

DRAYTON CHRONICLE



Back on August 5th, many local residents had a rude awakening when this balloon came over, filmed by a very noisy helicopter, apparently it was for a new "Around the World in 80 Days" movie – thanks to Linda Semmens who had her camera to hand



'Such lovely warm weather we have had this summer so the Baptist Church have enjoyed lots of sunny Thursday mornings outside under umbrellas, with Tea & Cake. Everybody in Drayton is very welcome, pets and all!' -- that's their *regular* Baptist Café, BUT >>> DO PLEASE try & come to their special MacMillan 'Biggest' coffee morning, Thursday September 27th, 11am to 1pm, fabulous cause, & as usual, **everybody welcome!**

Editor *Tony Holmes*

www.draytonchronicle.net

September 2018 (Vol 41 no 8)

COMING CHRONICLES

The **October** Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday Sept 28th**.

The Editor will be **Dave Lee (202699)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (see below, safest is to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green,

NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, Sept 17th.

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

STOP PRESS - ADVERTISERS should note that the deadline for ads is **EARLIER, Friday Sept 14th**, due to their preparation time.

NB :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; It should perhaps be realised that the **later an item is received, the less precedence it gets.**

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS (any doubts, ask the Editor!)

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

1. By **email** to the relevant editor (and please use a **meaningful title**, we get a lot called Chronicle!)

to reach the next editor → editor@draytonchronicle.net

Please remember to check that you soon get a confirmation reply. We do occasionally have emails sent – and they just don't arrive!

2. An **email attachment**, in WORD please (NOT a PDF file!).
3. A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller.
4. **Hand-written? Preferably not, if more than about a para.** This is 2018, should be a way to type it and send it?!

THE FOLLOWING Chronicle		
Issue for	Copy Deadlines :- to Editor by (& Agents Lottery Packs the Fri before these)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
Nov	Mon Oct 15th	Oct 26th

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

--- Number of Monthly Inserts ---

Advertiser Category	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£6.00	£16.00	£31.00	£60.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£7.00	£19.00	£37.00	£72.00

Half-size block adverts, normally for one or two inserts, are charged at half the above rates.

All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours, OR send your requirements :- advertising@draytonchronicle.net

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CHRONICLE LOTTERY

(Carol Arnold, Hon. Promoter)

RESULTS of the - August - LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs L Jones Newman Lane	Therese Webster
£20	** Mrs T Buckner Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£15	Mrs J Gimigliano Steventon Road	Judy Henman
£10	C Sadler Lockway	Christine Sadler
£10	R Yates Drayton Road	Tussel Humphrey
£10	Mrs K Smith Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	J & S Hewitt Burwood House	Liz Branson
£10	Mr B & Mrs J Williams Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	Mrs Booth Abingdon Road	Julie Brown
£10	Mrs S Elms Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner

Winning tickets, from 2024 sold, were randomly drawn via computer **Could YOU perhaps be an Agent – we always need more!**

NB If you happen to miss your agent, **tickets are available** from Vickery's (& spare Chronicles too)

**** Mrs Buckner** has been buying lottery tickets ever since the lottery began, and has been an agent for many years.

She is a valued member of the lottery team, acting as the third member of the draw team, ensuring that things are completed according to the regulations and that the money generated from ticket sales is checked by three people.

However **this** is the first time that she has ever won a prize in all those years. **Thank you Trudi - and congratulations!**

Mira Spice

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mothallsgarage@gmail.com

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Drayton BOWLS CLUB

At the recent AGM, Val Locke (Chair) and Pam Lacey (secretary) were re-elected for another 2 years. Val opened the meeting by thanking all those who had made her job easy, committee members, green stewards, competition organisers; she congratulated all the competition winners, and 'The Wasps' for winning the county afternoon league.

Anne Hedges (treasurer) stated that the club was in a **good position financially**, and that subs and green fees would remain unchanged for the coming year.

The club will be entering two teams in afternoon county triple leagues, Wasps in division one and Hammers in division two.

There have been a couple of internal competitions, and so, competing on finals day in December, for the Doreen Jones 'Never Won' singles, will be Pam Lacey and Frank Turley. The Wally Weightman triples will be played between Janice Davis, Josie Carter, and John Aryes, against Gillis Tate, Olive Brown, and Bryn Jones.

Around 30 members will have gone out for lunch and a skittles afternoon at the Ferryman Inn on August 15th. **'Roll Up'**

Stonehill Community Gardens

For those who have not yet visited us on Oday Hill, Stonehill Community Gardens is nearing the end of another successful year. During our open Wednesdays (10am to 4pm) the work on the gardens has been shared with a number of local groups and individuals, all finding satisfaction in the sharing of the cleaning out of the chickens, the sowing, planting, weeding and watering of the raised beds, building the poly-tunnels and putting them to use, and enjoying the fruits of our labours. This year we are looking for ways to stay open during the winter, with activities such as building nesting boxes from recycled wood.

Our annual harvest meal will be at the Gardens on **Friday September 7th**, starting at 6pm. We will show you round, and provide food from the garden produce and entertainment from local musicians. There **will be no charge for entry**, but we might seek contributions to our charitable work from activities on the night. Just please let us know if you are coming (info@stonehillgardens.co.uk). We are on the right-angle bend 400m along Oday Hill, postcode OX14 4AA.

