

# **DRAYTON CHRONICLE**

A large group of brown chickens, likely a breed like the Orpington, are scattered across a lush green field. In the background, there is a long, low building with a corrugated metal roof, possibly a chicken coop or a farm structure. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a clear sky in the distance.

**NOVEMBER 2019**

**Volume 42 No 10**

***Editor - Tony Holmes***

***Photo - Tussel Humphrey***

# COMING CHRONICLES

The December Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on or about **Friday Nov 29th 2019**. The Editor will be **Margaret Inger (07967 730735)**. 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, November 18th**.

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 Nov 15th, 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 (& Ads on the Fri before these)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
<b>Feb</b>	Mon Jan 20th	Jan 31st

**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 NEWS

Carol & Colin Arnold, now our Distribution Managers, tell me that we have – first time for ages – got a full complement of Agents so that all delivery rounds should now be covered for getting Chronicles through letterboxes. **A big 'shout out' to Trish Gurdev** for volunteering to deliver the outstanding round in Hilliat Fields – and she doesn't even live there! (Hopefully that's not the signal for bouts of flu or someone moving away so we have gaps again!).

**Coffee-break Quiz Winner**  
*Many thanks to everyone who entered the crossword competition in last month's Chronicle. We had an excellent response! The answer was 'Watering Can' and the lucky winner is **Eniko Molnar** of Drayton Mill, who wins the £20 voucher to spend at **Vickery's Hardware Store**.*

## Chronicle Contributions

Yes, we love contributions, without them, editing gets quite tricky! Adrian Smith kindly wrote in (p9 - & he's in Gloucester now) to suggest some ideas, responding to an earlier letter.

We HAVE for many years invited people to send in all sorts of articles, and even if directly approached, it's one thing for people to say "yes, good idea, I can do that", and quite another for the text to actually arrive?!

But **Adrian has some good ideas**, do have a dekho and see if there's anything there that you or a relative can help with, likely points 4 to 7? One thing we DO miss now, with Agents not knocking on doors to sell Lottery tickets, is the info for our '**Neighbourhood News**' item, movers in & out.

That earlier letter mentioned former regulars like the gardening column, and for years Lois Rennells sent us a stream of recipes, and they could perhaps be revived, but we can't go out and force people at gunpoint to start typing!

We want to avoid being like 'Round & About', & some nearby village mags, which are mostly ads with a few articles thinly draped amongst them.

We do have the regular articles from the Parish Council, and our local (County & District) Councillors, all good info, but for Editors striking the right balance is quite tricky, with the extra burden that extra pages carry an extra printing fee!

So yes, please DO send in your contributions, preferably via email to [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net) – and now we're in lovely colour, we also need more photos (high res if poss), especially those suitable for the front cover (I think we've now had the Church, and the pond, several times).

**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.

**This Month's Cover** – Grateful thanks to **Brook Farm**, one of our long-term advertisers (this time, page 15), for supplying pics of their free range chickens, a variety called 'ISA browns' (friendly, sweet & docile apparently, according to the ChickensEggstra website) and which likely have Rhode Island Red and possibly some White Leghorn in their ancestry.

For all those working in Milton Park, you likely go right past?

## Local Groups & Clubs

### Drayton WIVES

This month we welcomed Captain Kamran Irani to talk to us about the work of the **Blood Bikers**. It is a nationwide Association which started in 2008 to provide free out of hours medical transportation for the NHS. Captain Irani (a retired airline pilot) went to an exhibition in London for motorbikes and was so taken with the Blood Bikes he joined them. In 2017 he became the chairman for Oxon, Bucks, Berks and Northants.

In the evenings the transfusion department of hospitals such as the John Radcliffe go to a skeleton staff, and so if any transport was needed the hospital had to pay for taxis, police, couriers etc to transport the blood, so the organisation works between 7pm & 6am and is completely voluntary.

