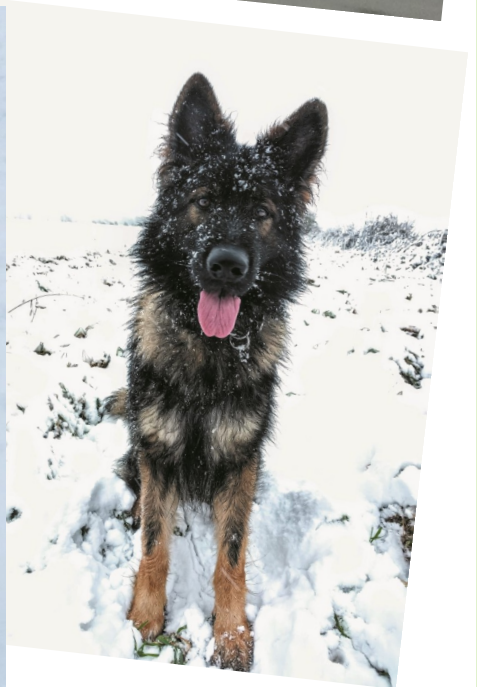


# DRAYTON Chronicle



See,  
amid the  
winter's  
snow



Key to pictures on page 10

# CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **Drayton Chronicle** is published under the auspices of the Drayton Community Trust, charity number 255846

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

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

Deadline for advertisements: **17.00 on Friday, 9 February 2018**

Deadline for other contributions: **17.00 on Monday, 12 Feb. 2018**

Printed copies available: **Friday, 23 February 2018**

### Deadline dates for subsequent Chronicles:

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

## NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Please make 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.

**Please also note** that the editor must ensure that each Chronicle fits exactly into a multiple of 4 printed pages. The editor therefore reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required to achieve this.

**Contributions** should preferably be sent to us by **email** to [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net). They should either be embedded in the email as **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document! Photographs are most welcome and should be attached as jpeg or png files, **not embedded in documents**.

**Requests for advertisements** should be emailed to [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto: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**.

These 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 deadline at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered 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:	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£6	£16	£31	£60
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**Double-size** adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

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

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs C Shebbeare, Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£20	Brenda & Roger East, Henleys Lane	Andrew Bax
£15	Mr & Mrs Robinson, Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	Pat Bachrach, Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	Mary Alexander, High Street	Ali Bone
£10	K Johnson, Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	Mr & Mrs H Webb, Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	Mr Lynch, Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£10	Val Cross, Binning Close	Cathy Norris
£10	Mr Chris Powell, Willow Lane	Susan Brooks

Winning numbers from the 1772 tickets sold last month were generated randomly using a computer, as they are for national premium bonds and in the national lottery.

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## MORE ON THE CHRONICLE

### A NEW-LOOK CHRONICLE

After much heart-searching discussion and careful deliberation, and with a little guidance from Kevin Arrowood using his professional design skills, the Chronicle team has decided to change the Chronicle in two ways.

First, we will now print every page of every issue in colour. Up to now we've used black and white except in December, when we have traditionally printed the outer pages in colour.

Secondly, we will try to make future Chronicles look a bit more like 'magazines'. In particular, this means that the front page will usually contain only a picture or pictures rather than the text of articles as in the past and we will dot the text with more coloured illustrations than before.

These changes will work well only if our contributors and keen Drayton photographers send us plenty of coloured photographs. I'm most grateful to the many people who responded to Colin Arnold's appeal on the Drayton Village Facebook page this month, by sending me pictures taken in our brief spell of snowy weather in December. These have made it possible for me to illustrate very well in this month's issue the kind of thing we're hoping for.

**Please keep sending your pictures!**

### A NEW-LOOK EDITOR

**Derek Pooley**

The new-look Chronicle will work best if we also have new editors with fresh ideas. I much enjoy being one of the editorial team and have found the job very rewarding. It has allowed me considerable freedom to exercise imagination as well as allowing me to make a useful contribution to village life.

But with this issue I will have completed 20 full years as an editor and I told my colleagues than a year ago that I wanted to retire at this point. We haven't yet found a replacement but I feel that, come what may, I should not continue beyond 2018. It's therefore important that someone new agrees to join the team in time to be trained in the nuts and bolts of doing the job if we're not to face possible disruption to our monthly schedule.

Please contact me (01235 559454) or Tony (531180) or David (202699) if you would like more information about what is involved. You do need to be moderately IT-savvy but no more than most 7-year-olds now take for granted and we will provide plenty of training on the details of the job.

## DRAYTON SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB



Dancing Thursday Nights at  
Drayton Village Hall  
7.30pm – 10.30pm  
Admittance £2

Do you want to dance?  
Friendly club seeking new members  
Further information 01235 531701

## YOUR LETTERS

Dear Editor

The Poppy Appeal annual collection in the High Street for 2017 raised £225.42.

Thanks to all the residents who so generously donated.

*Shirley Thomas and Brenda Malin*

Dear Editor,

Sylvia Bond and I would like to say a big thankyou to all the volunteer cooks and drivers who give unstinting support throughout the year to the Friday Luncheon Club.

A special thankyou also to Pervin (Shahin), who brought along and played her beautiful golden harp, making a lovely round off to our excellent Christmas Party day

Yours sincerely

*Beryl Dawson*

Dear Editor

A lot of people came to Bernie's funeral and sent cards of condolence. I really appreciate their thoughts and I am sorry if I haven't been able to thank everyone personally. Bernie was born and died in Drayton, and was still working at the age of 85. He will be missed by many in the village.

Yours sincerely

*Jackie Thomas*

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# ST PETER'S CHURCH

## part of the DAMASCUS parish

<b>Rector</b>	Rev'd Helen Kendrick.....848297
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Rev'd Meg Heywood.....537100
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Rev'd Rosie Bruce .....07707 087131
<b>Pro-warden</b>	Mrs Linda Johnson .....527521
<b>Pro-warden</b>	Mrs Val Cross .....535183

### 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

Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	<i>Bell Tower</i>
Wed.	10.00 am	Pebbles (term time only)	<i>Church Room</i>
Friday	6.30 pm	Choir Practice (1st Friday)	<i>Church Room</i>

### CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY:

Tues	6	2.30 pm	First Tuesday Connections	<i>Church Room</i>
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### CHURCH REGISTER:

#### Funerals:

16th	November	Bernard William Webb
29th	November	Bernard Charles Thomas
5th	January	Moyra Anne Oram

### YOU STAY WE PRAY FEBRUARY:

1st to 10th: Abingdon Road, Oday Hill, Binning Close, Haywards Road; 11th to 17th: Sutton Wick Lane, Greenacres, Newman Lane, Conifer Drive; 18th to 28th: Hilliat Fields, Lyford Close, Manor Close, The Green.



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### LETTER FROM ST. PETER'S

The church community at St Peter's is pleased to welcome Meg Heywood and her family to Drayton. Meg was licensed as associate priest on the 12th December 2017 and took up her post on the 7th January this year.

Similarly, Philip Sutton will be licensed as associate priest for Steventon on the 19th January.

