇒ Mark the date: Sunday 15 October in the School.

In 2012 we began work on the Drayton Neighbourhood Development Plan. Since then hundreds have contributed their ideas, responded to surveys and participated in consultations. These new sports facilities are a direct result of their efforts. And this is just the start.

Drayton Players present

Alan Ayckbourn's hilarious comedy Absurd Person Singular

3, 4, 10 & 11 November 2017
Drayton Village Hall

A.L.Vickery &Son
5 The Green
Drayton OX14 4JA

Tickets from:

or phone 01235 821351

or email info@DraytonPlayers.org.uk

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next Chronicle will be the November issue:

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

Deadline for advertisements: 17.00 on Friday, 13 October 2017 Deadline for other contributions: 17.00 on Monday, 16 Oct 2017 Printed copies available: Friday, 27 October 2017

Deadline dates for subsequent Chronicles:

can always be found on the Drayton Chronicle website; http://www.draytonchronicle.net/deadlines.html

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Please be sure you **always include your name**, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number. Without names we will usually not publish 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 should preferably be sent to us by email to editor@draytonchronicle.net. They should either be embedded in the email as plain text or attached to it as a rich-text or Microsoft Word document! Photographs are welcome and should be attached as jpeg or png files, not just embedded in documents.

Requests for advertisements should be emailed 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.

We do still accept typed or hand—written items. In the latter 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 given 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 Inserts ----Advertiser Category: 3 1 6 12 Drayton Resident £16 £31 £60 £6 Non-Drayton Resident £7 £19 £37 £72

Double-size adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

All advertising MUST be paid for up-front, either in cash or via a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at 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

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.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Carol Arnold, Hon Promoter

RESULTS OF THE SEPTEMBER LOTTERY				
Prize	Winner	Agent		
£25	Mr & Mrs Greenland, Holly Lane	Emma Greenwood		
£20	Mr Lynch, Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough		
£15	Sally Field, Lockway	Sue Ash		
£10	Jenny Pooley, Halls Close	Ali Bone		
£10	A Bourne, Steventon Road	Tamsin Meredith		
£10	Mr & Mrs Lucas, Sutton Wick Lane	Julie Brown		
£10	Mr G & Mrs K Davies, Church Lane	Susan Brook		
£10	Mr Leo Shepherd, Newman Lane	Therese Webster		
£10	Barbara Carter, Lockway	Sue Ash		
£10	Mrs C Harrington, Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner		

Winning numbers from the 1762 tickets sold last month were generated randomly using a computer, as they are for national premium bonds and in the national lottery.

Taking part in the Chronicle lottery:

is the way that many villagers provide financial support for the Chronicle and we rely on that support for our survival.

If your agent doesn't sell lottery tickets please make sure you buy some at Vickery's, where they're always on sale.

Better still, see if you can persuade your agent to sell them or even become a ticket-selling agent yourself

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YOUR LETTERS

Careless, inconsiderate Parking

Dear Editor

Using the reach of the Chronicle, I would like to raise the subject of "Inconsiderate Parking".

I have noticed that, as you travel around the village, the number of vehicles that are parked very close to road junctions and on footpaths has reached epidemic levels. This is causing problems for pedestrians, especially the elderly or infirm, mums with young children and pushchairs and those using Mobility Scooters. I have witnessed all of these groups having to go onto the road to get past parked vehicles; this obviously puts them in a position of increased danger from traffic.

Some of the worst areas for this inconsiderate parking are; Abingdon Road, Henleys Lane, Gravel Lane and Church Lane. I would ask that people refrain from parking on footpaths and close to junctions. If in doubt about parking, there is a very useful publication called the "Highway Code" which gives guidance on how and where to park.

Yours Sincerely

Colin Arnold

Calling all ex-servicemen and women, reservists, friends and partners

Dear Editor

This is the 90th year of the Steventon and District Branch of the Legion, which includes Drayton, Sutton Courtenay, Milton and Appleford.

In recent years, membership has been declining because of age and the passage of time, and social events have been limited to an annual dinner and occasional functions at the North Star and Steventon Sports and Social Club, with the traditional Remembrance Sunday church services in each village and the Standard on parade.

The hard work done by Diana Hasting and her team of Poppy people continues and we owe them much for raising precious funds for the Legion's work.

It would indeed be sad for the Branch to wither further and an urgent injection of new blood and ideas is needed.

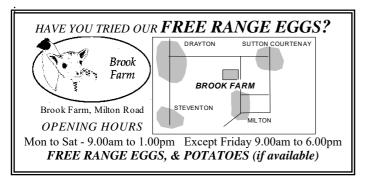
I would like to invite ex-servicemen and others in our villages, and existing members, to join me for a glass of wine or beer at 27 Stocks Lane, Steventon, OX13 6SS (the barn house behind Stocks Lane Farmhouse) at 6.30p.m. on Friday 6th October for an hour or so. The aim is to meet and enable us to identify the current level of support, to discuss any ideas that may appeal to members and most importantly to gather new and younger ones. Membership of the Legion is a modest £17 per annum.

We hope to send two members of the Branch to a very special memorial event at the Menin Gate in August 2018 and we urgently need a Standard Bearer to represent us for this great gathering.