The area covered is 1700 sq miles and there is a minimum of 3 riders each day, with 14 motorbikes and 3 4x4 vehicles for extreme weather. The motorbikes are Yamaha, BMW, or Honda, the largest being the Yamaha costing £14,500. Each bike or car has a name and it's always a lady's name, someone who has done great things in medicine.

Everything has to be paid for through fundraising, donations or sponsorship. **They do have a 'Just Giving' page for donations if anyone would like to donate.**

Every volunteer works from home with a common telephone number run by a controller, who makes sure the job meets the criteria for urgency and then matches up the name on the bike with the volunteer.

To qualify for the job every trainee must be over 25yrs and have an advanced riding qualification, with induction training on how to use and carry the equipment.

The other important job they do is to carry human donor milk for premature babies. These babies should only have human milk as it increases their chances of survival by 10%. This is called the Angel Programme and there have been over 400 collections in 2018. Donor milk goes out frozen and treated as urgent.

A very good talk on an interesting subject and amazingly it is run by volunteers with only donations to keep it going.

A very successful coffee morning was arranged for **Macmillan Nurses** by Liz Kidd and her helpers. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed the coffee and fabulous cakes.

*Lisa Lammiman*

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Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409



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### Drayton WI

### Ann Webb

Chloe decided that maybe her chosen subject was perhaps not as entertaining as she first thought, so changed to "The Hierarchy of the early Victorian Era".

Thinking of a beehive as an illustration of levels of society, with the Queen at the top, nobility on the next level, and so on down the layers of the general public to the lowest of the low, the 'untouchables' clearing up all kinds of human detritus.

This was accepted through many years until the First World War started to break it down. As they broke out of servitude, to survive the war, the system was not regained.

Next month we have a return visit from **Josie Midwinter**, known by many of us, and has spoken before about her work in Africa - and this will be another chapter in her life story.

Come and listen to this amazing lady on **Thursday Nov 14th** at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Day Centre (Gravel Lane).

See you there!

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(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)

www.damascusparish.org.uk

<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 NOVEMBER

Sun 3rd 3.00 pm \*\*\* All Souls' Service. All welcome.  
 Tues 5th 2.30 pm 1st Tuesday Connections Church Room

**Sun 10th 9.45 am Service of Remembrance, inc Royal British Legion Act of Remembrance at 11am.**

**NB On this day,** there will be NO Service at 6pm.

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

### PARISH REGISTER

<b>Baptisms</b>	Aug 18th	Frankie Jack Humes Sienna May Humes
	Sept 1st	Henry Stephen Collen Colbourne
	Sept 8th	Edith Violet Laughton

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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 a phone number (please!) in case any text needs verification.

You may request that the name isn't published, and we'll usually abide with this if there's a plausible reason.

## YOU STAY – WE PRAY (Nov)

3rd - 9th Abingdon Road; Oday Hill;  
 Binning Close; Haywards Road;  
 10th - 16th Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane;  
 Conifer Drive  
 17th – 23rd Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close;  
 The Green  
 24th – 30th Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close; Manor Close;  
 The Green

## DAMASCUS Ministry – Team Letter

### " Remember, remember the 5th of November "

As I write, the atmosphere in Parliament seems explosive enough without the need for any fireworks. However, November is a month for remembering and sharing memories. The Royal British Legion will be fund-raising through its **Poppy Appeal** as the 11th day of the 11th month approaches.

Red poppies are the more often seen, but there are other colours too. Blue or purple poppies, used by Animal Aid, are a reminder of the sacrifice and the resource of animals in conflicts. Black poppies have been controversially used in memory of the World War I conscientious objectors. White poppies are sold today by the Peace Pledge Union, but were originally introduced in 1933 by Britain's Co-Operative Women's Guild. The Khadi poppy is the most recently introduced (2018). The intention is to recognise the contribution of the Commonwealth nations, particularly those from an undivided India, in World War I. Remembrance services will be held in the DAMASCUS Parish churches on Sunday 10th November. **See details below.**

Just like the weather, the Church of England has seasonal changes during the year. November is a season of remembrance. Firstly in the month is **All Saints Day**, when Christians celebrate those who have been an inspiration in their life of faith and an example of encouragement for others to follow Jesus.