The parishes of Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon have now been formed into one parish known as DAMASCUS. The rector of the DAMASCUS parish is Helen Kendrick and Meg and Philip, as associate priests, will be working with Helen across the parish.

Meg and her family are living in the vicarage in Drayton and have been made to feel very welcome and are thankful for the kindness already shown them and are looking forward to getting to know the village better

*Val Cross - Pro warden*



### 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 **06 February** and **06 March**. If you need transport or further information, please give me a call on 531558.



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# BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICE

6.00 pm Traditional form of service.  
frequently with a guest speaker  
Communion every 2nd Sunday

## BAPTIST CAFÉ

tea, coffee and cake  
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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

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## VILLAGE HALL

Tony Holmes

We have a new class, started in January, Diddidance, for parents and toddlers, seems to be getting a good attendance, Fridays at 11am.



Olga's Yoga sessions (Tuesdays, 6.30pm) are also picking up, and for those able to attend in the mornings, don't forget Helen's Yoga (Mondays, 11am), and Pilates by Alex (Tuesdays, 9.30am).

For those needing a more energetic workout, after any Christmas excesses, maybe try BounceFit (Mondays at 6pm), or Clubbercise (Tuesday at 8pm).

There's a further GARD Seminar, Feb 28th (so a Weds evening at 8pm), when Dr Stork will be giving an update on what Thames Water are up to. (Small Hall, open meeting).

We've had the usual burst of New Year bookings activity, people looking for dates for our popular weekend slots for child's birthday parties; we've had a couple of disappointments, dates already taken, so don't leave it too late!

One rather more serious note, we had a further incident of trespassing on the Hall roof, a little before Christmas. Parents should please warn any 'likely suspects' (these were teenage boys, at the younger end of that age range), that the roof is quite old, not as solid as they might think, and it's a long way down. Police do get called, when we know about such incursions, and we will seek compensation for any damages if we discover the culprits.

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**ATOM**

**Festival of Science and Technology –  
Volunteers wanted**

Would you like to volunteer to help with the ATOM 2018 Festival which takes place in Abingdon in March?

The aim of the Festival is to promote science and technology to the general public with specific programmes aimed at schools and families. There will be talks by many eminent scientists, exhibitions, workshops and hands-on interactive activities including the Science Fair in the Market Square on Saturday 10th. The volunteers would help at various events and venues for an hour or so at a time. They would sell tickets; act as ushers, as guides and car park attendants.

Volunteers will have free access to at least one event of their choice in the festival.

**The Festival begins on Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>, and continues from Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> inclusive.**

If you are interested in becoming an ATOM Volunteer please sign up via our website address [www.atomfestival.org.uk](http://www.atomfestival.org.uk) where you can input dates, times and preferred tasks.

## ALL AROUND

### SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

**Brian Stimpson**

#### A short history - and what it is all about:

The Drayton Sequence Dance Club was formed in 1987 by six founder members. They were Richard and Joyce Cheney, Fred and Mavis Hays and Charles and Pearl Botley. They held their club nights at Drayton School. In 1990 the club moved to the Village Hall where at the first AGM, membership subs were set at £1 a head. The membership was set at seventy people with a waiting list so that names could be registered then in the event of people leaving the club, new people could be invited to join.

The current main players running the club are Brian and Sylvia Stimpson who joined in 1990 just about the same time that the club moved to the Village Hall. At that time, Richard Cheney played the music for dancing and of course in those days it was all vinyl records. A few years later, Richard became unwell and showed Brian how to organise the music and asked him to take over the task of playing the records. These days, of course, it is all compact discs and computers, but Brian remembers the difficulty in the early days of placing the needle in the right place so that the music played at the start of the track and didn't play the end of the music for the previous dance.

Brian has the current title of Chairman of the club and his wife Sylvia together with Cyril Ball arrange the social events. Dennis Sumner is Treasurer and sometimes helps Brian with the music. These form the nucleus of the club's organisers, but they are ably assisted by other members that pitch in to help as necessary.

Like most clubs, they could really do with some more members, the current membership level is about half that of the original membership.

For those that haven't come across sequence dancing before, it involves dance steps as in normal ballroom dancing but danced in a sequence so all the couples dance round the room all doing the same steps at the same time. Forget strictly, Drayton Sequence Club is all about social dancing. Even if people have no experience of dancing and don't know any sequence dances, don't worry, more experienced dancers can show you how to do it. And don't worry about going wrong, that is all part of the fun, in fact, the club has become a social club as much as a dance club.

Sequence dancing is a good way to exercise (ask your GP) and it keeps your mind alert so why not come along and see what it is all about, you will be made most welcome and there will no fee for an initial visit. Dances are held in Drayton Hall most Thursdays, 7.30 pm - 10.00 pm with an occasional Saturday evening dance.

**Call Brian on 01235 531701 for more information**



*Key members of the club - Dennis Sumner, Brian and Sylvia Stimpson*

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### BOWLS CLUB

### Roll up

Finals day was another great success; something like 40 members attended and the full list of winners from the years bowling is as follows. 'Friendly Fours' inter-club competition winners were Drayton's Josie Carter, Pat Hoyland, Pat Mitchenson and Bryn Jones. 'Rose Bowl Triple' league; Iris Torrens, Tony Mullins and Bryn Jones. 'John Berry Fours' league (played as a triple); Pam Lacey, Frank Turley and Bryn Jones. 'Henry Bunce Handicap Pairs'; Chris Smith and Bryn Jones. 'Wally Weightman Triple'; Josie Carter, June Hyde and Ian Norris. 'Don Alexander' two-wood Triple; Tony Wight, Pat Hoyland and Pam Lacey. 'Beryl James Triple'; Libby Weston, Lyndon Locke and Bryn Jones. 'The Attwood cup' bowls drive; Pat Mitchenson. 'Doreen Jones' never-won singles; Cyril Carter. 'Gents singles'; Barry Davis. 'Ladies singles'; Val Locke. 'Didcot Windows' open-singles; Bryn Jones.

At the halfway stage in the afternoon league The Wasps are in second place and will need a strong finish to retain the title they have won for the last few years, The Hammers had a few setbacks in the last few games and have slipped to mid table.

We welcome the latest new members to the club and would have to say we are very close to being full, as we are restricted for space to put 4 mats out to accommodate the extra people. We hope we won't have to turn people away but are monitoring things closely.

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## TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Gould

A belated happy New Year to everyone reading this tome! Hopefully 2018 will be a great one for all of us. In the world of ping pong the ball is bouncing; Drayton Club is also flourishing as we continue to be the largest club in the area. Like a lot of sports clubs, for us making ends meet is paramount to our continued existence and with this in mind it will soon be time for our Annual Fun Quiz. This will take place at Drayton School on Friday 23rd February with a 7.30 pm start. Teams of up to 6 at a cost of £20 per team. So, if you'd like a night out then ring Abingdon 531328 for an entry from. Spaces will be limited as the event is always well supported with the emphasis on 'fun' and not too many difficult questions.

Club Coach Janet has recently upped her qualification to UK level 2 and this extra knowledge will no doubt see our players improve. Coaching takes place at the school every Monday from 7 pm and is always very well attended by those keen to get better.

