



# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

JULY 2019

Volume 42 No 6

*Editor - Tony Holmes*

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **August Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday July 26th 2019**. The Editor will be **Maurice Puddick (01235 538188)**. **Contributions** may be e-mailed (as below, best to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green, **NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, July 15th**.

**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 July 12th**, 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 →	<a href="mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net">editor@draytonchronicle.net</a>
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**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 2019, should be a way to type and send it?! (= less work & errors!)

DATES for 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:-
<b>Sept</b>	Mon Aug 19th	Aug 30th


**ADVERTISING RATES**  
For Block Advert (about 1/12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

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# CHRONICLE LOTTERY

(Carol Arnold, Hon. Promoter)

RESULTS of the - June - LOTTERY

Prize	Winner	Agent
£25	Mrs C Yates Whitehorns Way	Pat Percival
£20	M Berry Abingdon Road	Jayne Henderson
£15	Mrs Edginton Greenacres	Keith Clough
£10	Mr & Mrs Dix Barrow Road	Julie Brown
£10	Mr D Malin Church Lane	Susan Brooks
£10	B & E Sharp Steventon Road	Tamsin Meredith
£10	Mrs Perry Lockway	Sue Ash
£10	B Hamilton Sutton Wick Lane	Keith Clough
£10	C Gifford Ashby Court	Sally Dixon
£10	Mrs B Choles High Street	Michelle Ainsclough

Winning tickets, from 2004 sold, were randomly drawn via computer  
**Even though the July Lottery will be the last (perhaps an occasional 'special' somewhere down the line? – watch this space) – we always need more Agents!** (now to just deliver)  
**NB** If you happen to miss your agent, **tickets are available for this last draw** from Vickery's (& spare Chronicles too)

**Oxford "Porch" Homeless**  
**Craft Fair**  
All proceeds to the Oxford Homeless Day Centre  
**Saturday 13 July 2019**  
**Drayton Village Hall - 12-3pm £1 entrance**



Stalls include: Cake stall, Glitter Art, Crochet Crafts, Raffle, Party Lite, Mirrors, Sweets, Body Shop, Usborne Books, Future-Urban, and another Cake stall.

**This Month's Cover** – Grateful thanks to this long established Drayton firm, who could it be? See page 5!

**DISCLAIMER** This Journal is published in all good faith and every 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.

## Local Groups & Clubs

### Drayton WIVES

Our recent walk was to **Ardington & Lockinge**. Although it was a bit rainy we all started out in good spirits.

The walk took us past Home Farm and into the fields where we bumped into a man working with his radar!!! He was from Navtech and told us all about what they did, which included watching smart motorways and how they were running. All the information is sent back to them at Ardington.

We then walked past the lovely statue of the racehorse Best Mate, if you have never seen it I think it's worth a visit.

(Ed's note:- locally trained by Henrietta Knight, Best Mate won 3 successive Cheltenham Gold Cups, the 'blue riband' of jumps racing).

Then past the old fire engine and by the stables where we all said good morning to the horses!! Past the stables and down a track is the garden for Parkinson's which is very interesting and includes both sensory plants and very colourful plants.

After our walk the sun came out and we all enjoyed a lovely lunch at The Grocer Chef - highly recommended

If you have a few hours to spare on a lovely sunny day(!) this is a lovely walk.

**At the May meeting Peter and Jenny Clare** shared their holiday memories of an autumn visit to Japan. Traditionally, April/May is the most popular time to go because of the cherry blossom but as this can be over very quickly, autumn is a more reliable time for beautiful colours.

They concentrated on the island of Honshu, starting their trip in Tokyo. Travelling by public transport enabled them to experience the incredibly punctual Japanese rail system although the famous bullet train wasn't ideal for sightseeing - the windows were reminiscent of those on an aircraft.

After the city life of Tokyo they visited the World Heritage village of Tsumago, staying in a traditional ryokan. This was a full-on Japanese experience with futons, communal washrooms and a complicated footwear protocol including special slippers for the bathroom!

Tsumago was followed by the towns of Takayama in the Japanese alps and Kanazawa with beautiful gardens and a wonderful food market. Kyoto and Kawaguchi-ko, with beautiful views of Mount Fuji, completed what sounded to have been a most enjoyable holiday.

*Lisa Lammiman*



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### Drayton WI

### Ann Webb

The subject of last month's meeting had not initially filled us with enthusiasm, but how wrong we were! The subject was **County Emergency planning**, the speaker was **Carol Mackay**, who is in control of all emergencies in Oxfordshire, and beyond. Road accidents, fire, flood, death, disease and everything else you can name (power cuts, burst water mains etc) that needs someone to take control, and sort out whatever problems arise out of the situation, and quickly.

She sorts out the aftermath of those assorted disasters, finding food and accommodation when needed, helpers to provide care for people in traumatic situations, buildings to use in a crisis, and a collection point or even perhaps a temporary mortuary should it ever be needed.

The power station collapse took up six months of her life, administering to relatives and workers, seeing they were cared for in that tragic situation. If that was not enough Carol is a single parent of two sons and is also a reserve firefighter.

**What a woman!!!** Next month we will be having a games evening, as we are entering the holiday season and members are away. But we do have fun all the same. It's **Thursday July 11th** at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Day Centre (Gravel Lane, for any new villagers). **Do come and meet us.**

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)



<b>Rector</b>	Revd Helen Kendrick	848297
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Rosie Bruce	07707 087131
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Meg Heywood	537100
<b>Pro-warden</b>	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
<b>Pro-warden</b>	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 JULY

Tues 2nd	2.30 pm	1st Tuesday Connections	Church Room
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### PARISH REGISTER

<b>Funerals</b>	June 13th	<b>Bernard James</b>
<b>Baptisms</b>	June 16th	<b>Frances Helen Rhodes-Beal</b> <b>Cassius Colin Rhodes-Beal</b>

## YOU STAY – WE PRAY (July)

June 30th to July 6th	Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane
7th to 13th	Abingdon Rd; Oday Hill; Binning Close; Haywards Rd
14th to 20th	-- ditto --
21st to 27th	Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive
28th to Aug 3rd	Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close; The Green

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[\*\*\* Ed:- DO please see the letter re graveyard, page 9]

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## DAMASCUS Ministry – Team Letter

### What has happened to all that time that gets saved?

We bought a kettle the other week, one of its selling features, it proudly announced on the packaging, was that it could boil a cup of water in so many seconds. Wow, I smiled, at the thought of what I could do in the seconds that had been saved by boiling a cup of water ... the seconds I could save finding the shortest queue in the checkout ... or the time saved finding the quickest route to anywhere ... what shall I do with that time? Do more things, get things done quicker?