Daniel Scharf (Trustee)



ST PETER'S CHURCH

(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)



Rector	Revd Helen Kendrick	848297
Associate Priest	Revd Rosie Bruce	07707 087131
Associate Priest	Revd Meg Heywood	537100
Pro-warden	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
Pro-warden	Mrs Val Cross	535183

CHURCH NOTICES

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (2nd Sunday only)
	9.45 am	Sung Eucharist (CW) except 4th Sunday, when a non-Eucharistic Morning Praise is held
Thursday	9.15 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice	Bell Tower
Weds	10.00 am	Pebbles (term time only)	Church Room
Fri	6.30 pm	Choir Practice (1st Friday)	Church Room

CALENDAR for SEPTEMBER

Tues 4th	2.30 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
Sun 30th	9.45 am	DAMASCUS Parish Service	at Steventon (NB No Service at St Peter's Drayton)

PARISH REGISTER

Funerals	July 23rd	Elisabet Ainsworth
	Aug 9th	Marjorie Winifred Wiblin Thelma Marjorie Elizabeth Dorman
Weddings	July 29th	Matthew Duckett & Samantha Lenik Oliver Taylor & Rebecca Hawes

YOU STAY – WE PRAY (Sept)

1st to 8th	Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green
9th to 15th	High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close
16th to 22nd	Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Drive; Abbot Crescent
23rd to 29th	Chestnut Drive; Holly Lane; Walnut Way; Willow Way

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Letter from St Peter's (the Ministry Team)

New Beginnings!

She was standing, eyes brim full of excitement and anticipation. New shiny black shoes, bright white ankle socks, a pink lunch box clutched with both hands held in front of her ... a uniform a size too big ... my daughter was ready for her first day at Reception. Many of us at this time of year have children/grandchildren or know of children going into a new class, a new school/college or university. For some, it is a time of excitement, as it was for my daughter. For some, like my son, it is a time of nerves and apprehension of needing to be brave. It can be all these things for parents and carers too!

In the Bible, especially in the first part, there are many festivals to celebrate and at this time of year around September/October, there is one for 'New Beginnings' – the Feast of Trumpets where Jewish people mark a spiritual new year. It is a time for them to remember the Kingship of God, to consider everyone's place in the world and their own part in the unfolding of God's universal plan, a time for a spiritual awakening. There is much that we can take from this Jewish festival to help us with the new beginnings of the academic year.

It is good to remember in all the changes taking place, that God is still the same, **He doesn't change**. Especially that He is so close to each one of us that He knows our joys and anxieties. As we consider those we know going to school or further education, let's find ways of being able to support them in fulfilling their potential, to take their place in the community as the people God has in mind for them. Let's enjoy and celebrate their achievements and come alongside them in their disappointments. As we do this for those around us, let's not forget that God wants to do this for us too! We also need a fresh revelation of God's love for us and His world – and the part that we can play in the unfolding of His Kingdom in our families and communities.

At this time of new beginnings, may we all be aware of God's loving gaze and His presence alongside, ready to help us. As Jesus said, **'Remember, I am with you always'** Matthew 28:20

Meg Heywood

Associate Minister – St Peter's Church DAMASCUS Parish

Drayton WIVES

Our latest monthly meeting welcomed a talk by Hugh Granger on "Can plants talk"; Hugh has become very interested in the evolution of plants and why some plants think one way and others are completely different. It is all basically down to survival and keeping one step ahead.

Plants rely on the wind to carry pollen about but they also use colours that humans can't see to attract birds and insects to help them pollinate. Some flowers only open at night and close shut during the day to attract night time helpers such as bats & moths.

In Central Africa there are plants known as Corpse flowers that smell of rotted meat, but apparently it does attract insects which help them pollinate. Not a good aroma for us!!!!

Coconut pods travel miles as they are so hard to crack and so have no enemies. **Beware if you have any Rhododendron plants** as nothing will live under the bush - it produces poisonous chemicals and drugs from its flowers. Honey made from Rhododendron flowers is poisonous to humans and that's why bees avoid the flowers - but this is also why the bushes are so prolific.

Swiss cheese plants, known as hurricane plants because of the holes in their leaves, produce poison, so never have them near pets, although they do seem to have gone out of fashion.

Even herbs produce animal-rejecting poisons so they can keep surviving. But some plants such as **Lupin and Marigold will protect other plants from insects** (such as black fly) which is why it's useful to grow these next to your runner beans.

So it became obvious that plants do think. so that they can survive. It has even been proved that plants have memories and enjoy music, so, be kind to your plants and they will love you back!!!!!!

Lisa Lammiman

Ed's note:-

either the already things aware (flowers), is



DO Beware some other poisonous plants, for people, pets, or both. Many of gardeners amongst us will know but it doesn't hurt to mention such as lots of other people will be less of the pitfalls. Foxglove (purple flowers), is fairly common, poisonous to touch.

The Poinsettia (pictured) is a Christmas favourite, but beware if you've a cat or dog that likes chewing things! They're in the plant family 'Euphorbia' and just about all of them will irritate your skin, so too the 'Alstroemeria' (popular as cut plants); they're in the Lily family, well known for the showy pollen to be a problem for pets, but the whole plant can be an irritant to some people. Tulips are in that family, and if you plant out some bulbs, careful if you've a dog that likes chewing things! Even good old Chrysants, very popular cut flowers, can cause an allergic reaction to some.