The league is now into the second half of this restructured season, so our teams now know whether they are in a battle either for promotion or to avoid relegation. This transitional season will ultimately ensure that next season things will be a lot easier for most of us – we hope! The Handicap Shield has started so that will give our teams a new focus and hopefully success. My report on progress will be in the next issue.



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Mobile: 07785 232862

## COMMUNITY CHOIR

Jules Laws

Drayton Community Choir relaunched this January! We are a small, friendly and informal group which meets at Drayton School on Thursdays at 7.30pm. We would be delighted to welcome new members. No auditions or solos necessary, unless you would really like to! You do not need to be able to read music and experience of singing not necessary. It's just for fun and very informal.



Drayton Community Choir

You do not need to live in Drayton, we welcome everyone!

We are also looking for an accompanist/pianist; you don't need to be available every week.

If you have any questions, please contact me on 07764 484185; I look forward to seeing you!

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# MORE ALL AROUND

## DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

Our recent production of Alan Ayckbourn's comedy "Absurd Person Singular" was received extremely well by appreciative audiences, and everyone who came along to support us enjoyed a good evening's entertainment.

We hope that some of you had your appetites whetted enough to join the group, either on stage or behind the scenes. We are still very short of help in all areas, and do encourage you to contact our chairman Mike Davies by email to [info@DraytonPlayers.org.uk](mailto:info@DraytonPlayers.org.uk) or phone 01235 821351 for more detail. Do come along and join us.

If you enjoyed our amateur play, and would like to see others nearby, you should visit [www.OxfordshireDramaNetwork.org](http://www.OxfordshireDramaNetwork.org) occasionally, where you can find out what other amateur groups are performing around Oxfordshire.

**Editor's Note:** Drayton Players are one of the many reasons we so much like living in Drayton. They have a great talent for producing comedies with ridiculous plots which are nevertheless hilarious to watch and often uncannily thought-provoking as well.

'Absurd Person Singular', like 'Busy Body' last year, was another great success in this long line of wonderful village entertainment. If you're new to Drayton, make sure you see their next production or, better still, join them in producing it.

## DRAYTON WIVES

Rosemary Barlow

Our November meeting really did sparkle and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Adrian and Jane Jefferies came along with their vast jewellery collection which included antique, art deco and more modern pieces. They are experts in their field and gave a talk on the history of jewellery through the ages. Some members had asked for personal items to be valued and very useful were the tips for caring and cleaning our gems. Thanks were given to them and we hope that it will be possible to book them again in the future.

Unfortunately, our Christmas Party due to take place on December 11th had to be cancelled due to atrocious weather conditions which was deemed by the committee to be too dangerous to drive or walk. This was very disappointing for all members as it is always a happy occasion and many Christmas cards are usually exchanged.

On Wednesday 31st January there will be a talk given by Christine Wootton on the Abingdon - Radley Railway at 2.00pm in the Village Hall

Wednesday 28th February will be our Birthday Lunch Day at the Coseners House Abingdon; 12.30pm for 1.00pm.

Visitors are always welcome to attend our meetings.

**Editor's Note:** I'm sorry the Wives missed their Christmas Party, but the bad weather did provide this issue of the Chronicle with lots of snow pictures.

As 'they' say; 'it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good'.

## 1ST DRAYTON BROWNIES

Annette Mitchell

Happy New Year to you all! We would like to welcome Hollie to our pack and hope she enjoys her time with us.

Before Christmas we celebrated our 60th Birthday at Caudwell Day Centre with an afternoon tea. Many past Brownies and leaders joined us and we had a lovely time looking at old photos. We were especially pleased that Mavis James joined us with her daughter from Worcestershire. Mavis was at the first meeting on 24th October 1957 and became Brown Owl soon after when she was 21. Her daughters were enrolled as Brownies with her pack in 1968 and Mavis continued to be involved with Drayton Brownies until she moved in 1984!



Photographs taken at the Brownies 60th birthday celebration. Thank you to everyone who came along and made the afternoon so special and well done to all our current Brownies for their excellent hostess skills and entertaining.



This term we are concentrating on Brownie Traditions Badge. We started the term with celebrating Burns Night with haggis tasting and learning about Robert Burns and the Loch Ness Monster.

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

"Join Us!" at [www.girlguiding.org.uk/get\\_involved](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get_involved) or you can email us on [drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk](mailto:drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk)

Further details are available from:

Ruth Hudson (Brown Owl) on 01235 205111

Esther Deabill (Tawny Owl) on 01235 528502

Annette Mitchell (Barn Owl) on 01235 555216

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## FODSA NEWS

**Maria Grundy**

### Christmas Fundraising:

We are absolutely amazed at the amount raised during our Christmas fundraising activities this year, with a grand total of £2092! Our crazy Christmas Hour took place on 15th December and raised £796. The children had a brilliant time winning prizes on many Christmas-themed games including 'Lucky Crackers' where the children needed to pull a cracker to find a prize inside and 'Rudolph's Coin Drop' where they needed to drop a 2p coin onto Rudolph's nose hidden under a tub of water.



We were also very excited that Father Christmas took time out of his busy schedule to visit us too, with his (strangely tall) elf. The children were able to settle in to his magical grotto and listen to a wonderful Christmas story about Mrs Claus. A huge thank you to everyone who came along and to those who helped run the event.

The Christmas Disco was a new event for us this year. It was held on the last day of term at Drayton Village Hall and raised £651.29. Families from the school had a blast wearing glow sticks, eating pizza and dancing into the night to Christmas songs. Everyone had such a fantastic time and we have had many requests for another Christmas disco next year too!

Our Christmas raffle was drawn at the Christmas Disco and raised a further £468. We had some amazing prizes this year including a Fit Bit, Kindle Fire tablet and £100 Argos Voucher amongst luxury hampers, days out tickets and beauty vouchers. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets. Congratulations if you won a prize!

Finally thank you to all the parents who purchased Christmas cards and mugs featuring their child's beautiful art work. We hope your friends and family enjoyed receiving these special gifts.

### FODSA 100+ Club:

Our 100+ club is now going strong and we only have a few numbers left. The lucky winners for the last few months were:

September: E Wilton and S Walters  
October: L Coulson and N Broome  
November: S Orlando and K Mansfield  
December: K Mansfield and A Gurl

This month's draw will take place on Wednesday 31st January. Good luck!

### 2017/2018 Purchases:

So far in 2017/2018 FODSA have contributed:  
£900 for a Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime to visit the school  
£300 for security lights  
£232 on books  
£775 towards a whole school trip to see Awful Auntie at Oxford New Theatre  
£100 for each class to spend on resources of their choosing ➔

➔ This works out at £16 per child so far and we are looking forward to putting the Christmas money raised to good use in the spring and summer terms.

For extra information about FODSA please contact Maria by emailing [fodsasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:fodsasecretary@gmail.com) or check out our Facebook page: FODSA (Friends of Drayton School Association) Abingdon

### Do you need help with your French?

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

**Please contact Cathy on 07554442772**

## MILLENNIUM GREEN

**Jane Mcwhirter**

Welcome to 2018, I have set up a Facebook page under "Drayton Millennium Green"; we already have over 60 followers which is great. We will keep it up to date with planned clear-up mornings, who is due to litter pick and upcoming events etc.