I really hope that you can come and I look forward to seeing you. Please let me know at nickandmaryt@hotmail.com or on 01235 832077 if possible.

Brigadier Nick Thompson Vice Chairman,

Steventon and District Branch Royal British Legion







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CHRONICLE EDITORS NEEDED

The Chronicle's central team does change with time but it's over 10 years since we've had a new editor. We three are now all old men by most people's reckoning, no longer representative of the population of the village. As we get older and the village expands with new, mostly younger, people coming to live in Drayton the disconnect will become ever greater.

So please ask yourself if you could become an editor and help shape the new Chronicle and the new Drayton which will emerge from its current period of growth? The editor's job is quite high pressure in 'editing week', so that you do have to set aside a few days for it, somewhat like plugging a mini-break into your diary. But it has the wonderful characteristic that between editing sessions (every three months if we continue to have 3) you can get away with doing absolutely nothing at all. There are usually emails flying around on some issue which has to be resolved, but they hardly ever demand an input from everyone in the Chronicle team.

To find out more call Derek Pooley (559454), Dave Lee (202699) or Tony Holmes (531180)

ST PETER'S CHURCH part of the DAMASCUS parish

Rector	Rev'd Helen Kendrick848297
Associate Priest	Rev'd Rosie Bruce07766 421773
Churchwarden	Mrs Linda Johnson527521

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion, only on the 2nd Sunday of

the month

10.00 am Sung Eucharist (CW), except the 3rd Sunday,

when there is a non-Eucharist 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
Fri	6.30 pm	Choir Practice (1st Friday)	Church Room

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER:

Tues 3 2.30 pm First Tuesday Connections Church Room

CHURCH REGISTER:

Weddings:

9th September Malcolm Andrew Jamieson &

Jane Kelly Talbot

15th September Andrew Ross Clark &

Katy Louise O'Malley

Funeral:

21st August Mavis Wiffen

Baptisms:

17th September Natasha Amy Watts

Isla Kay Lynch Jack Joseph Dalloway

YOU STAY WE PRAY OCTOBER:

1st to 7th: Drayton Road, Milton Road, New Cut Mill, Fisher Close, Marcham Road, Meads Close, Rippington Court, Stone Hill; 8th to 21st: Steventon Road, Eastway, Eastway MHP; 22nd to 28th: Church Lane, Henleys Lane, Caudwell Close, Gravel Lane: 29th to 31st Abingdon Road, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Road

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS Jean Hager

If you are feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company, why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are usually held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 2.30 pm to 4:00. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our subsequent two dates are **03 October** and **07 November**. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

THE BIBLE IN 50 WORDS! anon

God made. Adam bit. Noah arked. Abraham split. Joseph ruled. Jacob fooled. Bush talked. Moses balked. Pharaoh plagued. People walked. Sea divided. Tablets guided. Promise landed. Saul freaked. David peaked. Prophets warned. Jesus born. God walked. Love talked. Anger crucified. Hope died. Love rose. Spirit flamed. Word spread. God remained.

Editor's Note: Very clever but you have to know the bible rather well to make sense of this succinct summary, focussed on its beginning and end.

Letter from Reverend Helen Kendrick

This month is the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the Reformation, and so a good time to pay tribute to an outstanding English scholar, translator and martyr of the Reformation – William Tyndale (c. 1494 – 6th October 1536), Bible translator and Reformation Martyr.

He was born near Gloucester, and studied at Oxford and Cambridge. He could speak seven languages, and was proficient in ancient Hebrew and Greek. As a priest, his abilities would have taken him a long way, but by 1523 Tyndale's only desire was to translate the Bible, so that English men and women could read it for themselves. It became his life's passion. For Tyndale had rediscovered a vital doctrine that the Church had been ignoring: that of justification by faith. He had found it when reading Erasmus's Greek edition of the New Testament. In fact, his life's work was well summed up in some words of his mentor, Erasmus: "Christ desires His mysteries to be published abroad as widely as possible. I would that [the Gospels and the epistles of Paul] were translated into all languages, of all Christian people, and that they might be read and known."

Tyndale's translation was the first Bible to be published in English, the first to draw directly from Hebrew and Greek texts, and the first English translation to take advantage of the printing press. It was to cost him his life. For Tyndale's work was seen as a direct challenge to the power of both the Roman Catholic Church and the laws of England in maintaining the Church's position. When the authorities had tried to stop his translation, Tyndale fled to Hamburg, Wittenberg, Cologne, and finally to the Lutheran city of Worms. It was there, in 1525, his New Testament emerged. It was quickly smuggled into England, and King Henry VIII, Cardinal Wolsey, and others, were furious.

Tyndale moved on to Antwerp, where for nine more years he continued his work. Then in May 1535 he was betrayed, arrested, and jailed in a castle near Brussels. Tied to the stake for strangulation and burning, his dying prayer was that the King of England's eyes would be opened.

Sure enough, two years later King Henry authorised the Great Bible for the Church of England, which relied largely on Tyndale's work. Not only that, but in 1611, the 54 scholars who produced the King James Bible drew very heavily from Tyndale. Even today we honour him: in 2002, Tyndale was placed at number 26 in the BBC's poll of 100 Greatest Britons.