Yet the rhythms of work and rest are fundamental to our wellbeing – to slow down, savour what's around us – give ourselves time to breathe emotionally and mentally as well as physically. **Regular periods of slowing down** to give ourselves time to think about what really matters in our lives, time to retune ourselves to the right key, to see where we're being pulled out of shape. **Making time to be with those around you** – relationships can help us to see what matters in life. Holidays can also be a good time to think about these things, when the lifestyle is a bit simpler and conversations can be had in a more leisurely manner. Often at the end of a holiday we feel more relaxed and rested – life has been lived at a slower pace.

What about those times between the holidays? We still get tired in body, mind and soul and need 'time out' or rest. Christians believe that God put the rhythm of rest into our way of being. A day that was blessed by Him, a day of healing, restoration – retuning. A day where we can enjoy just being in the world, enjoy doing those things that energise us, give us life. A day that reminds us that we're loved by Him and that He enjoys our company, that He is in charge.

**Maybe try to begin a regular time of stopping** with a cup of coffee/tea/etc, maybe walk the dog, with your mobile off and look around you – appreciate what you see. Give thanks. Maybe lengthen the rest time to an activity that you enjoy – listening to music, gardening, cooking, jigsaw puzzles, carpentry, or reading - and talk to God about it as you would a friend. **Tell Him how life is going**, how you feel about it. Be aware of God's love for you.

As Jesus says in the Bible:-

*'Are you tired, worn out ... Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take real rest. Walk with me and work with me – watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.'*  
Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

May this summer bring times of enjoyment and refreshment and a discovery of the real rest that Jesus offers.

**The Reverend Meg Heywood**  
(Associate Minister in the DAMASCUS Parish)

# Drayton BOWLS Club

**why not get into indoor bowls?**

It's friendly, it's fun and it will help keep you fit.



Just a quick note this time, to REMIND all members that it's time for the AGM again! Monday July 1st, 2pm in the Hall.

We've also the defibrillator session, Mon 15th, 11.30 that one.

AND – for any potential new members, why not come along and check us out, several sessions each week, **it's a nice friendly crowd**. You could play Monday &/or Thursday afternoons, some play on Wednesday evenings, and there's an occasional Sunday if you like, all in the Village Hall. If you've been used to lawn bowls, or even that strange thing they play up north (on a small grassy hill!?) it's quite easy to adapt to playing on a mat (needs an occasional Hoover, not a roller and mower!).

There's a league season, but some just play socially, there are competitions through the year, and a social outing or two. Fees are tiny – you could get that back in tea & bikkies with little effort! – and you can have a trial session if you like.

Easiest way to make contact is to come along and say hello at one of our sessions (if I put a name & number, for all I know some of our 'officers' could be changing at that AGM!). **'Roll Up'**

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## CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

OK, we're talking about that strange picture on the front cover, a machine pretty much right in the middle of Drayton, a business that started in 1972 (so, 50th birthday not too far off!).

They employ around 20 mostly local people, and there's a fair chance quite a few villagers aren't even aware they're there, this is **Thames Valley Saw Services** – a slightly misleading name as they also sharpen all manner of tools & cutters, not just saw blades.

There's a modest looking shop front, rather hidden away in **Gravel Lane**, with workshops behind it that have had to gradually expand over the years. (Oh, and those workshops even got overlooked by planners & developers, who've now discovered, as the new Manor Farm houses & flats come up to their fence, that sharpening things can be noisy?! A bit like moving in next to a pub, and starting to moan about the noise?!). The shop had originally been (older villagers may recall?) a TV repair shop.

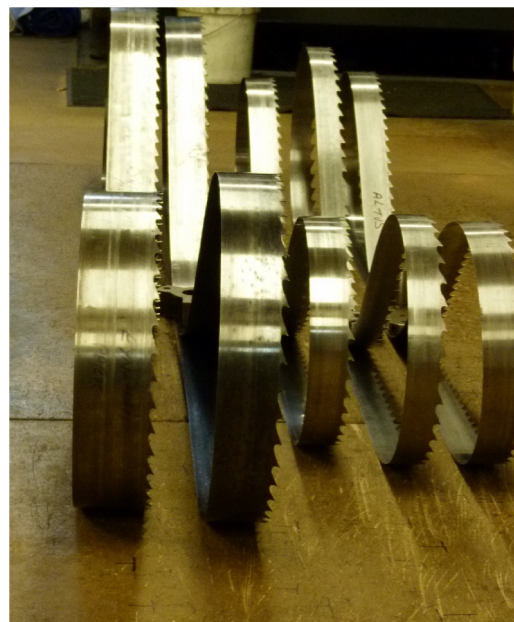
Now they have a small fleet of vans serving industrial customers all over the South of England, and some that are a longer journey, further afield. They can even do a postal service – though that's tricky with some of the massive bandsaw blades which are a regular feature of the business!

That machine is one of several that sharpen circular TCT blades (**Tungsten Carbide Tipped** I gather), which come in a wide variety of sizes, and they're one of the staples of the business. Other machines service the **bandsaws** I mentioned, moving them past the sharpening process with a gentle ker-chunk for each 'tooth', as if on an untiring robotic model railway.

Another machine is like the giant shuttle of a huge sewing machine, repeatedly going back & forth, each pass to and fro just improving the edge of giant **industrial guillotine blades**. Our main guide for our tour told us that the best test for sharpness is done with . . . the finger, and you do quickly learn to be careful.

I should add here, our grateful thanks to **Nigel Muttram**, who's been at TVSS since the 70s (must have been a mere slip of a lad), for telling us all about their work (& he does seem to have all the fingers). Plus of course **Dave Mizen**, one of the original founders, also in the workshop, not up in the office with paperwork!

We also spotted in the workshop some 'normal' small saws, chisels, etc, for home use. **They still do a steady trade** sharpening them too, so any reader with that need, you now know (if you didn't already) where to find them! ([www.tvss.co.uk](http://www.tvss.co.uk))



Here are some of the stored bandsaws referred to above, wide and narrow, perhaps 15 to 20 feet in length – or circumference?

# 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, cake & a chat! Thursdays 11.00 to 13.00, rain or shine, in or out.

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## WESTMINSTER VIEW



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

This month we didn't actually receive Ed's usual "what have I been up to" email. I presume his team would have been somewhat distracted, due to the (perhaps) unpalatable choice of possible leaders that his colleagues had given him, Johnson & Hunt as we go to press (Ed is a fervent Remainer). BUT – you can still contact his office, as constituency work must go on.