Litter pickers for February are Jo Selby for the first half of the month and Oona Raines for the second. Many thanks to all the volunteers.

Our next clear up morning is planned for Sunday 25th February between 11 and 1pm, do come and help, pick a job to suit your abilities, even if it's just making the tea, any help really welcomed! We do rely on village support as we are a self-funding charity, so with so many people using the space on a regular basis, come on give us a hand!

Keith Clough has decided to leave our committee after nearly 3 years of fabulous help. He will be missed, along with his many contributions of time and expertise we have benefitted from. Thank you, Keith, from us all.

If you are interested in joining our committee and helping on a more regular basis, please email me at [chair.draytonmillenniumgreen@gmail.com](mailto:chair.draytonmillenniumgreen@gmail.com)



A lone walker on the Millenium Green in the recent snow - not a good day for using the sundial – photo courtesy of Chris Lowther.

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# SNOW, SANTA & PANTO

## SNOW PICTURES IN THIS CHRONICLE:

Two-year-old Oliver treads gingerly.  
Photo from Rachel Strawley.

Lily-Mai and Connor love their snowman  
Photo from Jade Selby

Horses just putting up with it,  
near the Millennium Green.  
Photo from Carol Carter



Jordan and Josh build a 'Strong' snowman  
Photo from Sharon McKenna Strong

Police dog Dax obviously enjoys snow  
Photo from Ben Pooley

James and Joshua also loving their first experience of snow  
Photo from Nicola Murdoch

Many thanks to Steve Clarke for his pictures of St Peter's, the graveyard, the ducks and the duck house on Sutton Wick Pond. You can see more of his on the gallery in the village web-site.



## SANTA AT WORK IN DRAYTON Colin Arnold

Throughout the month of December Santa and his Elf (photo on page 9) were busy touring the villages of Steventon and Drayton, they met and spoke to lots of excited children (and adults) on their travels they were raising money for local charities.



They collected almost £750, which is being shared between several deserving causes. Santa has generously given £141.90 to the Drayton Friday Club, to be used by them to continue to provide their monthly lunches.

As a final fund-raising activity Santa is having a "Beard Off" event on Sunday 28th January at The North Star in Steventon, from 4 to 5:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and there will be a raffle and amongst the prizes will be the chance to make the "first cut" of the beard removal.

The Friday Club has been running for about 20 years, they meet on the 3rd Friday of each month from 11am till 3pm. They have volunteer cooks and drivers who provide a 2-course lunch and an enjoyable atmosphere for all those who attend. For further details regarding the Friday Club please contact Mrs S Bond on 01235 531923.

## WAITING FOR THE PANTO Laura Billington



Henry Billington, Charlie Hunt and Sam Billington seem happy enough to wait for Puss in Boots to start at Drayton Village Hall. Grandmothers Janet and Sue are watching!



Cheese and Pickle Quiche:



Ingredients:

- 350g short-crust pastry
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- plain flour, for dusting
- 4 medium eggs
- 150ml whole milk

200g Branston pickle (small chunks)

250g mature Cheddar cheese, grated

Preparation time - 25 minutes plus chilling time

Cooking time - 1 hour 10 minutes

Method

1. Take the block of short-crust pastry, flatten it out slightly and sprinkle all over with the paprika. Fold the edges in over the top, then knead the pastry until all the paprika is incorporated. If the pastry starts to stick to the worktop, dust with flour.
2. Wrap the pastry in cling film and place in the fridge for 15 minutes. Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4 and put a baking tray in to heat up.
3. Dust the work surface with flour and roll out the pastry to the thickness of a pound coin and large enough to cover the base and sides of a 23cm diameter, 3–4cm deep, loose-bottomed flan tin.
4. Line the inside of the tin with the rolled-out pastry. Press it into the edges, right into the grooves, leaving some overhang. Pierce the base all over with a fork. This stops it puffing up while baking.
5. Cover the base and sides with a large piece of baking paper and fill with baking beans to weigh the pastry down. Take the hot baking tray out of the oven and place the prepared tart tin on it.
6. Bake for 25 minutes, then take out of the oven, remove the paper and baking beans, and bake for another 15 minutes.
7. Meanwhile, put your eggs into a jug and lightly whisk. Add the milk and stir.
8. Once the tart shell is out of the oven, spread the pickle all over the base and cover evenly with the grated cheese.
9. Pour in the milky egg mixture and place the whole tray back in the oven, on the middle shelf, for 25–30 minutes, until the filling is set and golden with just a very slight wobble in the middle.
10. Once the tart is cool enough to handle, slice off the pastry overhang using a sharp serrated knife. Leave to cool in the tin for 30 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

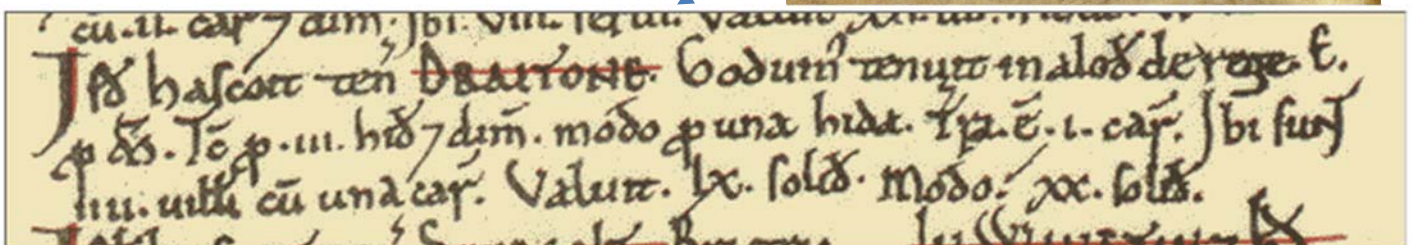
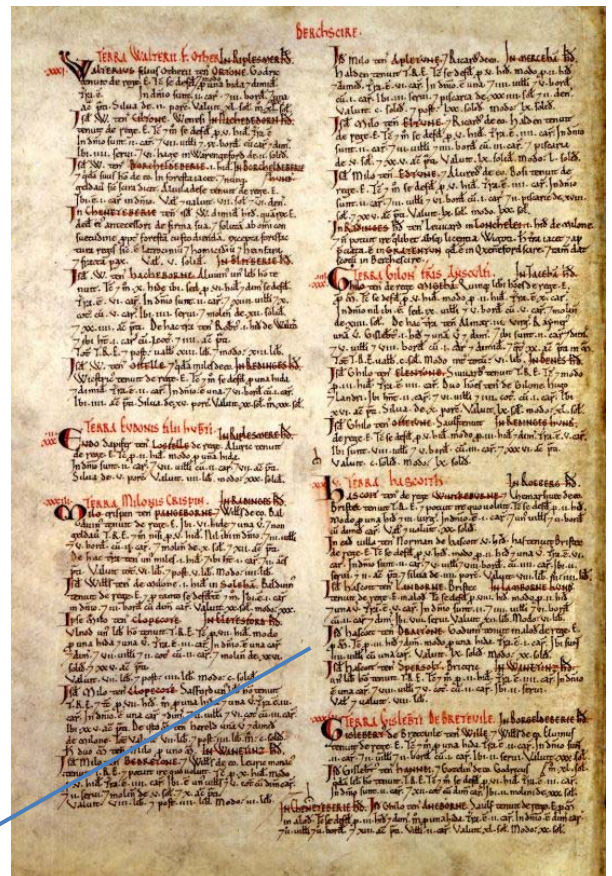
Tip: This tart is best served lukewarm or cold and is great for picnics, lunchboxes or food on the go. It can also be frozen for up to a month – defrost it in the fridge before eating.