The RHS has a good list of potentially problem garden or house plants, see <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=524> but they do point out that "all these plants are safe to grow provided they are treated with respect. Remember, they are ornamental plants, often very beautiful - they are not meant to be eaten by children or pets".

Red Lion Accommodation

All rooms are en
suite

For more information
Ring Glenn or Janet on
01235 531457 or visit
www.theredliondrayton.co.uk

Drayton Table-Tennis Club



For any potential new members, (we play at the school), please make contact via 01235 531328, or see the website <http://ddtta.org.uk/index.html> for info.

We have qualified coaching, and you'll be made very welcome.

The Club recently held a Pre-season meeting to select our teams and sort out a few other bits of 'red tape'!

We shall run 7 teams in the Didcot League for the coming season although we will consider an 8th if some new players join the club before the season starts at the end of September. There will be two teams in Division 1, one in Division 2, two in Division 3 and one in Division 4. Our 7th team will enter the new 2 player Division (Division 5) that the Association has set up to allow novice players to start playing competitively in a **format that will ensure an earlier finish** thus helping the younger players (and their parents). Chris Gifford has agreed to captain that team, and it will also have his son Daniel, plus Mark & Ollie Pritchard and Malcolm Moor.

The Didcot League's AGM back in June encouraged member club's to give 'names' to each of the teams rather than the 'A', 'B' etc labels. We have agreed to follow this request and so we will now have **Dragons, Devils, Dazzlers, Dingos, Dagers, Dashers and Dynamos!** It remains to be seen if the teams can live up to their new titles! (Ed's note :- What, no 'Desperados', 'Dingbats'?!)

We start back on 3rd September with the coaching under Janet's instruction from 7 pm - 8pm and then general practice play until 10 pm. The league season will commence later in the month and that means Christmas is ever closer!

John Gould



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01865 391864
www.townfurlong.co.uk

DRAYTON WASTE RECYCLING :- DO bear in mind the centre still opens LATE on THURSDAYS in September; avoid the weekend Queues, pop round until 8pm. All other days (inc Suns) it's 8am to 5pm (is that a handy tip)

BAPTIST CHURCH

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



REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

6.00 pm **Evening Service.** A traditional form of service, frequently with guest speakers.
(Communion every second Sunday)

HOT NEWS - BAPTIST CAFÉ with tea, coffee and cake Thursdays 11.00 to 13.00, rain or shine, in or out **** and **Especially the MacMillan Coffee Morning, Sept 27th!**

Come & Join Us **EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME**

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WESTMINSTER VIEW



Ed Vaizey's column (Wantage MP; he's presently on the Commons Speaker's Advisory Panel on the Arts, also a patron of 'Kids in Museums')

Last month I attended a rally in Wantage protesting the fact that after two years, **Wantage Community Hospital** remains "temporarily" closed, with no indication of when it will reopen. Originally, the hospital was closed because of concerns of legionella, this resulted in the closure of the remaining in-patient beds (Maternity & Physiotherapy were maintained, though the latter has since been discontinued).

We have been promised a number of consultations to discuss reopening the hospital but so far nothing has happened. After months of frustration, I have arranged to speak with the chief executive of Oxfordshire CCG to discuss plans for the provision of healthcare in the constituency. I hope that they will have an update for us soon. I've also written to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to raise the issue of Wantage hospital and make clear the level of feeling the community has for it.

Every year in September, **Heritage Open Days** sees places across the country throw open their doors for free to celebrate their heritage, community and history. It brings together over 2,100 organisations, 5,500 events and 46,000 volunteers, and is coordinated nationally by the National Trust, with support from players of the People's Postcode Lottery. For more clues about the types of building open near you, please see website details and a few suggestions on page 10.

The latest **funding round for grants for local charities** opens in three of the Postcode Trusts, funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery. More information can be found at the three websites for the local trusts, each one has a different funding focus and I recommend charities ensure that they apply to the Trust most relevant to them:- postcodetrust.org.uk focuses on projects which specialise on prevention of poverty, promotion of human rights & equal rights; postcodelocaltrust.org.uk focuses on projects on health & wellbeing through grass roots sports, arts and well-being programmes; postcodecommunitytrust.org.uk focuses on projects supporting outdoor spaces, local environment and wildlife.

If you need to get in touch with me, telephone 01235 768888, write, c/o House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, or you can e-mail me (quickest) on dicksonce@parliament.uk; Either I or one of my team will get back to you as soon as possible and do what we can to assist. See www.vaizey.com for up to date news. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please complete the online form at:- www.vaizey.com

WALNUT MEADOW Development

(- An Update on Progress)

The title of this piece may be a misnomer, since over the last few months especially, progress has been in short supply at Walnut Meadow. Without going into a detailed history, communication with the on-site management has always been difficult, and despite the fact that Drayton 2020 have been meeting regularly with Millers once a month for the last year and a half, it was obvious that works were falling further and further behind schedule, and **a number of planning conditions were just not being met.**

Following a meeting this March with residents at the Village Hall, it was decided that both the residents and the Parish Council would, independently, write to Millers HQ, demanding that the company produce a schedule of works, with specific deadlines attached to each item. Millers duly requested their sub-contractors to come up with the agreed schedule, this did not happen, and **those contractors have now been sacked.**

Bringing things up to date, representatives from the Parish Council, OCC, and the Vale's Planning Enforcement Dept. met on site with Millers executives on August 2nd. We were introduced to **their new sub-contractors**, who have promised to carry out a full survey of the site as soon as possible. The new contractors appeared very professional and they have a positive plan in mind, but appearances notwithstanding, in the end it is only results which count.