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](http://www.vaizey.com) for up to date news. If you'd like to be added to the distribution list, please complete the online form at:- [www.vaizey.com](http://www.vaizey.com)



Yes, simple message! There was an appeal recently, local TV news, **more blood donors needed.** I remembered that we hadn't had any posters lately, advertising

when the Blood Service's van would be around. Why are they apparently so reticent to advertise now? No, not a clue! Some sort of false economy perhaps?

They do **plenty local sessions**, BUT (regular donors will know) you need to go online, register, and check the appointment slots in say, Abingdon or Didcot.

You can usually give blood between ages 17 & 66 (a bit older in some cases) but check the guidelines on <https://www.blood.co.uk> and then register. Or call 0300 123 23 23 Go on – make a DIFFERENCE!

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Online payment also welcome. Other services include:  
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Fascia cleaning; Gutters Unblocked & Cleaned out

## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

**A very warm welcome to Dave & Hilory Higginson, who are moving into Sutton Wick Lane.**

**And Chris Price, who's now moved more permanently to Whitehorns Way, plus Tabitha (cat).**



## Your Vale District Councillor



Hello to all from your **new District Councillor!** I'd first like to offer my thanks to all who voted for me – I will work hard to be worthy of your trust.

I'm sorry you didn't get a report from me last month – I did send one in, but the Chronicle does have some tight space constraints and I had written a quite

lengthy article, so unfortunately, I missed out.

With National Clean Air Day taking place as this issue goes to Press, (June 21st), it's right to look at the dangers of engine idling and how YOU can help clean your local area's air. The Royal College of Physicians estimate **40,000 deaths a year in the UK are linked to air pollution**, with engine idling certainly contributing to this.

The District Council has therefore launched an **anti-idling campaign** to try to help reduce vehicle emissions – encouraging people to **turn their car engines off if stopped for more than a minute**. It's a small and simple step that helps public health, reduces emissions, and saves money. Please see the link from the VoWHDC home page, sadly the less than catchy link (& it does say campaiG at the end!) :-

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/environment-and-neighbourhood-issues/air-quality/turn-it-our-anti-idling-campaig>

I've been appointed to the Joint Scrutiny Committee for the Vale and South Oxfordshire Committee (which holds the Cabinets of both Councils to account, carries out external scrutiny, and helps shape policy), which met on June 18th. We scrutinised the report of the **Community and Safety Partnership**, which works with a variety of local agencies as well as Thames Valley Police to maintain low levels of crime and protect vulnerable people. They've been working well together to try to reduce **Anti Social Behaviour** (ASB), reduce domestic abuse, investigate potential modern slavery, protect vulnerable people from being victims of burglary, prevent cybercrime and child exploitation, and address hate crime.

They've improved on identifying and obtaining reports of incidents and have been addressing them. There are a couple of things I thought were very useful but not very well known, and I'd like to **publicise them more**:-

- **Anti Social Behaviour can be reported** by calling the police, or the council on 01235 422590 during office hours, or even online without needing to speak to anyone else at the following webpage:-

<http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/community-advice-and-support/safer-communities/anti-social-behaviour/report-anti>

(One of my recommendations was that they make this more prominent and easy to find; they've promised it will be done in the next redesign of the Council website).

- **'Smartwater'** kits have been brought in – using a colourless liquid with a unique forensic code that can be discreetly applied to valuable items. Stolen items that are recovered can then be easily traced back to the owner and any suspect checked for the smartwater residues on themselves. This is aimed at vulnerable people; **please do not hesitate to contact TVP** (via 101) asking about this if you feel the need. →>>

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→>> In addition to the above, I've proud to have been appointed **'Military Champion'** for the Vale of White Horse – a role taking a specific interest in matters relating to the armed forces in the Vale and keep them in mind in council debates.

I will also be on the **Oxfordshire Growth Board Scrutiny Panel** in the future. The Growth Board has come under particular attention and is undergoing a full review under the new administration. I'll report back when that's complete.

**Closer to home**, we (led by the Parish Council, with attendance from Richard Webber for OCC and myself for VoWHDC) have had a **meeting with Miller Homes on the Walnut Meadow issues**. Things do seem to be (finally) **moving**; the junction works agreement has been signed (which should unlock a lot more movement on other things there), and, by the time this is printed, the Heras fencing around the sports fields **should** be gone and replaced with a low fence around the banks (let's see if it's done by the time you're reading this). I am informed that **Thames Water have accepted the sewer and water system**, as well. There is, though, a **lot** left to do, and neither the Parish Council nor Richard or myself will be satisfied until it is all done.

The Council are also looking at a **complaint to do with the loss of an ancient hedge** in a Conservation Area on the Manor Farm site.

That's all for now. If you have anything for me, please don't hesitate to email me at [andy.cooke@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:andy.cooke@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

Take care, **Andy Cooke**

#####

[Ed's note]:- I wasn't sure about the "turn off" advice, & for very old cars (10+ yrs), the benefits are doubtful. But this site (the RAC) reinforces the Vale's Campaign (& in the USA, they apparently suggest 10 seconds, not a whole minute!) :-

<https://www.rac.co.uk/drive/advice/emissions/idling/>

## Just a Reminder

Though we featured this fund-raising effort back in the May issue, one of the events is actually in July, so perhaps it's timely to give another mention.

This relates to Sabine Schwaebisch, whose daughter Lucy goes to Drayton school. They are helping to fundraise for [Helen & Douglas House](#) (Sabine is a nurse).

Lucy had given up chocolate in May (well done!), but THIS month Sabine has organized a **Charity Ball** (July 13th) at the Jurys Inn in Oxford as part of their efforts; for tickets :- <https://www.helenanddouglas.org.uk/community-event/this-is-me-charity-ball/>

Oh, and that's not all, Sabine is climbing **Kilimanjaro** in October, and to support that mighty effort, the link is:- <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sabine-schwaebisch1>

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[For Plane & Flying fans >> Royal International Air Tattoo](#) is at Fairford, July 19th to 21st; they have an incredible line-up, and though I expect the cheapest ('early-bird') tickets have gone, see <https://www.airtattoo.com> for others

**Exploring Questions of Faith & Confirmation**



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# YOUR LETTERS

## To Benefit the Village

Dear Editor,

Plough Lane

I wonder how many of your readers would consider that having a GP surgery either in Drayton or Steventon would be of value to the communities in our villages. With all the new housing and families coming into Drayton (Steventon has had the same, of course), the practice would have a large catchment and be viable. It would avoid going to Didcot or to Abingdon to surgeries which are already oversubscribed. Families with young children would certainly benefit as would older folk.