With love and prayers,

Helen



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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

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Bookings :- call Gel or Austin (01235 531485)
Drayton (on the village green)



DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL

Tony Holmes

Firstly, we have a spot of **lost property**, I'd describe it as a 'choker' for a young girl, perhaps a teen. Found in the hall at the end of August (can't be sure when it was



lost!) and if you think it belongs to you or someone you know, please give me a call and describe it. Number is with the Hall Diary on the back page.

We now have **very few weekend dates left** until Christmas, just a couple of possible slots for a child's party. It's the dog show season, so several of those, and a first (in recent times) for the Hall with a **Hamster Show** on Sept 30th. The **Players** are also gearing up to their show, readings and rehearsals through October; it's an **Ayckbourn** play, usually reliably funny, and my first glimpse of them showed they have a strong cast.

Parents might consider buying a ticket for their little ones (up to 5-y-o I think) to attend one of the regular 'Mess Around' (franchise) parties here, the next couple are scheduled for Sundays Oct 8th (oops, sorry, sold out!) & Nov 19th (themed as 'Dinosaur Detectives'), details https://www.messarounduk.com/oxfordshire/

There's also a **PANTO** coming, (Sunday Dec 10th), and Wantage Stage Musical Company will be bringing their latest show (**Number 1 hits**) in mid November for a nostalgia night, so look out for them too in due course.

We've a **new class starting, Yoga** (6.15 on Tuesday evenings), it's for beginners & intermediates, call Olga for details, 07880 256107. **Seniors' Yoga** continues with Helen (Mondays, 11am) and the class has gradually built up, she's on 07712 646382 if you can make that time & day. And our Pilates class too (Tuesdays, 9.15am), it's now run by Alexandra Merson (07788 248925), so give her a call if you prefer to ease your aches & pains that way!

We're moving towards colder days and getting dark earlier, so here's a regular appeal for our users to remember to switch off ALL the lights as you go, and the heating if used!!

NFIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

We would like to welcome to Richard and Hannah Farley who have moved into Newman Lane from Caversham.

We also welcome Gleb & Amal Malenki and their cat Pushkin, who have recently moved into Sutton Wick Lane from Portsmouth.

And we say farewell to Julie and John Haynes, who are leaving Lockway for Somerset after 18 years in Drayton.



ABINGDON MARATHON Dene Stringfellow

This notice is to inform local residents that road closures and traffic management will be in force on Sunday, 22nd October 2017, the day of the 2017 Abingdon Marathon.

For full details please view the following online document: http://www.abingdonmarathon.org.uk/press/2017_AM_RoadClosuresNoticeR01.pdf

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⇒ Further Brownie details are available from:

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111 Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl) on 01235 528502 Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl) on 01235 555216

ALL AROUND

MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST Jane McWhirter

Firstly, thank you to all who came along and supported us at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, at the end of August. The weather was fabulous, the beer and Pimms flowed and the cakes were marvellous. We are still waiting to finalize the amount of profit we made and we will let you know as soon as we can; also what are plans are for using the money. I would also like to send a really BIG thank you to all the helpers who worked so hard to make it a really special afternoon.

You may have noticed our contractors have marked out the upgrade to the path, they will be working in and around the Green for probably the next 2 weeks, and it may mean that some entrances are temporarily blocked. Please bear with us, as we will all benefit from their work. Many thanks to the Parish Council for its financial support.

I have been contacted by many people about the recent unauthorized hedge removal. Please be assured we are taking this very seriously and temporary fencing will be erected shortly until a resolution is agreed.

Our next 'Clear Up' morning is on Saturday 7th October from 10:00 to 12:30. If you can spare some time come along and give a hand, even if it's nothing more strenuous than making us a cup of tea, we would really value your support.



Email me at chair.millenniumgreen@gmail.com with any questions you may have.

1ST DRAYTON BROWNIES Annette Mitchell

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break! We welcome Rose to our pack. We hope you enjoy your time with us!

This term we will be working on Hostess and Friends to Animals Badges. We started the first week of term with making Pebble Pets and Animal Masks. We are also preparing for our 60th Birthday Celebrations with baking and bunting making. Thank you to Heather Mole who kindly donated the material for our bunting!

INVITATION

60th Birthday Celebration! Afternoon Tea 3 – 5pm Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane. On Saturday 25th November 2017

Past Brownies and Leaders are invited to join our celebration. RSVP by 28th October to the email or telephone below.

Bring along any uniform, badges and photographs from the past! Did you attend the first meeting on 24th October 1957?

We would love to hear from you!

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. Due to a number of leavers this term, we currently have spaces! Please do get in touch as soon as possible preferably via our email below, and your daughter can start with us straight away if she is aged 7 to 10.

If your daughter is not yet old enough and you would like to put her on the waiting list, you can register on the girl guiding website www.oxfordshiregirlguiding.org.uk/join-us/ or you can email us on drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk. If your daughter is a Rainbow and would like to join Brownies in the near future please can you put them on the waiting list by emailing to the address above.

TABLE TENNIS

John Gould

Ann Webb

There has been a knock-on effect for the club from the delayed new classroom building at the school. As a result, we've not been able to use the hall for pre-season practice and at the moment are unable to play any league matches. Luckily some of the clubs in the Didcot League have rallied around and have offered to reverse fixtures and also offered the use of their facilities for practice and matches. Our thanks go to Marlborough, Moreton & Sutton Courtenay Clubs for their help.