In 1085 William the Conqueror commissioned a survey of his possessions in England and Wales in order to ascertain how much they might produce in tax revenues. Within a year, reports on 13,415 places had been compiled and hand-written in Medieval Latin to produce what we call the Domesday Book.

Drayton gets just three lines (reproduced below) but a lot of information can be gleaned from them. It shows that before the Norman Conquest it was one of many parcels of land owned by Godwin, Earl of Wessex and father of King Harold. After the Conquest William assigned the freehold to Hascoit Musard, a Breton who was part of his army of invasion.

The Domesday Book records that at the time of the invasion Drayton consisted of 3½ hides, reducing to one hide in 1086. A hide is roughly 120 acres, enough to support one household. There was land for one plough (taxable land that can be ploughed by a team of eight oxen) and there were four villeins, unfree peasants who worked for their lord but who also farmed some land for their own benefit. During the 20 years following the Conquest Drayton's value had fallen from £3 to £1.

King Harold had succeeded Edward the Confessor in January 1066 but his reign was brief. His crown was also claimed by both Harald Hardrada, King of Norway and Duke William II of Normandy (soon to become the Conqueror). On 25 September King Harold beat Harald at the Battle of Stamford Bridge then had to rush 241 miles south in order to intercept William, who had landed 7000 men at Pevensey Bay. At the Battle of Hastings on 14 October, Harold was killed by an arrow in the eye, at least according to the Bayeux Tapestry soon to come to Britain. The rest is our history.





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### A NEW PRE-SCHOOL?

### Janet Manning

Although it has always been a happy place the Pre-School is housed in a temporary building that was designed for something else, and is wearing out. Staff, parents and trustees have sometimes struggled to provide the facilities that the children need and it is no longer adequate for Drayton's growing population. But that problem may also be the solution; as a result of the Neighbourhood Development Plan the developers behind our new housing are contributing £88,000 towards a new one.



The good news is that we already have detailed plans and planning permission for a permanent, purpose-built replacement. As well as being bigger it will comply with the latest OFSTED recommendations and provide a bright, attractive environment in which children will begin their first learning experience. It will be built on the current site so that links with the Primary School will be maintained.

Less good news is that we still need to raise a lot more money to pay for it. However, the Earl of Plymouth Estates, former owner of Manor Farm, are making a charitable donation of £50,000 towards the cost, for which we are very grateful. We are also applying to various grant-awarding bodies and exploring other opportunities for raising the necessary funds. If all goes well, we will have a new Pre-School by the end of 2019.



### COMING EARTH TRUST EVENTS Lucy Benyon

#### Mud Pie Monday!

Monday 12th February, 10am-11.30am

Come and get messy in the mud kitchen - buckets of mud and buckets of fun! Wellies and waterproofs advisable. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

#### Winter Activity Trail

Tuesday 13th February, 10am-4pm

Pick up your map and explorer backpack from the Earth Trust Centre and head out for a self-led adventure in the woods! Can you complete all the winter-themed activities along the trail? Bookable slots to collect your map/backpack, last slot 3pm. £4 per child (plus refundable deposit required for backpacks); booking essential: book online (incurs a fee) or call 01865 407792 during office hours.

#### Wildlife Wednesday at Mowbray Fields

Wednesday 14th February, 10am-12pm

Our roving Wildlife Wednesday visits a different Earth Trust community nature reserve during each school holiday; this half term, come out and play at Mowbray Fields in Didcot (OX11 8SU). Explore the reserve and learn about local wildlife. £2 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

#### Build a Bird Feeder

Thursday 15th February, 10am-11.30am and 1pm-2.30pm

Make three different bird feeders to take home for your garden. £5 per family; booking essential: book online (incurs a fee) or call 01865 407792 during office hours.

#### Discover and Play

Friday 16th February, 10am-12pm

Forest School fun for the under-5s; join us for a morning of play and discovery in our woodlands. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free. No need to book.

#### River of Life Walk

Thursday 22nd February, 1pm-3.30pm

Come and see how the River of Life wetland has progressed, four years after it was created. £8; booking essential: book online (incurs a fee) or call 01865 407792 during office hours.

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## GARD

Derek Stork

### Thames Water announcement expected 'soon':

We were expecting that Thames Water would by now have released its draft Water Resources Management Plan for 2019-2024 (dWRMP19, as it is known for short) for public consultation. However, on Friday 5th January, we were informed by Thames Water that the release would be delayed until 'end of January' (which is unfortunately after the deadline for this newsletter).

The reason given is that the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) have not yet cleared the draft reports to go out for consultation. By the Government's rules, DEFRA have to check the draft reports for 'National Security' and 'Commercially confidential' issues before release to the public for comment. This has taken longer than usual, probably because DEFRA are very heavily involved in BREXIT issues – we do not suspect anything underhand in this delay. Anyway, we await the issue of the draft so that we can comment.

Once the dWRMP19 is released, the public (and the regulator bodies such as the Environment Agency and OFWAT) have 12 weeks to submit comments. Thames Water then have a further period to respond to all the comments, and release a revised draft for the Government to approve. We are likely to reach the revised draft stage in the Autumn.

### GARD's work during the consultation:

*The next few months are extremely important for the opposition to Thames Water's reservoir plans, so we urge everyone to look and comment on these (we will be giving information about how to do this). We are not sure exactly where the reservoir fits in Thames Water's plans, but we are sure from their briefings that they have not abandoned the idea – and, however it is mentioned, whether to be built in the next 5 years or the next 15, strong opposition at this stage is essential to get the idea ditched, or kicked so far down the road that it will essentially die as an option.*

GARD will:

- look through the proposals in detail, using our expert consultant's help;
- press for more action on Leakage and Water Efficiency (we already know from briefings that Thames Water's proposals on these will be completely inadequate);
- work with CPRE to expose the faulty logic in Thames Water's predictions of the water shortage in the South East (this depends heavily on dubious population growth predictions);
- brief local Parish Councils and the Vale of the White Horse DC on our findings, and press them to put in opposing criticism on the reservoir plans;
- keep everyone informed through our website and Facebook pages, and, if the situation is urgent, lobby the local MPs;
- continue to lobby the Environment Agency and OFWAT about the fact that the reservoir will not be resilient against long droughts and is not environmentally the best solution;
- submit our final report to the consultation at the end of April.

GARD intends to call public meetings in the villages at the end of February/beginning of March, to inform residents on the plans – please keep an eye out for information on these.