At present there are long waiting times for appointments to see doctors in all the Abingdon practices which highlights the pressure that an increase of population has caused on current facilities. This could be eased by having a new surgery to remedy the situation.

Regards

Sarita Ormrod

[Ed's Note :- Some more recent residents may not realise that Drayton did once have a doctor – Casson – his surgery was near the Eastway bus stop. Maybe 20 years ago since he retired and/or moved away? The chap who took over soon founded the Oaktree health centre in Didcot, closing the one here, encouraged by the Health Board – I think – saying “bigger is better”.]

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### St Peter's Churchyard – Please Note

Dear Editor,

via email

We will be having a tidy up of the churchyard and we need your help. To comply with **Diocesan churchyard regulations** and to be eco-friendly, **only** cut flowers, biodegradable material wreaths, or silk flowers can be left on the graves.

**Sorry - no plastic flowers, wreaths etc.**

Please could you remove any plastic flowers and wreaths, and also any ornaments that have been there for more than a year, by September 1st.

Any of these items still there on that date will be cleared away.

There are two brown bins by the church porch for garden waste, please take any other items home with you.

**Thank you in advance** for your assistance in helping us to comply with the (Oxford) Diocesan churchyard regulations and keeping our churchyard neat and tidy.

Val and Linda (Church Pro-wardens)

[Ed's Note :- We had a further note, on this topic, from Revd Meg Heywood, in the Ministry team – see page 4 – to clarify that this request refers to the Church graveyard, NOT the part which is designated as the Parish graveyard. Please note that they are just passing on a directive from above, & though I expect there will be some less than impressed reactions, complaints directly to the Ministry team will be quicker than letters to the Chronicle]

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### Chronicle – and its Funding

Dear Editor,

Sutton Wick Lane

When we moved to Drayton - more than 30 years ago – we were very impressed by the *Chronicle* and particularly its independence from the churches and political parties. It still provides useful information and news of local happenings and planned events – especially for those of us who do not use social media.

During my time in the village, I have been an Agent for over 20 years (in two spells), an occasional contributor and a regular reader of the *Chronicle*. Personally I have found the articles about local events – current and historical – and the exploits of village residents the most interesting. Some of these stories – especially in *Neighbourhood News* – come directly (or indirectly) from the Agents.

Whilst I fully accept why the Lottery is being discontinued, I hope we can maintain the village focus for news and articles and, also explore alternative income streams to minimise the amount of support needed from the Parish Council. For example, perhaps, we could institute a “Friends of the Chronicle” rather like the “Friends of the Millennium Green” in which residents make regular financial donations, often by standing order.

My round is probably atypical with a higher than average residency in the village as well as of age. The revenue from the lottery tickets works out at nearly £1 per copy distributed. Most of the residents (especially the older ones) welcome a call, and buy the tickets primarily to support the Chronicle and a number have returned their prize money as a donation. Another thought along the line of “keeping it local” would be to consider increasing the charge for advertisements submitted by non-residents.

Other people may have ideas about how to collect more *Neighbourhood News* and to encourage more residents to submit articles for publication.

Yours Faithfully

Keith Clough

[Ed's Note :- Keith's points are perfectly valid. The Lottery has been a great help, but requires a Co-ordinator, and a huge team to keep it going. Sadly, we're losing one, and the team needs lots more Keiths, and they've been quite hard to find! For a bit more Chronicle news, please see page 13]

## Damascus Youth Project

Every year, Drayton Parish Council holds an Annual Parish Assembly. This is an opportunity for the various clubs, societies, sports teams etc. in the village to come along and report on their activities over the previous 12 months. Among the regular attenders at the APA are the youth workers representing the Damascus project. Invariably, the councillors and public alike are impressed by the extraordinary range and scope of the services the project provides for young people locally.

Most long-term residents of Drayton will have heard of Damascus, but not necessarily know much about what they actually do. And many new residents have moved into the village in the last three years. A member of the public asked would it not be a good idea then, to write an article for the Chronicle, explaining the work of the project in more detail? All present agreed it would, so here goes...

Firstly, the name **Damascus**. This is simply an acronym for the five Vale villages just south of Abingdon that the project aims to serve: Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon. However, the project has expanded in recent years to cover South Abingdon itself, and some areas of South Oxfordshire as well.

The purpose of the project is, in its own words, *'to promote the development of the personal, social and educational potential of all young people between the age of 11 and 25 years and in particular those who are disadvantaged by adverse social conditions'*. Many of the young people Damascus works with are disengaged from education, or under-achieving, due to a variety of factors, including lack of appropriate support at home, deprived economic circumstances and rural isolation. Many have poor life skills and may be involved with drugs, alcohol and anti-social behaviour.

How then, does **Damascus engage** with these young people, many of whom would lack the confidence to come to an office, or join a youth group, or for that matter take part voluntarily in any organised activity? The answer is that if the young people will not come to you, **you must go to where they already are**. So the Damascus workers literally work the streets, meeting with young people at bus stops (off the school bus) or by the street corners or shops where they hang out in the evenings and holidays. They have gazebos which they set up at convenient venues – e.g. the park at Steventon, where any young people passing by can drop in for a chat. The young people can refer themselves in this way, or be referred by a parent. Sometimes schools or specialist agencies will request support for an individual youngster. →> (next column)

### FoDSA - Village Fete !



As we go to press, we haven't had any pics from the fete (June 15th), but we HAVE heard that the stunning sum of over £4500 was raised! WELL DONE to all the game stallholders (& Magic Peter!) who had to brave some dodgy weather for a while in the afternoon, and of course everyone who came along. Thank You!

But – ESPECIALLY – to the team of hard-pressed masochists who put it all together, kept it going on the day, and made a great job of cleaning up the Hall & Rec on Sunday. Fantastic job all round (following on from last year's success!).

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### Activities

Damascus offers a combination of informational work on serious issues, alongside pure fun-type events.

In the 'serious', the project offers informal **education workshops** to young people on such subjects as Mental Health & Wellbeing, Bullying, Anti-Social behaviour, Money Management, Employment and work ethics, and Staying Safe Online. These typically are arranged over the summer holidays, but some have taken place in term-time in schools. Another initiative was a 'Transitions' workshop for Year 6 Drayton Primary School leavers, designed to help those pupils worried about making the leap to secondary school from the much smaller primary school community.