Hopefully we'll be up and running properly before long and our teams can look forward to another winter of competitive sporting action! This season the Didcot Association will run 4 divisions of 10 teams in each. So, with cup ties as well each of our teams will play a minimum of 21 matches. This is a welcome additional few matches for some of our teams that will have a full fixture list for the first time in a number of seasons.

We hope to resume Monday practice back at the school from early October under the guidance of Janet our Club coach. Newcomers will be welcome as at the moment we have a few spaces for them to come along and join in.

Keep pinging!



Our first meeting after our summer break was 'craft-a-mosaic',

something I, and many others, had never attempted before.

We completed our news updates from the county, after which Gill
Pett from our Abingdon Ladies showed us her uniform that she wore
as a 'runner' at the World Athletics and Para- Athletic Games held
in Elizabeth Park in London recently. It was very smart, a shade of
rose pink with a tyre track design up the back. She was dressed head
to toe in this very striking outfit, including rainwear just in case. Gill
also showed us the cup she and her partner had won at the South
West Inter-federation Golf Croquet tournament in Taunton; after
coming second several times victory was sweet.

We moved on then to our mosaic making. It was enthralling, and a great deal of concentration was needed. Never been so quiet at a meeting, all heads bowed over our masterpieces. A letter was read out from our New Zealand friends, which was fascinating and enjoyable. Next month we have someone from an organisation called Blood Bikers, people who transport blood between hospitals, in emergencies, by motorcycle courier. Sounds fascinating so come and join us. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in the Caudwell Day Centre at 7.30pm. Next date: October 12th.

GARD Derek Stork

Proposals for Oxfordshire's future water supply

As readers will know, the proposed mega-reservoir that is on Thames Water's shortlist for new water resources for the 2020-2024 period, is justified almost solely (over 90%) by the predicted future needs of London. It is GARD's view, and that of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and the Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC), that this reservoir is not a secure and drought-resilient option. We are continuing to challenge Thames Water's position on this – of which more below.

There is a predicted, but much smaller, water shortage for Oxfordshire in the 2030s and 2040s. There are clear, secure and drought-resilient options to supply this which do not use the 'left-overs' from a mega-reservoir to achieve them (this is Thames Water's only idea). GARD has made a proposal for re-use of water from Oxford, Abingdon and Didcot water treatment plants. This would be purified and piped over to the Thames upstream of Farmoor, to be abstracted into Farmoor for Oxfordshire supply. This source IS completely resilient to drought, and would also improve

the river flow conditions in the Farmoor-Oxford stretch of the Thames in times of low rainfall. GARD have notified Thames Water (TW) of this option, but TW are reluctant (for obvious reasons) to explore it seriously. After our representations, the Environment Agency have informed TW that they should give it serious consideration. We await further developments – this scheme would supply Oxfordshire's needs to the late 2030s (it's capacity is in the region of 20-30 Million litres per day). Anyone wanting to delve into the technical details of our consultants' report can visit our website at www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk.

Residents may also be interested to know that RWE (the owners and operators of Didcot Power Station) have made a 'preapplication' to the Vale for advice on making a proposal to supply purified drinking water from the water used to cool Didcot B. This scheme is said to be capable of 20-40 Million litres per day. It could operate either alone or in parallel to a GARD-type scheme – between them the predicted shortfall in Oxfordshire would be more than covered even out to the 2080s – completely removing any local justification for a mega-reservoir. We view this as an interesting development and have written to the Environment Agency pressing for a transparent process to examine this option. The last thing we want is for two huge private, and foreign-owned, corporations to do a deal 'behind closed doors'. The potential for TW to 'head-off' the RWE proposal clearly exists. We will remain vigilant.

The Oxfordshire Infrastructure (OXIS) stage 1 plan has been out for consultation (closed on 10th September). This is commissioned by the 'Oxfordshire Growth Board' (on which the County, District and Oxford City councils are all represented) and is intended to analyse and itemise the infrastructure needs of the county for the period to 2031 and beyond. The stage 1 report is very confused about the needs and issues regarding water supply for Oxfordshire. In a situation like this it is easy for a huge concern like TW to insinuate its pet projects (viz the reservoir) into a mix that the OXIS planners come to support almost by default. GARD, supported by CPRE, have tried to clarify the situation, and to make it clear that the proposed reservoir would be a *burden for Oxfordshire* to no benefit. We have written to leaders of OCC and VoWHDC to explain our position.

Reservoir study shows it is not Drought-resilient

GARD's consultant has completed an analysis that shows, contrary to TW's claims, that the proposed mega-reservoir will not provide a secure supply to droughts that are longer than those of the last century. The government has asked water companies to make their proposals more resilient against predicted climate change and especially longer and more severe droughts. We believe that TW's figures put forward in their reports to date are in error, and that the proposed reservoir would not survive droughts longer than about 18-months (the longest 20th century droughts were of this length). We have written to the Chief Executive of Thames Water, to OFWAT (the water regulator) and the the Environment Agency giving them our findings. We have been told by TW that they will reply 'within one month'. We will let residents know what they say, and, after we have received their reply, we will probably post the report on our website.