There are some signs of progress. The children's playground ought to be ready in a month or so, provided the newly-laid turf is regularly watered. Unfortunately it was not possible to open the playground in time for the school summer holidays, but of course the necessary work should have been done by Millers months ago. As residents know, the play equipment was in place well before last Christmas. We made clear to Millers that the PC would not take on ownership of the playground until the turf has had time to properly root and ROSPA have approved the play area on safety grounds (NB Ed's note, a similar playground in Sutton Courtenay was built, then kept fenced off, for many months, far longer than the hiatus here).

Elsewhere, some pavements and roads have been properly surfaced, though others have not. We are promised that the new pathway to Corneville Rd will be completed in time for the start of the new school term, but work needs to start soon if this target is to be achieved. The drainage arrangements across the site and clearance of the playing fields area remain serious issues, and OCC have not yet commenced work on the junction of the entrance to the development with the Abingdon Road. In the case of the latter, we were warned by OCC that the necessary legal procedures would take a long time to process.

The involvement of the **Vale's Planning Enforcement department, and the appointment of new sub-contractors** for the on-site ground works give cause for cautious optimism. In the meantime, Drayton 2020 will continue to push for Millers to complete all outstanding works, and we will keep a close eye on every aspect of what happens in the ensuing weeks. Everybody involved with the site in Drayton 2020 or on the Parish Council wishes we were not where we are at the present moment. The fact is that moral pressure is the only kind we are able to apply, as **we have no legal or financial sanctions we can impose.** Although local authority planning departments do have these powers, there is no doubt that **the planning system overall favours developers** and makes it hard, if they do not act responsibly, to hold them to account.

Richard Williams

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YOUR LETTERS

A Very Big THANK YOU – from PACE

Dear Editor, PACE Aylesbury

On behalf of the children, families and staff at **Pace**, I am writing to **thank the people of Drayton** for the incredible generosity you have all shown over many years by making donations via the wonderful **Judy and Derek Henman**.

Pace is a school and charity for children with cerebral palsy and similar disabilities, to which Judy and Derek's granddaughter came at the age of four, and was with us for several years. During this time, Judy and Derek have supported Pace unwaveringly, selling quizzes door-to-door in Drayton, and making all sorts of wonderful pieces of equipment for the children. Over the years, through their efforts, the people of Drayton and surrounds have raised no less than **£26,000** to help Pace serve these local children, with our unique and intensive combination of therapies, education, and support for families, to give them the best possible start in life and the greatest possible independence in their futures.

The children work so hard, with the support of our staff, to develop the mobility, self-care and communication skills which able-bodied children take for granted as part of growing-up, and they are all now on a well-earned summer break. Before they went, the whole school took part in their very own **Children's Challenge Sports Day** at nearby Stoke Mandeville Stadium. The objective of Pace Children's Challenge is to build self-esteem and confidence in the children through their participation. They compete in teams and enjoy cheering on their friends. From taking football penalty shots with sticks, walkers and standing wheelchairs, to wheelchair basketball, adapted cycling, and archery with the EyeGaze communication device, there are events for every child - even those with the most complex disabilities.

Thank YOU so much again to the Henmans, and the people of Drayton, for helping PACE to give these inspirational children the best possible childhood, and to prepare them for their futures.

Sue Canderton (Trusts & Philanthropy Manager)




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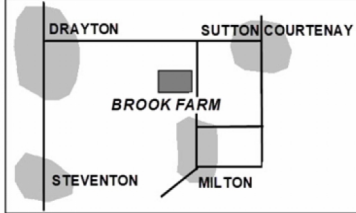
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Geraldine & Austin

Dear Editor, via email

As a 'regular' at the Wheatsheaf (ie the third Thursday of every month for the last three years, and on and off before that) on my own behalf and that of 'Drayton Diners' I would like to express admiration and gratitude to Austin and Geraldine for the kind and generous hospitality they provided in their home.

Drayton should consider itself very fortunate to have two public houses still operating in the village and hopefully this privileged position may continue.

Meanwhile we wish Geraldine and Austin all the very best in their return to Scouseland.

Yours Sincerely Daniel Scharf (for Drayton Diners)

DRAYTON ALMSHOUSE CHARITY

A vacancy exists for one of the Drayton Almshouses. Are you interested or do you know of anyone else over the age of 60 who might be interested? For an application form please apply to:

**The Clerk to the Trustees
The Old Pound, 3 High Street
Drayton OX14 4JL
Tel: 01235 531253**

The sheltered accommodation (bungalow) which consists of a sitting room, kitchen, tiled bathroom with shower, double bedroom, gas heating, good storage, communal gardens. Very reasonable weekly charge (water included with this) and maintained by the Trustees.

Natasha & PACE – Thanks Again

Dear Editor Steventon Road

I am writing to thank the people of Drayton for buying quizzes, supporting sales, jazz concerts, golf tournaments (etc etc) in aid of PACE (Positive Achievement through Conductive Education). You have been wonderful, and so generous! I would particularly like to thank Rosemary Barlow and Drayton wives.