Among the **'fun' activities** have been:- weekly Monday drop-ins at Drayton Village Hall, supported by a strong group of Drayton Mums; a Drayton village bike ride, aimed at keeping fit and exploring the opportunities within the village; an arts programme called Capoeira, which enabled young people to practise rhythms and beat patterns in time and learn team skills; intergenerational events such as a BBQ and football match against local residents, senior citizens' tea party, quiz, etc. which bring the different age groups together and help the young people to develop their social skills; and an all-girls football tournament held on Steventon Green (largely arranged by the girls themselves) in which seven teams entered.

Another important strand of the project's work is **Young Leader training** – the process of training up the next generation of youth leaders. Experience has shown that positive role modelling by peers is the most effective way to keep young people engaged and actively involved. And of course, it helps to make the project self-sustaining.

There is also **One-to-One support** for those youngsters who slip through the net of statutory support, either because they are too scared to talk to anyone or not sure where to go. →>

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## More on DAMASCUS

### Organisation and Staff

One of the reasons why Damascus has continued to thrive (it has been going now for nearly 20 years) is the quality and commitment of its staff. Many Drayton residents will know **Gary Hibbins**, who started out as a young trainee with the project in 2004. Having been through troubled times in his own teenage years, Gary proved to have great street cred with the young people and they looked up to him as a role model. He went on to obtain a qualification in Youth and Community work at Ruskin College in Oxford, and after many years with Damascus, has now moved on to become the full-time manager of The Abingdon Bridge (an advice and counselling centre), based in Central Abingdon.

Gary's role as full-time youth worker has been more than ably filled by **Roxy Elford**, who is also very well-qualified. She has now been with Damascus for 10 years and is as enthusiastic and committed to the work as ever. She is assisted by two part-time workers, **James and Jake**, both now studying for a BA in Youth and Community Work. There are seven trustees (all volunteers). Dr Rita Atkinson (one of the trustees) has been with Damascus from the beginning, and is very much a guiding spirit behind the whole project. Rita's official role is 'Line Manager', meaning that she manages the work on a day-to-day basis. However, this title scarcely begins to cover the extent of Rita's contribution. She acts as ambassador and PR person for Damascus, and liaises constantly with the project's paid youth workers, offering them invaluable mentoring and guidance.

**Damascus has been commended** by the police and schools for its initiatives on the more serious issues mentioned, and many residents have noted a marked reduction in anti-social behaviours across our 5 villages in recent years, borne out by official police statistics. As Chief Superintendent Andy Boyd, Head of Neighbourhood Policing for TVP, confirmed, "*The Damascus Project changes young people's lives. The help and support young people receive from the project enables them...to start their adult life with a positive attitude and future...they do a brilliant job*".

### A Note on Fund-raising!

The biggest cost for any project like Damascus is staff salaries, but obviously all of its operations cost money. Its income derives from multiple sources, including the 5 constituent parish councils who all support with annual grants – Drayton Parish Council has contributed £3500 p.a. for the last couple of years.

Funding is always a worry though, especially in these times of austerity. The trustees were therefore delighted to learn that **Bryony Landsbert**, a Drayton resident, had decided to take part in the Three Peaks Challenge, in an effort to raise funds specifically for the Damascus youth project. Bryony managed to raise a **terrific total of £3105**. Her account of her epic Three Peaks adventure can be found in this issue [Ed: next column].

Needless to say, if any readers have in mind to follow Bryony's example and **attempt their own fund-raising event**, epic or otherwise, perhaps they might consider making Damascus a recipient?!

*Richard Williams*

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### A huge Thank-you from Bryony

The group travelled to Scotland on May 30th, for our '**3 Peaks**' **challenge**, watching several weather forecasts as we went. The weather was looking disastrous and so, seeking the best of it, we started climbing **Ben Nevis** at 3:01am with head torches. As dawn approached the views were breath-taking, but then it started raining and raining ... and was already cold. Unsurprisingly there weren't many other people on the mountain, so I very much enjoyed five minutes on my own at the summit, being the highest person in the UK! 5 hours 38 minutes after starting the climb I was back to enjoy breakfast in the youth hostel before setting off for England and Scafell Pike. Unfortunately, a bus hit the minibus wing mirror as we went around Loch Lomond, which meant we had to stop the clock for nearly 4 hours whilst the minibus had running repairs.

We finally reached **Scafell Pike** at 7:30pm, just as the weather was closing in. After 4 hours 45 minutes of more rain and head torches, this time with strong winds and very little visibility, it was abundantly clear that the weather wasn't going to allow us to complete the challenge in 24 hours. Having had very little sleep, and having fallen up Scafell Pike and hurt



my knee, I decided it was sensible not attempt Snowdon the next morning. Nonetheless in under 18 hours, I had done 60,000 steps, climbed the equivalent of 820 flights of stairs, and burnt 5,000 calories. I had twice been soaked to the skin and had a huge bag of very soggy clothes. My **third mountain was destined to be one of washing!**

But I'm satisfied with this. You can't book good weather, and I climbed the two most difficult mountains in really awful conditions

I would like to **thank ALL of you** that has sent support my way and /or donated to the **Damascus Youth Project** over the last couple of months. Each of your donations has meant a great deal to our local youth project and to me personally. **Together we have raised an encouraging £3105** (including gift aid). Support for young people is sadly very thin on the ground and we are more than fortunate to have this youth project within our villages.

**It is still not too late if you would like to donate through my 'wonderful' fundraising page. Just Google 'wonderful fundraising Bryony', adding gift aid if you are able.**

Thank you

Bryony Landsbert



# More LETTERS

## Didcot Divas – Concert for a Great Cause

Dear Editor, via email

Didcot DIVAS present CONCERTS in aid of Helen & Douglas House hospice care for children. Songs from the shows – Comedy – Monologues - Music fun and laughter for the whole family.

Featuring guest performer Bethan Pithers, shows are :- Sat July 6th (Harwell Village Hall, 7pm) & Sat July 20th (East Hagbourne Church, 7pm).

**Please come along and support** this ladies' choir raise funds for a most deserving cause, and exceed the amount the DIVAS made last year (£5000+) for Sobell House.