Joining GARD

Thanks to all those who have recently joined GARD, and to existing members who have sent donations into our fighting fund. You can contact me (email gard.chair@gmail.com) or our, secretary, Deborah Bennett (email gard.secretary@gmail.com) if you would like to help, or to join GARD (lifetime membership is only £5).

As we have said previously, part of Thames Water's game is to try and reach a selected number of consumers (most of whom will not be local – so that they can be sold a biased view of the reservoir) to try to show to OFWAT that they have 'public support' for the reservoir. This is a numbers game, and we need to show we have large numbers of consumers on our side. It is thus important to like our Facebook page, and above all, to join GARD if you oppose the reservoir.

THATCHING PUSEY COTTAGE Andrew Bax

For six weeks over the Summer, Henleys Lane became even narrower. There was scaffolding over the pavement and vans and trucks parked outside. I apologise to anyone who was inconvenienced by our re-thatching. Quite a few people, however, took an interest in what was happening and stopped to talk about it.

An advantage of thatch is that it is a natural insulator, making the cottage noticeably warmer in Winter and cooler in Summer. One of the disadvantages is that it weathers away, and does so at different rates, depending on the situation. Thus, 27 years after it was last done, the south side of Pusey Cottage needed a new coat while the north side is still good for another few decades.

The strong stalks of a wheat/rye hybrid tend to replace reed these days but the bundles are still held in place by hundreds of hazel spars, honed and shaped by hand, and harvested from coppices grown specially for the purpose. In our loft it is still possible to see the original



tarred twine that binds the first bundles to the rafters. When I first went up there and groped my way through the detritus of centuries I found parts of a worm-ridden spinning wheel.

Thatching is physically demanding work and can be dangerous; the bundles of straw are heavy and the tools used to cut them are very sharp indeed. The straw is rough, dusty, scratchy, splintery stuff, and thatchers spend their days high on roofs, working without shelter in all weathers. There are certainly easier ways to earn a living.

The contract was with Kit Davis of Steventon and we had to wait over a year before we reached the top of his list. Most of the work was done by Ashley and Red, who have worked with him for years and the pride they have in their work was clearly evident. It is reassuring to learn that such craftsmanship survives in this modern age.



ADDICTED TO DRAYTON

the Barlows

⇒ continued from page 1

On moving in we were welcomed by many neighbours who all knew one another. The Young Wives which Betty Biddle very kindly invited Rosemary to join had many active members with small children. There were family outings to Zoos and parks in the summer and pantomimes in winter. The children's Christmas party was a happy occasion where Geoff Caudle dressed as Father Christmas was unrecognisable to his young children. The meetings and dances at that time all took place in the old village hall situated in Church Lane where the heating was supplied by a large black stove in the centre making the venue very warm and cosy. Sometimes at the dances a game would be played, a very popular one was musical knees! not known to us before then.

We were asked if we would contribute to a magazine called the Hall News which was a fund raiser for the new village hall then just at the planning stage. When the new hall opened there was a week of celebrations. Bill Rennells one of our close neighbours worked for the BBC and arranged for Any Questions to be broadcasted from there. Tickets were at a premium but we managed to acquire two, David Jacobs was Chairman with Jeremy Thorpe and Peter Hall RSC included on the panel. The opening dance was a black-tie occasion with a five course dinner.

The hall committee headed up by Derek Church and Lois Rennells would arrange Turkey Suppers and even parties between the Christmas and New Year period. There was a never to be forgotten fancy dress when several couples dressed as The Loch Ness Monster and all that could be seen was feet. We would invite our friends from London to stay who would marvel at these village events.

During the summer Mr and Mrs Poulton would very generously open their home at Chiers House for Strawberry Teas, an occasion which raised money for charity. Their large garden would be packed with adults and children alike with many making the use of their swimming pool and taking part in tennis tournaments while the sun mostly shone down. Summer was also a time for the

Car Treasure Hunt which involved a dozen or so cars driving around local villages with a quiz sheet hunting for local landmarks, these were always great fun and impossible to arrange in today's hazardous traffic conditions!

Many children played in the fields where the A34 is now, including our two sons and were even allowed into the milking parlours by the kindly men working there. Twice while living in Whitehorns cows escaped and would be ambling up peoples drives trampling on precious flowers. This of course was dangerous until they were rounded up but also amusing to see the cows staring at their reflections in people's windows. The children of course thought all this hilarious. We really knew we were living in the country then. When the diggers came to start work on the A34 children would all gather to watch the JCBs, health and safety must have existed then but the young ones were allowed to have their fun.

The village at that time had many shops and amenities. The always so obliging Arthur and Barbara Lester ran the Post Office and stores with a full counter service. Pete and Clem Bettles had shops in the Lockway and Abingdon Road and they all operated a delivery service. Very unusual for a village, a hardware shop run by the Winter family and of course still there today with the brilliant "will find you anything "Laurence Vickery at its helm. The village had two garages, one on each side, both always busy and much missed today. On the west side Barton Garage sold fuel and how wonderful it was to sit in the car and have an attendant fill up.

We could not have kept our cars going without the consideration and care of Dave Burt and later his son in law Roger. The local Doctor lived in Henley's Lane where the waiting room was his own personal lounge with his small son running in and out to play with his toys stacked in the corner. The dentist Mr Gee also carried out his practice in his private house down the High Street.