Over 5 years, you have helped us raise £26,050!!

Natasha moves on to Treloar's in Basingstoke for two years – she is increasingly handicapped, and very chesty, but loves chatting and lets us know about things. Most of all she loves laughing – we speak to her every day.

We may do an occasional quiz for another good cause.

Yours Sincerely Judy & Derek Henman

GARD REPORT

Thames Water concede the case for a second public consultation on their plans :- On 10th August, Thames Water issued a press statement conceding the case for a second public consultation on their revised draft Water Resources Management Plan 2019-2024 (known as rdWRMP19). They also announced a month's delay until 'early September' in producing the revised plan, which will be published alongside their response to all the public comments (individual and organisational) which they received in the first consultation which closed at the end of April.

This action by Thames Water is as a direct result of the pressure from Oxfordshire organisations, led by GARD, in demanding the right for the public to look again at Thames Water's plans, as it was obvious from the shambles of the first plan that they would be forced into making deep changes, and not just minor revisions. **GARD, Oxfordshire County Council, Campaign to Protect Rural England, Wantage and Grove Campaign Group, and Steventon Parish Council** all wrote to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Michael Gove) putting a strong case that Thames Water must be forced to consult again. This call was heeded and it is a good example that **public pressure works when we all work together**. **GARD would like to thank** all the organisations for their support, and also particularly to Councillors **Mike Fox-Davies** (Steventon and Hendred) and **Richard Webber** (Drayton and Sutton Courtenay) for leading the County Council's campaign, and our MP, **Ed Vaizey** for his support in intervening with Michael Gove.

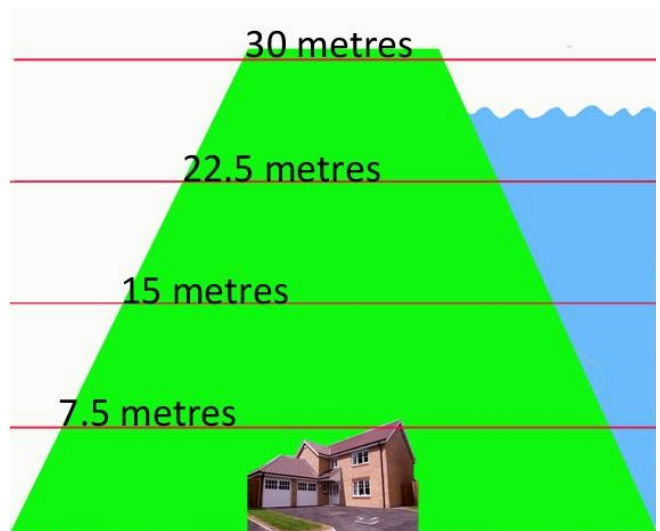
The second consultation will last for 8 weeks. We now await the details of the new plan. GARD will be tackling the new plan, and looking particularly to see if it remains shrouded in secrecy as to how projects are compared on cost, and how decisions are made. If we find that the transparency of the plan has not improved (and hopefully it will have since both Ofwat and the Environment Agency asked for more transparency), then we are almost certainly going to join the Vale council in demanding a Public Inquiry. It is regrettable that the actions of Thames Water force these conclusions – it remains to be seen if they have had a culture change, or whether they must be dragged into a legal process in order that Oxfordshire's citizens can be protected.

We of course do not yet know the contents of the revised plan, but we do know, from statements by Thames Water on TV (ITV Meridian news – 10th August) and in the press (Oxford Mail - 10th August) that the mega-reservoir is still the centre-piece of their plans, and may even be advanced in time to be begun in 2030. GARD will be fighting such proposals every inch of the way, and insisting on an honest, level-playing-field comparison of options.

Thames Water finally forced to take action on leakage

Another snippet we know of the revised plan is that Thames Water have finally committed to a proper plan to reduce their appalling leakage. They are committing to reduce leakage by 50% by 2050. **They have been forced into this commitment** by the water regulator Ofwat, who finally lost patience with Thames Water's leakage programme, as leakage has actually got worse in 2016-2017 (going close to 700 Million litres per day for the first time). Ofwat's report concludes that the failure to reduce leakage has little to do with the difficulty of the task and is mainly due to Thames' poor management, and lack of Board-level commitment to the leakage programme. In order to avoid a massive fine for missing the leakage target, Thames have had to commit to the Ofwat target of 15% reduction by 2025, and a 50% reduction by 2050. If this 50% reduction is met, it amounts to a saving of 300 Million litres per day of water, equal to the amount which the proposed reservoir would supply. So, local residents would be right in concluding that the case for the reservoir would be even harder to justify.

[For those unaware of the likely impact of such a reservoir >>](#)



GARD New Committee Our AGM was held in Steventon Village Hall, Millenium Room on Thursday 28th June at 7.30pm. The officers of the new committee, elected at that meeting, were:-

Derek Stork – re-elected as Hon Chairman

John Broadbent – elected as Hon Vice-chairman

Deborah Bennett – re-elected as Hon Secretary

Chris Tooley – elected as Hon Treasurer

Nick Thompson, the Hon Chairman for over a decade and Hon Vice Chairman for the last two years, has stepped down as an officer, but remains on the committee. He was thanked by the meeting for **his tireless contribution over the many years**. In particular we are all indebted to him for his leadership which saw GARD win the Public Inquiry in 2010. Lesley Hotchin also stood down as Hon Treasurer, and was thanked for her work over the past year. The other members of the new GARD Committee are Sharron Jenkinson, Ian Moodey, Nick Rogers, Clare Tooley and Wren Wooster.