Tickets are £10 (Children/Students £5 concession); to book and for further info :- email [Judithsawyer2010@hotmail.com](mailto:Judithsawyer2010@hotmail.com) or call 01235 798387

Kind Regards Judith Sawyer



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## Quizzing for Treloar's School

When Treloar School and College (Holybourne, near Alton) heard that Judy Henman wanted to run a quiz for them, they were thrilled. What they didn't appreciate, was that this was no ordinary quiz, and **Judy is no ordinary grandmother.**

Judy's granddaughter, **Natasha**, is a student at Treloar College, a specialist setting for children and young adults with complex physical disabilities. The Treloar Trust run a Nursery, School and College for 170 two to 25 year olds, all with physical disabilities and associated learning difficulties. Like her fellow students, Natasha receives funding from her local authority but this only provides for the basic education and care needs. Treloar's fundraise nearly £2million every year for the facilities, equipment, specialist staff and experiences that transform the future of these young people, including Natasha, to help in them to be more independent and achieve their goals.

**Wanting to make a difference**, Judy has compiled two separate quizzes, which cost £1 to enter, and circulated them around Drayton, Steventon and other surrounding villages. The total raised is now running at over £1,000!!

There is still time to get involved by buying one of the quizzes at **Vickery's Store in Drayton**, where the winners will be announced as follows: "Man's Best Friends" – closing date 5th July, and "Beneath the Surface" - closing date 2nd September.

Treloar's Events Manager, Laura Toop expressed her thanks for Judy's hard work: "**Judy has been amazing and we would like to thank her and all the people in Drayton and Steventon** who have supported her quizzes. The money raised will make a big difference to the lives of the inspirational young people who live and learn at Treloar's and we are truly grateful for their support".

Kind Regards Claire Kercher



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## Help Please – SOFEA

Dear Editor, Church Lane

**Faye Anderton** is aiming to walk 100 miles over three consecutive days in July to raise money for Didcot based charity SOFEA. Starting at Hammersmith Bridge in London, she will be following the Thames Path along the river all the way back towards Abingdon.

SOFEA (South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance) works with young people to build their employability, whilst providing nutritious food for those in need. It recognises the need for jobs and training for disadvantaged young people, the demand for nutritious food for vulnerable people, and the danger of supplies from the food industry going to waste.

Working in partnership with the Fareshare Trust, SOFEA addresses all of these challenges together:- operating a warehouse that collects excess food from supermarkets, and delivering it to local charities that can distribute it to people in need. Crucially, SOFEA creates jobs and training within the warehouse for young people who have dropped out of the education system or never had employment. They receive vital experience of the workplace, as well as Maths and English tuition, helping them build a better future for themselves.

One of SOFEA's trainees, Nye has initiated a '**Freedom Fund**'; a designated fund enabling SOFEA trainees to purchase items such as new clothing for job interviews, driving lessons or specialist courses to further their training and employability.

Faye has set up a Just Giving fundraising page where you can read more about the work of SOFEA and make a donation to Nye's Freedom Fund to empower and enable more young people to progress towards successful and meaningful employment.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hammersmith2home>

**Any donation**, however small will be gratefully received. If you would prefer to make a donation directly you can contact Faye on 077920 54582 who will be happy to hear from you.

If you belong to a local community group or charity, you **may be eligible for membership** enabling you to benefit from receiving regular food deliveries from SOFEA. You can find out more about the charity via their webpage: <https://www.sofea.uk.com/>

Thank you! Tom & Bunty Knight

## Chronicle News

Many of you will have seen the announcement in the June issue, re Chronicle funding, and that this month is to be **the final draw of our Lottery fundraiser**. We also have a letter on the topic (p9) from Keith Clough – one of our band of Agents who've done a **fantastic job** for so long.

We are still mulling over possibilities for the future, it's been suggested that we could still run an occasional special Lottery, for village 'good works', along with a few more ideas, so please do watch this space. AND we still need a **few more agents**, now just delivering the issues, a couple of roads remain not covered.

That piece mentioned thanks to Carol Arnold (+ Colin!) who's agreed to carry on as Distribution Mgr (oversees and does much of the prep work for our rota of distributors – who take deliveries from the printer, and then sort out the individual bundles of each issue for the Agents to deliver). And ditto re that Thanks!

ALSO, Grateful Thanks to Gareth & Kay Davies, stepping down from the Chronicle Co-ordinator role(s) after many years trying to keep the many & disparate bits of the Chronicle team doing the right stuff at the right time, we've yet to decide how to apply their glue/sellotape in upcoming months!

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### Letters to the Editor

The Editor reserves the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear a legible name & address, and Tel. No in case any text needs verification.

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### Fed-up-with-Brexit Levity Moment

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Sergeant :- "OK, who's your solicitor then?"

Detainee :- "No comment".



**Here's a handy TIP – Drayton Recycling Centre opens until 8pm on Thursdays – until Sept. Beat the weekend queues, go when it's quiet!**



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## **Rolls Royce Eagle (engine)**

It's the 100th anniversary of Alcock & Brown's transatlantic (first non-stop) flight (a Vickers Vimy plane). Derby Museum are doing a new exhibition, with a national call for all stories & info re that engine, & flight. Did one of YOUR ancestors work on either?

If you've any material, please call Adela Cragg 01235 835297.



## Richard Webber - Oxon CC

### County Council

Growth – good thing or bad thing?

Oxfordshire has grown spectacularly over the past few decades with more houses, more jobs, fewer people in poverty, and an increased standard of living for most.

But at what cost? Reducing air quality, increasing congestion and the gap between rich and poor increasing. So is the economic growth that has given us all this a good or a bad thing?

It seems that it depends on what we mean by economic growth. If we mean that in order to increase prosperity, there is no alternative to spreading ourselves further and gobbling up the earth's resources ever faster, then the growing concerns over congestion, plastic and air pollution would suggest that we need to think carefully before we go for "growth at all costs".

I am no economist, but I understand that there is economic growth in science and technology allowing us to do things ever more efficiently. Such growth need not involve increasing consumption of the earth's resources, we simply get more and more for our money by using resources more efficiently. And there is no evidence that the process is finite.


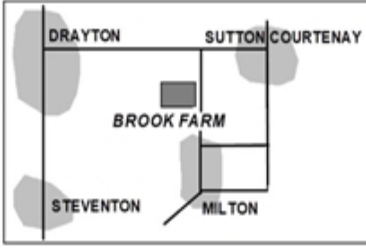
Somewhere, in all that, **there might be an answer in how to continue growing whilst reducing pollution, reducing congestion and reducing poverty?** Perhaps we need to redefine what we mean by 'growth'.

The 'Growth Board' (made up of Council Leaders and others) has received some bad press for seeming to be entirely about growth at all costs, more roads, more traffic and more pollution. Along with 'The Growth Deal' (the agreement with Government to deliver 100,000 houses by 2030 in return for a contribution towards the cost of extra infrastructure), the Growth Board is seen as part of a relentless drive to destroy the County.