Our two-year stay in Drayton had extended to ten years and Alan's service with the RAF was coming to an end. The extended family on the south coast wanted us back in our home town but by then we loved our life in this unique village which was home to us. We had by then acquired two cats. Lovely friends and neighbours would pop in to feed and watch them even when we were away for two weeks. We were forever grateful to one neighbour who on finding our cat injured in her garden took and sat with him at the vets even though she wasn't a cat owner herself!

The youth club in Drayton was starting to become established and was needed with so many of the children reaching early teens.

This was run by some of the mums and the amazing then village milkman Tony Newman who always devoted his time to others. Not only did he spend early hours delivering milk to most households but would take the youngsters in his mini bus to the nearest cinemas and other events, his disco became well known in the area and he was always fully booked.

continued opposite ⇒

⇒ The reputation of the youth club spread to Abingdon and other youngsters joined. Our youngest son met his future wife there and they have now been married for twenty-six years, we have a lot to thank the club for.

With so much going on around us, is it any wonder that we remained in the remarkable village of Drayton for 47 years instead of our original life plan of 2 years.

Last year the decision was made to move into town due to Alan no longer driving and we are very happy here. We are still very much in touch with the village and old friends, how could we not be? Drayton is about to go through a huge transformation but will always have a wonderful community at its heart, it is a village with a soul.

We send good wishes to all new people moving in and say to embrace all that the village has to offer. There are so many local groups and clubs, sports and drama where you will all be made welcome. Perhaps you will even stay in the village for 45years longer than you originally intended.

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Mike Davies

Drayton Players keep it local with actors from the village



Drayton Players are back with an Alan Ayckbourn comedy that has been one of his most popular: Absurd Person Singular.

Amongst the cast of this hilarious farce are Drayton residents Mirja Boyd and Georgia Alston, both well known in the village, and who have performed with Drayton Players

many times before. Another Draytonian is Adi Sheward-Himpson. He is appearing with the Players for the first time, having previously trod the boards in Oxford. Finally, making a welcome return in this Ayckbourn comedy, is Jim Cottrell, who, for many years, delighted audiences at Drayton Hall.

The story centres on three married couples, who gather for pre-Christmas drinks over three consecutive years. Business crises and social awkwardness abound, which in Alan Ayckbourn's hands become the stuff of laugh-out-loud comedy. I hear that rehearsals are going very well indeed. A show not to be missed.

Absurd Person Singular runs on 3rd, 4th, 10th and 11th November at Drayton Village Hall.

Tickets are available in person from A.L. Vickery & Son, 5 The Green, Drayton OX14 4JA, by phone from Mike Davies on 01235 821351, or Deidre Jones on 01235 527865, or by email at info@DraytonPlayers.org.uk

FODSA NEWS Maria Grundy

FODSA are excited to be back at school and are looking forward to another great year of fundraising.

During the summer, we raised £73 on our Chase the Ace and Dog Raffle stall at the amazing 'Mad Hatter's Tea Party' event on the Millennium Green. Thank you to everyone who came along and had a go!



At our FODSA meeting in September we were delighted to be presented with an amazing £582 that was raised at Dfest. We would like to say a massive thank you to John and Mandy Blessing and everyone at The Red Lion for this amazing donation, we really appreciate it.

Make sure you don't miss our next event: 80's Disco!!! This will be held at Drayton Village Hall on Friday 13th October, 7:30pm. Tickets are £5 and can be purchased from Vickery's, Mace, the school office and members of FODSA.

Numbers are still available in our **Drayton Village 100 Club**. If you would like to be in with a chance of winning a cash prize each month please download the form from the school website. The FODSA page is under the COMMUNITY header.

Our AGM will take place **Thursday October 5th, 7:30pm at Drayton School**. We would love to see many parents come along. It's a great place to meet new friends whilst learning about our fundraising efforts over the past year. We look forward to seeing you there.

You can find more information about FODSA on our Facebook page FODSA (Friends of Drayton School Association) Abingdon.

If you have any questions, comments, fundraising ideas or would like to join FODSA please contact Maria on fodsasecretary@gmail.com or Tamsin on fodsafundraising@gmail.com.

DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

Rita Atkinson

All-Girls' Football Tournament and Survey

Kate King our newly appointed young Ambassador for Girls' Football has been working with us to organise an all-girls football tournament over the October half term. This is to judge the level of interest to form a regular Damascus team that could practise and play in wider tournaments. She



has a survey at https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H7VTHWD.

Please take 5 minutes to take part.

If you or anyone you know is interested in taking part or would like to help please contact

Roxy on 07875649008/roxy.ycat@gmail.com or

Holly on 07713670004/holly.ycat@gmail.com

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SACRIFICE REMEMBERED

GEORGE BENNETT

Lance Corporal George Henry Bennett of the 6th Battalion, the Royal Berkshire Regiment, service number 16069, was killed 100 years ago this month, aged 27. He was the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Bennett of 4 Steventon Road, Drayton and was killed in action at the 1st Battle of Passchendale on 12 October 1917.

He is buried at the Poelcapelle British Cemetery, 11.e.7

John Roberts





THOMAS DANBY

Private Thomas Danby, of the 1st Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry, service number PO/1753/S also died 100 years ago. He was wounded in the 2nd Battle of Passchendale and died of those wounds on 28 October 1917.