### Joining GARD:

Once again, thanks to all those who have recently joined GARD, and to existing members who have sent donations into our fighting fund. Our numbers continue to grow, but we still need your support.

You can contact me ([gard.chair@gmail.com](mailto:gard.chair@gmail.com)) or our secretary, Deborah Bennett (email [gard.secretary@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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# NAG5 SAFETY CORNER

Bridget Haffenden

## Reporting suspicious behaviour

If you see anyone acting suspiciously please report it to the police by calling 101 or by e-mailing the Neighbourhood Policing Team (address below). This will ensure that the information is picked up and actioned as necessary. The police request that contact is made by the person directly concerned, rather than a friend or neighbour. You should call 999 in the case of an emergency.

[AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) is the email address of our neighbourhood policing team.



## Modern slavery

We all think it wouldn't happen in our village but, shockingly, three modern slavery crimes are recorded every week in the Thames Valley and many more go unreported. Victims of modern slavery can be any age, gender, nationality or ethnicity. They are tricked or threatened into work, and may feel unable to leave due to fear of intimidation. Email [www.thamesvalley.police.uk/hiddenharm](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/hiddenharm) to access protection and support. The police rely on information from members of the public. If you suspect it, report it!

Would you recognise the signs? How do they look? Scruffy, dirty, malnourished, injured? How are they acting? Anxious, afraid, reluctant to talk? What's their work situation like? Long hours, unsuitable clothing, wrong equipment? How's their accommodation? Overcrowded, poorly maintained, curtains always closed? What are their movements like? Never leave the house alone, limited contact with friends and family, no access to money or identification?

## Save your life with a message in a Bottle:

When the Emergency Services are called to the home of someone who has collapsed or been involved in an incident, they are faced with many questions. Who is this person? What medication are they taking? Are they allergic to anything? Who are their next of kin or carers? Are there any pets in the house who will need care if this patient has to be taken into hospital? The small plastic 'bottle' container contains a yellow form on which the owner has provided vital information - medical conditions, regular medications, allergies, doctor's details etc. This information could obviously prove critical in deciding any appropriate treatment or other necessary action. The bottle is placed inside the fridge on the door shelf just above where the milk is kept and a green sticker is placed on the outside door of the fridge. A second sticker is placed on the inside of the main entrance door.

The Message in a Bottle scheme is very strongly supported by our



local Emergency Services who are impressed by the simplicity of the system. It is also now a national scheme – run throughout the country by Lions and some other organisations all with the same aim – ensuring that their community is being helped to the maximum. There are now over 100,000 of these little bottles in the fridges of Oxfordshire alone.

## And with a message in a Wallet:

This was Introduced in 2017 and folds, concertina style, to the size of a credit card and should be kept in a wallet or purse. Ideally you need a bottle and a wallet so that the information's available if you have either an incident or accident at home or while you're away from home.

NAG5 has stocks of these two items, which are available free of charge. Please order yours by calling 07762 597118 or by emailing [neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com). Please ensure you provide your name, a contact telephone number or email address and also tell us which village you live in.

To contact the police call either 101 (for non-emergencies) or 999 (for emergencies). Contact NAG5 by calling 01235 848694 or e-mail [neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com)



## TVP JUDGED OUTSTANDING!

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has rated Thames Valley Police "Outstanding" in its latest inspection. As part of its annual inspections of police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy (PEEL), HMICFRS assesses the efficiency and leadership of all forces in England and Wales. The Inspectors concluded that:

"Thames Valley Police is judged to be outstanding in the efficiency with which it keeps people safe and reduces crime. Our overall judgment this year is an improvement on last year when the force was judged to be good for efficiency overall. The force is judged to be outstanding in its understanding of demand; its use of resources to manage demand is also assessed to be outstanding; and its planning for future demand is judged to be good."

## GET INVOLVED IN POLICING Holly Turner

We're starting 2018 by asking more members of the public to get active and involved in policing matters affecting our communities in Thames Valley.

We want you to have your say about what matters most to you - working with us to identify priorities and solve local issues.

Anyone can contribute to local policing, regardless of age or background.

You don't have to have a lot of time to spare or commit to travelling long distances – we've got a role to suit everyone. You can even get involved from the comfort of your own home.

Below are just a few ways you can get active in your community:

- **Community Forums:** Open to all members of the public, Community Forums are held both online and in person at times to suit everyone. They let you have a say on what matters most to you, enabling us to work together to solve issues in your area.
- **Independent Advisory Groups:** Independently chaired by members of the community, IAGs meet four times a year and help shape the way we work and the service we deliver. IAG members represent their communities, sharing their views on policing issues affecting local people and challenging them when necessary.
- **Cadet Leaders:** Our Cadet Leaders help inspire and support our young Police Cadets, developing their skills and confidence. They assist with weekly meetings as well as supporting activities and events in the local community. Cadet Leaders need to be over 18 and able to commit to one evening a week with some additional hours when required.
- **Fraud and Cyber Crime Prevention Volunteers:** Work closely alongside officers and staff to help raise awareness and understanding of fraud and cyber related crime, arranging and attending events as well as offering advice and guidance to both members of the public and businesses.

For more information about all the ways you can get involved visit <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/news/campaigns/active-communities-campaign/> or follow our #ActiveCommunities campaign on social media.

## AVOIDING INTERNET SCAMS

Using the internet for shopping, banking, booking etc. has become increasingly common and is already almost essential if the services now on offer are to be fully accessed. Yet almost daily we read in the newspapers of someone whose money or even their identity has been stolen, usually caused by responding to a phishing email or because they clicked on a hyperlink contained in something which seems to have come from a utility or a bank or from a friend. Always be suspicious and careful is the best advice but it's easy to make a momentary mistake and find oneself in trouble.



The Global Cyber Alliance has come up with a new tool, called 'Quad 9', to help users avoid accessing malicious sites. It was developed with the support of the City of London and New York Police departments and is recommended by many British police forces including the Thames Valley Police – and it's free. However, Quad9 is not the only tool which can help. The best of today's internet browsers, such as Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge and Mozilla Firefox, already provide significant security provided they are up-dated regularly. The jury is out whether Quad9 will help ordinary users very much.