Joining GARD >>> It is clear that we still have a fight on our hands to defeat the Reservoir project and ensure a sustainable water future for Oxfordshire and the South-east.

Our membership continues to grow, but we need even more members. At some point it will become very important to demonstrate the strength and depth of the local opposition to this plan, and, of course, we do need 'boots on the ground' to help push the message across. If you would like to join us, or get any information on this, please contact our secretary, Deborah Bennett, at gard.secretary@gmail.com. Lifetime membership is £10 (under 18s and full-time students £5).

Derek Stork

(Hon Chairman, Group Against Reservoir Development)

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**NB This sculpture event is out near The Dog House,
at Frilford - but a good cause and well worth attending**



**and this is the
Solution
to the X-Word in
the August issue**

**(congrats to all
those who did
finish it!)**



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Heritage Open Days

Ed Vaizey's piece on page 6 referred to the upcoming (annual) Heritage Open Days scheme round the county.

Gives people a chance to look behind the scenes at many properties that are normally just not available to visit.

See www.heritageopendays.org.uk/ then hit 'Visit' & 'Search'; perhaps easiest to enter postcode and a radius of miles, then check the list that appears. It's on from Sept 6th to 9th, also 13th to 16th.

Far, far too many to list here, but a quick sample I found had the Hospital Hall Open Day (Almshouses by St Helen's in Abingdon), and a few yards away the Medieval Merchant's House (East St Helen's). A bit further are Campion Hall & the Bartlemas Chapel in Oxford, find out about memory & decision making (I should go) at the Cognitive Neuropsychology Centre (Walton St), and see the Balliol Historic Collections Centre too. For the more practical amongst us, maybe try the Oxford Uni Joiners' Workshop? Etc.

Oh, SOME you will need to book a place, website will advise.



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Richard Webber - Oxon CC

Privacy, Openness and Transparency

Last week, we met a friend, to whom we have not spoken for some time, over the garden wall. We spent a happy twenty minutes catching up. Within the hour, we received a phone call from the same friend to tell us that she had just received a message from Google asking her to rate her visit to Orchard Barn (our home).

The first reaction was to laugh, the second was to wonder how Google knew of our conversation. The third was to realize how much Google (and others) can find out about us via mobile phones, emails and social media (***) see below). There was absolutely nothing in our conversation which would have interested anyone else, but it was private. It's a scary world.

Whilst I believe, passionately, that Privacy is an important principle that we should do everything possible to protect, Privacy is too often a defining principle in Government – both national and local. On a recent visit to Nottinghamshire County Council to find out how they run themselves, we were told that they are now passionate about openness and transparency. **Everything they say, think and do is put in the public realm.** No more secret papers. All salaries, plans for the future and failings of the Council are published alongside their successes. The only papers kept from public view are those that concern commercial confidentiality (while bids for contracts are coming in) otherwise everything is open to public scrutiny). They claimed that this approach had already had three major benefits.

One : There was a noticeable increase in trust of their Council by Nottinghamshire residents.

Two : There were now no time-consuming and costly Freedom of Information requests.

Three : Their relations with the local Press had improved immeasurably.

To be fair to Oxfordshire, it is probably more open and transparent than many local authorities. Its new Corporate Plan will contain not only a list of the Council's success, but also a list of its failures and what it intends to do about them. This is all commendable. Not so transparent are the conversations around shared services and management with Cherwell District Council, or the discussions around the Growth Deal and the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway.

Until Government treats those who elected it as wholly deserving and capable of being involved in discussions and considerations of policy, they can hardly be surprised if they are not trusted.

If you have feelings on any County issues you would like me to hear, please contact me on richardwebber777@gmail.com or 01235 534001. **Richard Webber** (OCC Cllr, Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division)

(*** Ed's Note) This news item appeared as this issue was being assembled (so, mid-August), and it directly relates to Richard's "how do they know" point.

Google services, both on Android devices and iPhones, track and store your location data even if you turn location history off in your privacy settings, according to an Associated Press investigation.

You can turn off location history any time, but some Google apps still store your time-stamped location data, the AP reported.

Google also reportedly uses this location data to target ads based on users' specific locations.



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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

Report of the Parish Council meetings held in July and August.

July 9th :- Derek Stork from GARD gave councillors an update regarding Thames Water and the latest version of their long-term water management plan. It is clear that TW still favours a huge reservoir as the answer to their projections of the growth in demand for water – right up till the year 2100! However, the company's data on a whole range of issues has been challenged (see separate GARD report in this issue) **and found wanting**. Furthermore, their losses from leaks are easily the worst of any of the water companies. GARD is pressing them to revise their Plan, come up with more realistic figures, and work harder to plug those leaks. It is also calling for a second round of consultation.

An inspection of Henleys Lane/Church Lane was carried out by Richard Webber and an OCC Highways inspector, and it has been agreed to **resurface the High St end of Church Lane**. A barrier will also be re-installed at the end of Footpath FP14 (Gravel Lane to Henleys Lane) to protect pedestrians. Richard reported that the highways maintenance budget has been doubled for the coming year to try and reduce the backlog of repairs. Long-term investment in maintenance will also increase in recognition of the scale of the problem.