He was only 19, the son of Samuel and Jane Banby of High Street, Drayton and is buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, B16

John Roberts







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NOTICE BOARD

DISPOSAL OF DIY WASTE

Lucy Bates

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appliances

large appliances

scrap metal

Oxfordshire County Council's scheme for charging for DIY waste is changing from 1st October 2017 to a fixed fee per item of £1.50 for most non-household or DIY items.

Residents can still deposit household waste for free at their local Household Waste Recycling Centre.

More information about the changes can be found online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste

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To book a place, please email Kally at bettybloomdance@gmail.com or: 07785 232862

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*For more details and a complete list visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/chargeablewaste

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- It's all too easy to forget to remove your front or back door key when letting yourself in. Ensure there are no keys in locks and that all windows and doors are locked when leaving the house or going to bed.
- Consider using timer plugs to switch on lamps or radios to make it appear that there is someone at home when you're out or away on holiday.
- Tell a neighbour if you're going away.
- Ensure tools and ladders are securely locked away

Vehicle security

- Develop a routine to ensure you always remove the keys from the ignition, close all windows and lock the car whenever you leave it.
- Don't store things in the glove box or boot.
- Don't leave removeable stereos and sat navs or even something like a jacket in the car.
- Keep car ownership information at home, not in the vehicle.
- Using secure (theft resistant) number plates can make your car less attractive to thieves.

Cyclist safety

- White front and red rear lights must be lit at night. Flashing lights are permitted but it is recommended that cyclists who are riding in areas without street lighting use a steady front lamp. Bicycles must be fitted with a red rear reflector. Lights and reflectors should be clean and in good working order.
- Brakes must work efficiently, gears should be working correctly and the chain properly adjusted and oiled.
- Tyres should be in good condition and inflated to the pressure indicated on the tyre.
- For your own safety please wear a helmet and light coloured or fluorescent clothing in daylight and reflective clothing at night to help to ensure that other road users see you.

Car and driver safety

- Keep your windscreen and other windows clear of dirt and remove any snow from front and rear lights, windscreen, windows and roof using de-icer and a scraper as necessary.
- Ensure the windscreen wipers are in working order and keep the screen wash reservoir topped up.
- Ensure front and rear lights are in full working order and free from dirt. Use headlights in seriously reduced visibility.
- Keep number plates clean and visible.
- Tyres should have a minimum 2mm of tread and preferably 3mm or above.
- Avoid the water pump freezing by using antifreeze.
- Car batteries rarely last longer than five years. Consider replacement if it's nearing the end of its life lights, wipers etc. place a high demand on batteries during winter months.
- Remember that stopping distances are 10 times longer in ice and snow.
- Carry an emergency kit in the car: tow rope, shovel, hazard-warning triangle, a fully charged mobile phone, de-icing equipment, a working torch, warm clothing, wellington boots, blanket and emergency rations including a hot drink.

If you see any suspicious activity, or are witness to a crime, please call 101, or 999 in emergencies, to report it to the police and obtain a unique reference number (URN).

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

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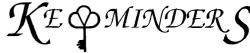
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COUNTY COUNCIL

Richard Webber

Neighbourhood Planning – success or failure?

The Drayton Neighbourhood Plan has been with us for several years now. 90% of us voted for it but is it delivering what we all hoped it would?

The Drayton Neighbourhood Plan came into being as a result of an attempt by VHWDC to control speculative planning through an "Interim Housing Supply Policy" which invited landowners



and property developers to make bids. Drayton was due to take more than any other village in the Vale – 550 houses in all. The Neighbourhood Plan provided an opportunity for residents to take some control making improvements to the layout and facilities of the village.

We now find ourselves facing the building of 300 new homes in the village and the disruption that it is causing and will continue to cause for some years now. So, has it all been worth it?

Here are a few facts:

Whilst Drayton (with its Neighbourhood Plan) takes 300 houses, other villages are taking many more: Steventon and Marcham 500+, Harwell 600+, Sutton Courtenay up to 1000.

The houses in Drayton are being built (mostly) in the places and to the design determined by our Neighbourhood Plan. In all other villages, the number and the location of all the new housing has been determined by speculative piecemeal applications.

As a result of the negotiations between developers and the Neighbourhood Planners, the village will benefit to the tune of £1.5m+. New Sports facilities (see front page), new pathways, and improved roads.

Whilst other villages are facing the "managed decline" of their roads as a result of County Council cutbacks, Drayton is getting a complete overhaul of its road system which will improve the look, the feel and the connectivity of the village.

All this is the envy of other villages – many of which are now undertaking Neigbourhood Plans. Sadly, for some villages, it is argued that it is too late, the damage of uncoordinated speculative planning is done.

Not so, Drayton.

No gain without a little pain...

The prospect of disruption whilst the Neighbourhood Plan is being implemented does not please any of us. But if we do not wind up with a thriving village, better connected, better planned and better supplied with services, then I have been wasting my time for the last 12 years in Local Government.