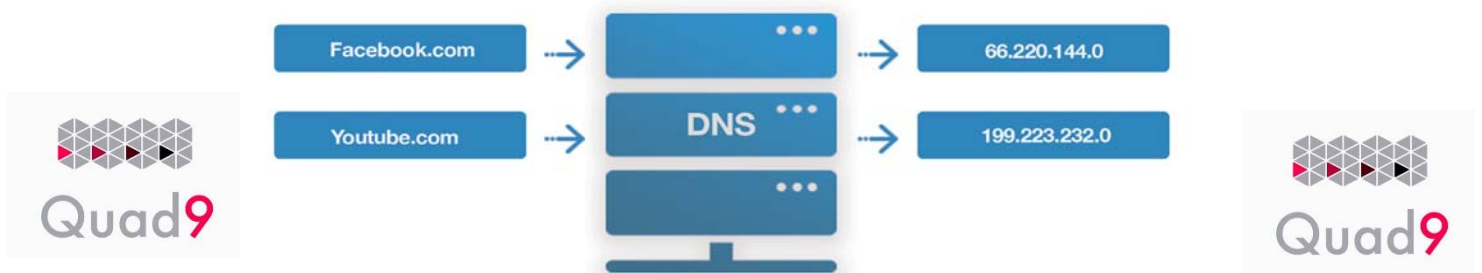
Derek Pooley

## Better internet security in two minutes

Domain Name System What you need to know

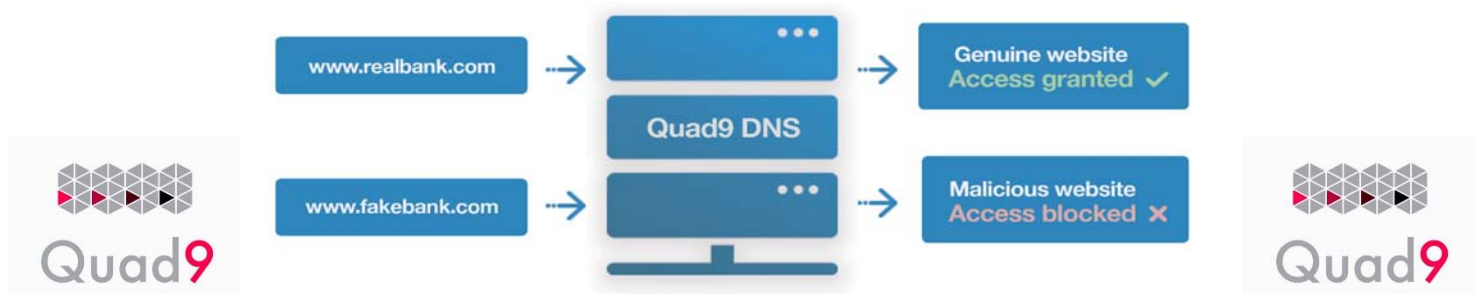
### DNS - What is it?

Domain Name Systems (DNS) are like public phone books for the web. They're the reason you only need to remember a website's name and not its IP address (think of these as phone numbers for computers). When you type "www.youtube.com" into a browser, a DNS service translates that into the associated IP address (199.223.232.0) for you.



### Quad 9 - A free DNS service

Imagine a phone book that automatically filters and removes phone numbers known to be used for fraud. That's what Quad9 does for websites. Quad9 provides an automated way to protect yourself and your business by blocking access to known malicious websites, like phishing sites designed to steal personal or banking details.



\* Quad9 checks the website to determine if it's malicious.

Quad9 does not collect any personally-identifiable information about you and your IP address is not stored.



Visit [Quad9.net](http://Quad9.net) for a step by step guide on how to improve your online security in two minutes.

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### RAISING THE BAR IN RECYCLING Rachel Burns

Do you know that each household in Oxfordshire produces one tonne of waste each year? We are amongst the best in the country at recycling and composting for a few years now at about 60% but recycling rates have started to drop in Oxfordshire.

We want to do better at recycling and the new joint countywide waste strategy is critical to this. We know that on average over half of the items put in the general waste bin could have been recycled by placing them in the other bins available.

Residents are being given the chance to talk rubbish and recycling and tell Oxfordshire's county, city and district councils how they can help them recycle more and create less waste.

Your chance to  
talk rubbish  
and recycling...



Through this consultation residents are being asked what would help them to reduce their overall waste consumption and recycle more. This includes expanding the range of materials that can be recycled at the kerbside and tips and advice on left-over food, upcycling clothing or donating or buying second hand goods. The councils are also seeking views on more radical schemes that have been implemented elsewhere in the country, such as changing bin sizes and collection frequency.

Do you want to help us recycle and reduce waste? Take part in the online survey at [www.recycleforoxfordshire.org.uk](http://www.recycleforoxfordshire.org.uk). The survey runs for six weeks until 18 February.

We want to ensure that as many residents as possible know about the changes. If your parish council uses social media we would also be grateful if you could like and share our social media posts, and post the following information and graphic attached:

If you have any questions, please let me know at:

Waste Management Group: 01865 816043

Mobile: 07789 877310

### BINZONE

Waste collection information is now just a screen tap away in the Vale of White Horse. The district council has launched a brand-new smartphone app, which is available free of charge for iPhone and Android phones right now.



The app is called Binzone – by simply tapping their postcode in and selecting their address, residents can find out which bin is being emptied this week, and what day it's being emptied.

The app will also send users a notification if their waste collection day changes due to a bank holiday – very handy for keeping track of what day bins will be emptied over the Christmas period.

It will also let residents know if collections are disrupted by snow or icy conditions.

Binzone is available to download free of charge on the iPhone Appstore and the Google Play Store.



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# PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Richard Williams

## Report of the meetings held on 4th December 2017 and 8th January 2018.

### December 4th:

A parishioner put forward a case for making Church Lane and Henleys Lane a no-through road, with entry blocked at the Henleys Lane/Abingdon Road junction. It was explained that a number of different solutions have been suggested in the past to address the problems of these roads being used as a rat run between the High St and Abingdon Rd. Unfortunately, all of them have drawbacks of one sort or another, and the narrowness of Church Lane in particular would cause practical difficulties for delivery trucks, refuse vehicles etc. It does right now of course. It was agreed to set up a working party of councillors to investigate the options further. This to include a survey of the residents living in both roads to canvass their opinions.

The PC approved in principle its intention to approach the Public Works Loan Board for a loan to part finance the sports pavilion at Walnut Meadow. The application will not go ahead until there has been appropriate public consultation on the matter. The sports pitches and other areas of public open space at Walnut Meadow also have to be handed over to the Parish in acceptable condition, which they are most definitely not at the present time (see latest info below).

### January 8th:

Richard Webber, our County Councillor, reported that in the Conservative government's Autumn Statement last November, a sum of £212 million has been set aside specifically to fund infrastructure projects in Oxfordshire. This is in recognition of the fact that new house-building is placing increasing pressure on the existing road network. The plans for Didcot Garden Town should be advanced with the help of this money, and we could be looking at new roads and even the long-mooted new Thames crossing. Given the past history of these plans, readers are entitled to be sceptical about this announcement, and to wonder what strings might be attached to the deal. If nothing else though, it shows a recognition that something needs to be done before we face total traffic gridlock. The PC understands that local parishes have objected to the proposed huge new housing development in Culham, on the grounds that Culham Bridge could not cope with many more vehicles than at present. It is suggested that large-scale development in the area be blocked until 2021 at the earliest. Hopefully, the authorities will take note and common sense prevail.

A meeting was held with representatives of OCC, Thames Travel, and TVP at Walnut Meadow to discuss the possible placement of additional bus stops (north and south bound) close to the entrance into the site. This is considered feasible by the experts, but we wait for them to consult with the team looking at the traffic calming scheme for Drayton and report back. Other issues regarding the junction of Walnut Meadow continue to be a concern and a satisfactory lighting scheme has yet to be submitted by Millers. A meeting has been arranged with Millers management to discuss the many other problems on the site regarding work which has not been carried out or completed as promised. A meeting with the residents of the development is also planned, at which we hope both Vale and OCC councillors will be able to attend. This will probably take place in late Jan or early Feb.