If we were to redefine what we mean by 'growth', some of the potential benefits of the Growth Board might be more apparent. Getting Leaders of all Oxfordshire Councils together to address common problems and find common solutions should be a good thing. It would encourage joint planning of Oxfordshire's housing, a joint approach to the Green Belt and be a bigger voice with government than currently our six competing Councils are able to achieve.

**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)**

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## Parish Council Tamsin Crane (Chr)

We didn't receive a report of the latest Parish Council meeting (early June) but you may have seen the article (p10) by Richard Williams (former chair) re DAMASCUS, describing in more detail (than many know) the excellent work they do.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday July 1st**, at 7.30 pm, in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. For any new residents (perhaps some old ones too!) Gravel Lane is behind the bus shelter at The Green, across from the Post Office. The Day Centre is at the far end, only limited parking, so do please walk or cycle if you can. As ever, **all are welcome to attend.**

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](mailto: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.

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**Methodist Chapel** High St, Milton, Sundays: 10.30 am  
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## THE RED LION

Martha & Noel are excited to join the village of Drayton as new landlords of The Red Lion. Please have a look at our website [www.theredliondrayton.com](http://www.theredliondrayton.com) and our Facebook page @RedLionDraytonAbingdon to be kept updated

Check in with us for upcoming events in July

We look forward to meeting everyone!  
Phone: 01235 799629



[Ed's Note :- just as we went to press I saw a F'book update, saying the Red Lion is hoping to restart serving food – after their refurb – sometime later in July, but do check their site]



# Neighbourhood Action Group

## Cyber crime

Half of all reported crime is fraud and cyber crime and it's believed that many more go unreported. Some of the most common cyber crimes are hacking (gaining access to accounts); phishing (bogus e-mails asking for security information and personal details) and malicious software (including ransomware, where criminals hijack files and hold them to ransom). To avoid becoming a victim please consider the following:-

**Secure passwords are essential**, and should be different for each separate account.

**Change passwords regularly.**

**Use a password comprising three random words.** Use upper- and lower-case letters within the password (AND – most websites needing a password will grade them as being stronger if you include numbers, & 'special' characters, like # & or %, assuming they're allowed on that site).

**Password managers** are an excellent way to securely store passwords. BUT -- Ensure you use a unique and very strong password to access your password manager!!

If you want to write down your passwords ensure you store the information in a secure location.

**Consider using 2FA (two factor authentication)**, for your accounts. This adds a valuable second layer of protection.

**Keep all security software** and operating systems updated.

**Never use public wi-fi to access** your e-mail, bank or social media accounts. **Never assume** places such as coffee shops, hotels, restaurants, shopping centres, shops have secure sites. Always use a mobile network, such as 4G, or a VPN (virtual private network) instead.

Use <https://haveibeenpwned.com> to see if your information has been involved in a data breach. If it has, you should immediately change any associated passwords.

Twitter users can keep up to date at @TVPCyber\_Fraud.



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>.



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## Thinking of booking a holiday?

Last year £6.7million was lost due to holiday and travel related fraud, with an average loss of £1,380 per person.

**Check the web address is legitimate** and hasn't been altered by slight changes to the domain name, e.g. going from .co.uk to .org for example.

**Do your research** and don't just rely on one review. If a company's defrauding people it's likely that consumers will post details of their experiences, warning about the company.

Check if the company's a member of a **recognised trade body**, such as ABTA. If you have any doubts you can verify membership of ABTA online at <https://www.abta.com>.

**Whenever possible pay by credit card**, and be very wary about paying directly into a private individual's bank account. NB >> **People buying villa or holiday apartment breaks from a private vendor, online**, are ESPECIALLY vulnerable to criminals – don't make it easy for them!

Check receipts, invoices and terms and conditions and be very suspicious of any company not providing these. If booking through Timeshare or a Holiday Club get the contract thoroughly checked by a solicitor before signing up.

### **Find more information and advice at:**

National Cyber Security Centre <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk>

Cyber Aware <https://www.cyberaware.gov.uk>

Get Safe Online <https://www.getsafeonline.org>

More advice about how to protect yourself against fraud is available on the Thames Valley Police website :-

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/personal-fraud/>

**To contact the police** call either 101 (for non-emergencies) or 999 (for emergencies). There is ALSO an online reporting tool at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk) (you'll be contacted within 24hrs of filing a report)

**Contact NAG5** by calling 01235 848694 or via e-mail to:- [neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodactiongroup5@hotmail.com)

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[michellenowlandpt@hotmail.com](mailto:michellenowlandpt@hotmail.com)





Usually I venture further back in the Pop Chart annals, but I thought I'd check who was charting this time of year **20 years ago**. Ricky Martin's *La Vida Loca* was #1, and soon to get there were two just going solo, Ronan Keating (*When you say nothing at all*), & someone called Geri Halliwell (*Mi Chico Latino*).

Go back **30 years** and July had nothing of note, but big hits that year were *Like A Prayer* (Madonna), *The Living Years* (Mike & the Mechanics), and *If You Don't Know Me By Now* (Simply Red).

**40 years ago** (it can't be that long?!) and July had a couple of good #1s, *I Don't Like Mondays* (Boomtown Rats), & *We Don't Talk Anymore* (Cliff).

**FIFTY years ago** (for real old-timers) and this had one of the all time greats, *Honky Tonk Women*, just above Stevie Wonder's *My Cherie Amour*. Coming up the charts, and soon to be #1, were Zager & Evans (*In the Year 2525*), and Creedence Clearwater Revival (*Bad Moon Rising*).

For very, er, 'mature' folk, I'll jog their memory with this month's highlights from all of **60 years ago**, the wonderful Connie Francis (*Lipstick on your Collar*), Cliff (*Living Doll*), Paul Anka (*Lonely Boy*), and Craig Douglas (*Only Sixteen*). If only!

In World News, **1989** saw revolutions in Poland, Hungary and then Czechoslovakia, leading to the end of the Berlin Wall.

Back in **1979**, we'd just had the **Jubilee Line & Thorpe Park** opened, and **Margaret Thatcher** taking over from Jim Callaghan, her Govt shortly to announce £4 Billion worth of spending cuts, as the cupboard was nearly bare (*Déjà vu anyone?!).* Brighton's nudist beach was about to, er, 'show its wares' (more often, show its wrinklies, as I recall), there was an ITV strike for almost 2 months, and good old British Leyland decided to stop making the MG, **leading to the Abingdon plant being closed.**

In **1969**, we were just about to lose the old halfpenny (younger ones, ask grannie & granddad), but were soon to see the new **50p coin** (a strange 7 sided thing!), which replaced something which was a fond memory for us ancients, the ten-bob note!