Richard Webber Richardwebber777@gmail.com 01235 534001

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WESTMINSTER **Ed Vaizey**

I am delighted that Housing Minister Alok Sharma has announced a £6.2 million government cash award for South Oxfordshire District Council. This will accelerate delivery of Didcot's much needed Northern Perimeter Road, a vital piece of local infrastructure and key to the success of Didcot Garden Town. The infrastructure investment promises to boost economic growth across the Science Vale and enterprise zone, increasing employment by 20,000 over the next 20 years.



I am pleased that the 'Better Broadband for Oxfordshire' programme is on course to achieve above 95 per cent coverage across Oxfordshire. This places the county in the top quartile of counties in the UK. Since its launch, this £38 million collaboration between Oxfordshire County Council, Government, BT and local councils has provided 72,309 homes and businesses with access to broadband with a speed of over 24Mbps. Some 488 new fibre broadband cabinets have been installed and a total of 460km of fibre laid.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) helps people across the UK to explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about. In Wantage alone, more than £6.7 million of National Lottery money has been invested in over 65 local heritage projects since 1994. HLF is now encouraging people in Oxfordshire to apply for grants between £3,000 and £10,000 to undertake projects exploring the impact and legacy of the First World War beyond 1918. I strongly encourage local people to make use of the money available from HLF to explore its legacy further. More info can be found at: www.hlf.org.uk/firstworldwar

In the constituency recently, I have met with GARD a local pressure group campaigning against the proposed reservoir at Steventon. I have also met with SUDEP, a local charity of which I am President, which campaigns to prevent sudden deaths in epilepsy. I have also met local GPs at their surgeries, including Wantage, Shrivenham and Faringdon, to discuss their concerns.

Please 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 01235 768 888. 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. Details of my activities in Parliament can be read on my website, https://www.vaizey.com. 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 complete the online form at http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP.

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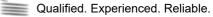
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DRAYTON DIARY

FOR OCTOBER

Regular Events are listed opposite

Events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise. There are many private events taking place in the Hall which are not listed. To book the Hall call Tony Holmes on 531180 or visit www.draytonvh.co.uk

1 9.00 am Dog Show (Griffon Bruxellois)

Parish Council Caudwell Day Centre 2 7.30 pm Mon 3 6.15 pm Yoga (beginners/intermediate) 07880 256107 Tues

Fri 13 7.00 pm FODSA 80s night

14 12.30 am **Chronicle Lottery deadline** Sat Vickery's

15 10.00 am Dog Show (Havanese) Sun

Mon 17 5.00 pm Chronicle copy deadline Vickery's box

22 9.00 am **Bowls Club** Sun



Sun

St. Peter's Church

All Souls' Service, 5th November 2017 at 3pm

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

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

THE RED LION

Autumn Fair: 11th November

Crafters needed

John, Mandy & Joshua

Welcome you to our friendly village pub: Traditional pub food at exceptional prices Served Tuesday to Sunday Karaoke every 1st Sat of the month

Bingo fortnightly on Thursdays at 7pm Quiz evening every Sunday at 9 pm

> Kids and dog friendly All Welcome

Please call 01235 532393

Do you need help with your French?

One to one lesson with a Native French speaker to help students with:

- homework
 - exams
- focusing on reading, pronunciation
 - conversational French
- or simply improving your French

Please contact Cathy on 07554442772

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 11.00 am Seniors 'Gentle' Yoga (call 07712 646382)

Baby Sign Language Classes (call 07927 339102) 1.15 pm

2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)

6.00 pm Bounce Fit (call 07791 778388)

7.00 pm Table Tennis - coaching and social School Caudwell DC

7.15 pm Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)

7.30 pm Badminton

7.45 pm **Bell Ringing Practice** St Peter's bell tower

TUESDAYS

8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg

9.00 am

1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) Caudwell Day Centre

2.30 pm First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) Church Room

7.00 pm League Table Tennis (until 10.30 pm)

8.15 pm Clubbercise (call 07811 209242)

WEDNESDAYS

8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg

10.30 am Pebbles (Babies & Toddlers - in Term) Church Room

1.45 pm Whist Drive (until 4.00 pm) Caudwell Day Centre

2.00 pm Drayton Wives (last Wednesday)

2.15 pm Badminton

6.00 pm **Brownies**

7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)

7.00 pm League Table Tennis (until 10.30 pm) School

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

9.15 am Holy Communion St Peter's Lady Chapel

9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (in Term Time)

2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)

2.00 pm Wives Whist (2nd Thursday) Caudwell Day Centre

5.00 pm Rainbows (call 01235 832077)

7.00 pm League Table Tennis (until 10.30 pm) School

7.30 pm W.I. (2nd Thursday) Caudwell Day Centre

7.30 pm Sequence Dancing. (call 01235 531701)

7.30 pm Bujinkan Martial Arts (Small Hall / 07479 824887)

FRIDAYS

8.45 am Pre-School Playgroup (in Term) School Ground Bldg 11.00 am Friday Club (fortnightly - 202466) Caudwell Day Centre

SUNDAYS

8.00 am Holy Communion St Peter's 10.00 am Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday) St Peter's 6.00 pm Evening Worship Baptist Church

Note: If you want to correct, make a change or place 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

DRAYTON VILLAGE WEB-SITE



Don't forget that you can find current and past Chronicles, by visiting www.draytonvillage.co.uk, the 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.

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