Finally, I should note that there are still a couple of vacancies for councillors on the PC. Anyone interested is invited to attend the next meeting (see below) to see what goes on. ➔



➔ To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, David Perrow, in the first instance. David may be contacted via E-mail at [draytonclerk@gmail.com](mailto:draytonclerk@gmail.com) or by telephone on 07909 176061, and he will ensure that any messages are passed on. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the Clerk's E-mailing list, so that they receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents.

In addition, all Parish Council minutes are now archived on the village website: <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/> The website also carries back copies of the Drayton Chronicle, information on the latest activities of the Drayton 2020 Implementation Committee, and details of other events in the village.

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

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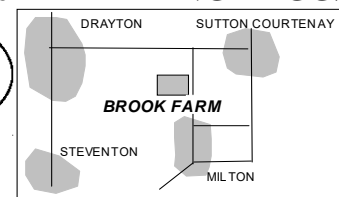
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## COUNTY COUNCIL

Richard Webber

Please forgive yet another article on planning and development. I will try to find something else to write about in future, but it may not be easy.

The impact of local development on Drayton's roads and its Neighbourhood Plan, the impact of development on the A417 through Marcham, Barrow Rd and the Marcham AQMA, the impact of development in Sutton Courtenay on Culham Bridge and an A34, itself already under extreme stress running

through the middle of it all - it sometimes seems as if this County Division, of which we are all part, is being singled out for very special treatment. The truth is, of course, that many parts of the South of England are under similar stress.

However, with our very low unemployment and our local economy thriving, Government is wanting, expecting and depending on us to grow. For almost the first time, the stresses - particularly on our road system - are now so obvious and so acute that Government is realizing that without more infrastructure, there are fewer and fewer sensible places to put the nation's much needed extra housing. Money has to be found and the calls for infrastructure before housing are becoming ever louder and more persuasive.

Hence, the "Growth Deal" - an initial "down payment" (Government term, not mine) of £215m over 5 years, to help us cope with all the housing our Councils are already committed to - may not be enough, but it's a start. Given that our housing is due to be delivered over the next 13 years, it appears that, if the deal is signed, there is the prospect of some infrastructure *before* houses. This is something we have been requesting for many years now.

On January 23rd, a planning appeal hearing will begin over 2 potential major developments in Sutton Courtenay. The OCC Highway officer's view is that the road network will not cope, at least not until a new bridge over the Thames has been built. This might happen in five years at the earliest. The planning appeal is due to last at least 8 days, we are told. We will know if the Growth deal is to be signed on February 1st. The timing of all this and the planning decision is going to be highly significant. The result, however it goes, will impact not just on Sutton Courtenay and the immediate villages around, but on the whole of Oxfordshire and almost certainly on planning in the whole of the South of England. I would urge all those with an interest in planning and housing to join me in watching the progress of that appeal very closely.

Contact me by email to [richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:richardwebber777@gmail.com)  
or by phone on 01235 534001



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# WESTMINSTER

Ed Vaizey

The main focus of the November budget was housing - a deeply controversial issue in our part of the world. Nevertheless, people do know that we need to build more houses; property ownership has fallen dramatically and houses have become unaffordable for many people. I am therefore encouraged that the Chancellor outlined the Government's ambition to increase housing supply to its highest level since 1970 by the end of this Parliament. This will put us on track to deliver 300,000 homes a year by the mid-2020s with £15.3 billion new financial support for house building over the next five years – taking the total to at least £44 billion.



On a local level, it was promising to see an additional £215 million set aside for Oxfordshire to build infrastructure, deliver new homes and increase economic productivity across the county. This is a welcome step in ensuring our local area is fit for the future.

I also welcome the announcement from Chris Grayling of the £47.9bn overhaul of the rail network in England and Wales, including restoring the Oxford to Cambridge rail link. This is part of the overall strategy suggested by the National Infrastructure Commission's report earlier this month on infrastructure growth across the Cambridge-Milton Keynes-Oxford Arc. I will be continuing to campaign in Parliament for a new station at Wantage & Grove whilst there is so much interest in rail infrastructure.

The Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has recently compiled a handy list of funding sources available for arts, heritage and cultural projects which may be useful for local organisations. There are many different avenues that organisations seeking support can pursue and I would recommend that anybody wishing to make an application first contacts the relevant local office. Full list can be found at: [goo.gl/QihSKD](http://goo.gl/QihSKD)

On a similar note it is fantastic to see that over the past three months the Big Lottery Fund has provided nearly £55,000 of funding to 6 projects in the constituency. Every week over £13 million is awarded across the UK to support community activity with the money raised from National Lottery players. The organisation works hard to ensure the money reaches the people and organisations who make a real difference and it's great that the benefits are being felt in our area.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any pressing issues that you would like help with. You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, [dicksonce@parliament.uk](mailto:dicksonce@parliament.uk) or 01235 768 888. Email is the best 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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# DRAYTON DIARY

## FOR FEBRUARY

### 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](http://www.draytonvh.co.uk)

Mon	5	7.30 pm	<b>Parish Council</b>	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Sat	10	12.30 am	<b>Chronicle Lottery deadline</b>	<i>Vickery's</i>
Mon	12	5.00 pm	<b>Chronicle copy deadline</b>	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Sun	18	9.00 am	Bowls Club	
Sat	24	10.00 am	Dog Club Seminar	
		7.00 pm	Wantage RDA Charity Quiz night	
Sun	25	10.00 am	'Mess Around' Party (Franchise)	
Wed	28	8.00 pm	GARD Seminar (news of proposed reservoir)	



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**THE RED LION**

Below is another picture from Chris Lowther, of our Millennium Green in the snowstorm back in December, looking rather bleak - but very beautiful as it always does.

The 'new-look' Chronicle will depend crucially on people like Chris, people like you, sending us pictures you think are interesting or beautiful or funny. Please send them in - see page 2 for how.

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

### MONDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	Seniors 'Gentle' Yoga (call 07712 646382)	
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	<i>School</i>
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Badminton	
7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	<i>St Peter's bell tower</i>

### TUESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.00 am	Pilates (call 07788 248925)	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.30 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
6.30 pm	Yoga (call 07880 256107)	
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (until 10.30 pm)	<i>School</i>
8.15 pm	Clubbercise (call 07811 209242)	

### WEDNESDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Pebbles (Babies & Toddlers - in Term)	<i>Church Room</i>
1.45 pm	Whist Drive (until 4.00 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
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)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

### THURSDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
9.00 am	Foot Clinic (First Thursday)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.15 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
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)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
5.00 pm	Rainbows (call 07801 447720)	
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (until 10.30 pm)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	W.I. (2nd Thursday)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing. (call 01235 531701)	
7.30 pm	ShikiDojo Martial Arts (Small Hall / 07479 824887)	

### FRIDAYS

8.45 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	DiddiDance (call 07922 668740)	
11.00 am	Friday Club (fortnightly - 202466)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

### SUNDAYS

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