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## NOTICE BOARD

### FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

**Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company?** Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons? They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from **2.30pm** to 4:00pm and **YOU** are invited to drop in during these times. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a **warm welcome**.

Our next dates are **July 2nd & Aug 6th**. If you need **transport or further information** please give me (**Jean Hager**) a call on 531558.

### DRAYTON HALL NEWS

OK, assuming this issue gets to most people in the last week of June, anyone with TOOLS is invited to a **tool-marking** session, Sat June 29th, 10am to 2pm, in the Hall car-park. It's run by PCSO Sue Haynes, and these sessions are proving very popular, trying to deter the apparently never-ending spate of thefts from vans and garden sheds. And you can bring something like your lawn mower, if you think it's kept somewhere vulnerable, and you can get it down there.

July 15th (Monday) there's session to **demo the defibrillator**, which is on the outside wall of the hall. It's at 11.30am, organised by the Bowls Club, but I gather that anyone can attend.

DO TRY and come to the **Charity Craft Fair**, Sat July 13th, in aid of the Porch Homeless Day Centre. Kathy Head is the driving force behind it, may even be a late opportunity to have a stall, the ad is on page 2, and you can contact her via the Families in Drayton Facebook page.

Speaking of **crafts**, second Thursday per month, there's a group doing a wide assortment of them, sewing, knitting, upholstery, cards, all sorts, pop along and have a chat from 2pm (they're in the Small Hall). They'd need you to sign up to 'U3A' to become a regular, but that has other benefits, and you get the small fees back in tea and bikkies!

Paul – our Martial arts teacher (Thursday evenings) – is thinking of running a **self-defence class for women**, so if you might be interested, do make contact (see back page).

### YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

**Parish (Clerk)** Lorraine Watling ([clerk@draytonpc.org](mailto:clerk@draytonpc.org))

OR phone 07909 176 061;

**District (VofWH)** Andy Cooke (07507 602911)

**& Oxfordshire County** [richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:richardwebber777@gmail.com)

## LISTINGS

**Bellringing Group** – (at the Church, if you were in doubt!) tell me they have a vacancy or two for some new blood, just pop along and see if you can hit the right note? (see page 4). Musical, and quite good exercise I believe.

**Woodstock Museum** - (closed Mondays) - has a special display of **poppies** until July 24th (made by local students), in the grounds, next to the adjacent SOFO museum (that's 'Soldiers of Oxfordshire') which has various WW1 exhibits. It ALSO has 'A wander through the world of Alice', (to Sept 8th), an interactive exhibition for families (in conjunction with the Story museum) with a new way to explore Lewis Carroll's famous book.

**Local Dog Warden is on** 01235 520202 – as we seem to get frequent reports on the Families Facebook of dogs running around away from their owners?

**Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue** are looking for on-call firefighters, see their website [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oncallfirefighters) for the details, AND they're offering free 'Safe & Well' visits, with a variety of safety checks, see [www.365alive.co.uk/safewell](http://www.365alive.co.uk/safewell) or please call their safety helpline 08000 325 999.

**Do YOU know Gordon – or Steve?** – this one's a bit unusual, we had an email from a Gordon Farrington, wondering if anyone could help him get in touch with a 'Steve Lester' of Larkmead School from the early 70s (said he'd been inspired by hearing Jack Lester on some show). He added that he was an "old man, trying to set the record straight".

**Andy Cooke (new District Councillor – see page 7)** – sent us a nice file detailing who does what round the various councils, so, Parish, Vale, & Oxfordshire County. Sadly it's a bit big to fit into the Chronicle these days, as we seem to be packing in more adverts & content than ever before (this month no exception!). So, I'm getting it loaded onto the Village website, it'll be under Village Information see [www.DraytonVillage.co.uk](http://www.DraytonVillage.co.uk)

## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

**Could you foster?** We need **short term and long term** foster carers as well as carers who can just help out for weekends and school holidays for children of all ages from babies to teenagers.

Foster carers receive a comprehensive training and support package along with financial support. **We need a diverse range of people** with different skills and qualities to come forward so that more children are placed in the right home, first time.

The package includes:- a fostering fee of £218 to £459 per week paid in addition to fostering allowances; local training and unlimited support from a dedicated fostering team; relief care; 24/7 telephone help line; regular support groups; birthday and holiday payments; free membership of Fostering Network.

See [ww2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/becoming-foster-carer](http://ww2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/becoming-foster-carer) to find out more details, or call **0800 7835724**. Types of placements are both short & long term and include sibling groups.

Next info evening, with our team, social workers & other carers is Weds July 10th 6.30 to 9pm (Nash Court, Oxford, OX4 2RU).

**There's a range of different fostering schemes, and YOU just might make a big difference to someone's life?**

## Hall Diary for JULY

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 (Jun) 29	10am	Tool Marking (free service – to 2pm)
Mon	1 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Tues	2 2.30pm	1st Tuesday Connections (p19) <i>Church Room</i>
Thur	4 11.00am	Baptist Café (EVERY Thursday) Tea, coffee, cake and a chat!
Fri	5 6.30pm	Private Function
Sat	6 1.00pm	Private Function (child's party)
Thur	11 2.00pm	'U3A' Crafts Group (Mthly – Small Hall)
Sat	13 noon	<b>CRAFT FAIR (charity - see ad page 2)</b>
Sat	13 12.30pm	<b>Chronicle Lottery* Deadline</b> (NB * As stated last month, this is the final Lottery)
Mon	15 11.30am	Debrillator Training (Bowls, but open to all)
Mon	15 5.00pm	<b>Chronicle Deadline</b> (p2 – Ads Fri 12th)
Sat	27 7.00pm	Private Function
Weds	31 2.00pm	Drayton Wives – Monthly meeting

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### 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.

## 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

2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session
6.00 pm	'Bounce Fit' (1hr - Sophie 07791 778388)
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>
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours) <i>School</i>
7.00 pm	'RockBox' (to book, see Clubbercise)
7.30 pm	Bingo Session (over 18s) <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
8.00 pm	Clubbercise (run by Gemma Pearce, see her F'book)

#### WEDNESDAYS

10.00 am	Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) <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 (term-time / Laura 07916 459435)
7.00 pm	League Table Tennis (three hours) <i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session

#### 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
5.30 pm	Rainbows** (girls 5 to 7 yrs, call Vicky 07801 447720)
**	suspended until Sept relaunch – do register with Vicky
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>

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