There was a lengthy discussion on the outstanding works at the **Walnut Meadow** housing development. **Please see the separate article** elsewhere in the Chronicle.

With a view to progressing the application for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board, it was resolved to engage the Oxford Playing Fields Association (OPFA) for 12 months, within a budget of £3000. The 12 month period will not start until the Walnut Meadow pitches are ready for hand-over. Based on past experience, no one is hazarding a firm date for this.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



And a very warm (belated!) welcome to Chris Hughes & John Bell who moved into Church Lane from Abingdon a few months ago.

August 6th :- As agreed in June, a meeting was held with allotment holders at the allotment site. It was confirmed that the proposed fee increase for March 2019 will be reviewed. Several other matters were also raised, mainly to do with the ongoing administration of the allotments, and possible changes to the tenancy agreement. Councillors will meet again with the allotment holders to agree an arrangement acceptable to both parties.

David Perrow, who has now retired as our Clerk, has been acting as custodian of the **archives of the Drayton History Society**. The material includes books, maps, magazine articles, and many other papers and documents. It occupies a lot of space, and David asked if alternative storage could be found. A garage is not suitable, due to variations in temperature which over time would cause the items to deteriorate. Among the options being looked at are the renting of cupboard space in the Village Hall, or storage in a self-storage facility (a new one has just opened in Abingdon).

Whatever solution is adopted, the **PC would be delighted to hear from anyone** who is interested in reviving the Drayton History Society. For a relatively small community, Drayton has more than its fair share of history, dating back to Roman and Anglo-Saxon times, and the archive is a rich source of info. If you are the sort of person who is fascinated by the history of the place where they live, and think you could get others interested as well, **please do get in touch** with the Parish Clerk (E-mail below).

To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the **Parish Clerk, Lorraine Watling**; she may be contacted at clerk@draytonpc.org or 07909 176061, and she will ensure that 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.

All **Parish Council minutes** are now **archived** on the village website: <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/> which also has a link to 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 Sept 3rd, at 7.30 pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. **As ever, all are welcome to attend.**

Neighbourhood Action Group

Reporting non-urgent crime and incidents

You can now report non-urgent crime and incidents using the Thames Valley Police website. This system allows the report to be logged immediately and you will be contacted by a police officer within 24 hours of the report. Visit the Thames Valley Police website at <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/> then click on the 'Report' button, select the type of crime or incident and the site will guide you through the process.

If you don't have online access **you should call 101 for non-emergencies**, but **always call 999 for ACTUAL emergencies**.

Safe Places Scheme in Vale of the White Horse

The Vale's Community Safety team is Working with Thames Valley Police, Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service, Oxfordshire Family Support Network and local communities to launch the nationally recognised 'Safe Places' scheme across the Vale and South Oxfordshire.

The Safe Places Scheme aims to help vulnerable people feel confident and safe whilst out and about. If someone is feeling lost, anxious, confused, bullied, abused or harassed they can go to a Safe Place. These offer support to elderly people, people with dementia, those who may have a physical or learning disability, people with mental health needs and people who feel unwell.

Safe Places are identified by a nationally recognised logo which will be visible on a sticker in the window of participating shops, cafes and community centres.

Cards can be carried by the individual with contact numbers on for family members, adult social care and the police. You can pick up a 'Safe Place' card from a Safe Place location, or by **emailing communitysafety@southandvale.gov.uk**.

If you have a Safe Places card, a member of staff can phone your nominated person, whether it be a carer or family member. Whether you have a Safe Places card or not, you can enter a participating location and ask for assistance. A trained member of staff will be able to help you.

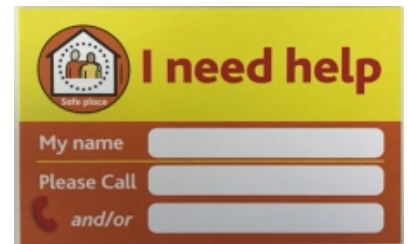
If you, or anyone you know, have been affected by a fraud or any other scam please **report it to Action Fraud** by calling 0300 123 2040 or visit the website at <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk>.



To find out where the Safe Places are in the Vale of White Horse please see the interactive map on the national Safe Places website at

www.safeplaces.org.uk/member-schemes/south-oxfordshire/

If you are interested in becoming a Safe Place please email to :- communitysafety@southandvale.gov.uk
Premises will receive a resource pack and free training on how to help vulnerable people.



Health & Safety notice - dog fouling

We have learned that some people are not clearing up after their dogs, and some are hanging full dog-poo bags on branches of trees or shrubs. **There are bins throughout the village.**

Please use them.

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

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Very sad news as we went to press that the **incomparable Aretha Franklin** had left us. I doubt many of today's 'stars' will have any songs that are instantly recognisable in 40 or 50 years time, and it's a very short list that have claims on such a voice.

For those of a 'certain age', top of the charts in **Sept 1978** were **John Travolta & Olivia Newton Bomb** with Summer Nights, and Boney M (Rasputin) & the Boomtown Rats (Rat Trap) were moving up.

Go **50 years ago** ("how long"?!) and that month had **Hey Jude** as #1, with **Mary Hopkin** (Those were the days) getting there after a couple of weeks. Moving up were Joe Cocker (With a little help from my friends) & the Isley Bros (This old heart of mine).



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Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum (SOFO) plan a new Exhibit, linking domestic experience to military history, 30s to 70s. They are appealing for any WW2 mementos or stories, please contact via: oxfordshirehome@sofo.org.uk

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FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

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Our next dates are **Sept 4th & Oct 2nd**.

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

DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Just a note this time about a slightly unusual booking for us, it's a **HAMSTER show** (Midland Hamster Club), Sat Sept 29th. And it's not just hamsters, they have a **pet show class** too, more informal than the main hamster showing and judging. For the pet class, you can bring a **rabbit**, or pretty much **any rodent** (maybe ask if you've a capybara or coypu to bring?!), so maybe **gerbil, rat, guinea pig, chinchilla**, oh, and **hamsters** too! You can register them up to 1.45pm (£1 each I think), but they like them in a secure cage/carrier, not a shoebox, etc! And they should have some food, and a water supply, or a piece of fruit or veg. Judging will be at 2pm. They give rosettes right down to 7th place!

If you've a show hamster to enter, they need to be registered by 10am, and they're in all day. **Casual visitors ARE WELCOME**, it's free entry, they have animals for sale, and lots of expert advice is on hand if needed. Doors open by about 9.30am.



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OR phone 07909 176 061;

District (VofWH) Stuart Davenport (01235 521078)

& Oxfordshire County richardwebber777@gmail.com

LISTINGS

Stonehill Community Garden – a further reminder of their **Harvest Festival Day**. More details back on page 3. Sept 7th (Friday) – a meal, tour and some entertainment, free (they'd appreciate a contribution – and a clue that you'll be there please).

Cornerstone Didcot are celebrating **TEN** years since opening (already!) – Sat Sept 22nd they've an **Open Day**, with all manner of free activities, DJs & live music, assorted workshops, inc for kids, so, drop in & see what makes them tick. 10am to 4pm.

<https://www.cornerstone-arts.org/whats/10th-anniversary-celebration-day>

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Next info evening, with our team, social workers & other carers is Weds Sept 12th 6.30 to 8pm (Nash Court, Oxford, OX4 2RU).

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All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

To book the Hall :- bookings@draytonvh.co.uk or call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180; see the website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk

Sat	1	5.00pm	Private Function
Sun	2	1.00pm	Private Function
Mon	3	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Sat	8	12.30pm	Private Function (child's party)
		5.00pm	Private Function
Sun	9	9.00am	Bowls Club
Thur	13	2.00pm	'U3A' Crafts Group (Mthly – Small Hall)
Sat	15	12.30pm	Chronicle Lottery Deadline
Sun	16	10.30am	'Mess Around' (Franchise) Party
Mon	17	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline (see P2 – Ads 14th)
Sat	22	9.00am	Private Function
		5.00pm	Private Function
Sun	23	1.00pm	Private Function
Sat	29	9.00am	HAMSTER Show! (see page 15)
		5.00pm	Private Function
Sun	30	1.00pm	Private Function

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Oxon

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DRAYTON DIARIES

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – DO tell an editor (page 2)

MONDAYS

11.00 am	Seniors 'Gentle' Yoga (Helen 07712 646382)
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)
6.00 pm	'Bounce Fit' (1hr - Sophie 07791 778388)
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.00 pm	Table Tennis (Coaching, one hour) <i>School</i>
7.15 pm	Badminton (Private Group)
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) <i>St Peter's</i>
8.00 pm	Table Tennis (Social Play, one hour) <i>School</i>

TUESDAYS

9.30 am	Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 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 (with Olga – 07880 256107)
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours) <i>School</i>
8.00 pm	Clubbercise (run by Gemma Pearce, see her F'book)

WEDNESDAYS

10.00 am	Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer gp – p4) <i>Church Room</i>
1.45 pm	Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends) <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)
2.15 pm	Badminton
6.00 pm	Brownies
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours) <i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)
7.30 pm	Bingo Session <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>

THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Foot Clinic (1st Thurs) <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
9.15 am	Holy Communion <i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)
11.00 am	Baptist Café (to 1pm) <i>Baptist Church</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)
2.00 pm	Wives' Whist (Mthly – 2nd Thurs) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
5.30 pm	Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 years, call Vicky 07801 447720)
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours) <i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) <i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)
7.45 pm	ShikiDojo Martial Arts (check w Paul - 07479 824887)

FRIDAYS

11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466 <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
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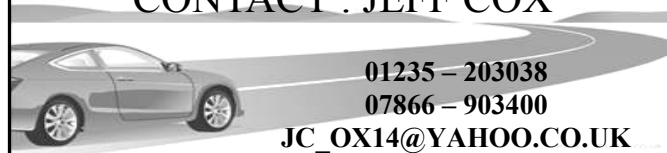
SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion (2nd Sunday) <i>St Peter's</i>
9.45 am	Sung Eucharist (Praise Service 4th Sunday) <i>St Peter's</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Service <i>Baptist Church</i>

JEFF'S DRIVING SCHOOL

COMPETITIVE RATES

CONTACT : JEFF COX



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07866 – 903400

JC_OX14@YAHOO.CO.UK

Letters to the Editor

The Editors reserve the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear contact info, in case any text needs verification.

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