All Saints is followed by **All Souls**, a special service to many who share in the loss of loved ones. It is a time to remember with thanksgiving before God, those whom we have known more directly: those who gave us life and love, encouragement or who nurtured us in faith.

November is the season for looking back to things past. It is also the ending of the Church's year. The Christian calendar starts with Advent, a new beginning, a season for looking forward and preparation. With all of these things in mind, I'm sharing my favourite prayer, used for the turning of the Millennium:-

**Let there be respect for the earth, peace for its people  
 love in our lives, delight in the good  
 forgiveness for past wrongs  
 and from now on  
 a new start.**

*The Reverend Rosie Bruce  
 (Associate Minister in the DAMASCUS Parish)*

Nov	St Peter's	Milton	All Saints, SC
3rd	3.00pm All Souls Service		6.00pm All Souls Service
10th	9:45am Holy Communion followed by Act of Remembrance	10:45am Act of Remembrance (War Memorial) followed by Remembrance Service (church)	10:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Act of Remembrance, followed by Service of Remembrance

## Drayton Table Tennis Club

The new season started in late September and our seven teams look forward to a successful season. Actually the Artisans in Division 1 didn't start, as their first tie was postponed! At the time of writing they are yet to hit a ball in earnest as their second tie was also postponed!

Anyway the other 6 teams have all started. Both the Fury and the Giants in Division 4 have already played 3 ties as their Christmas 'Derby' was brought forward to avoid a possible clash with the school Xmas productions. The Fury ran out winners in that one. They then completed the 'double' as the fixtures paired them together in week two and again the Fury won through. In saying that, **Daniel Gifford** (aged 10) has **won 6 of his 9 matches** in his so far starring role for the Giants.

The other teams have had mixed fortunes. Also in Division 1 the Buzzards won their only tie to date 7-3. This was a good start in what will be a tough season. The Division 2 Corinthians have won one and lost one. With both finishing 8-2 they are on an even keel.

In Division 3 the Dingos have won one and lost one with their fellow Div 3 Eagles having lost their first tie by 3-7.

Lots of time to go of course, and we hope some of our teams will bring home a trophy or two come next April!

*John Gould*

# Red Lion

## Accommodation

All rooms are en suite

For more information  
Ring Glenn or Janet on  
01235 531457 or visit  
[www.theredliondrayton.co.uk](http://www.theredliondrayton.co.uk)

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## The Wheatsheaf Festivities

### Our Christmas Menu

2 Courses £22.50

3 Courses £23.50

#### Starters

Pate, toasted sour dough & apricot chutney  
Broccoli & Stilton Soup with fresh bread & butter  
Smoked Salmon, Horseradish crème fresh, sourdough  
& side salad

#### Mains

All served with Roast Potatoes cooked in goose fat,  
honey glazed parsnips, roasted carrots, Brussels sprouts,  
braised red cabbage puree, pigs in blankets, bread  
sauce & stuffing  
Roasted Beef with horseradish  
Roast Turkey with cranberry  
Mushroom, spinach & camembert wellington

#### Desserts

All our desserts come with tea or coffee & mince pie  
Christmas pudding with brandy sauce  
Fruit crumble served with custard  
Chocolate brownie with vanilla ice cream

Bookings of 4 get a choice of a complimentary  
red/white wine or prosecco

[Wheatsheaf.Drayton@gmail.com](mailto:Wheatsheaf.Drayton@gmail.com)

01235 538796

## Drayton Brownies & Rainbows

Enjoy working with children & helping them learn new skills?  
Enjoy crafts, games, fun and badges?

Maybe Girlguiding is for you!

**We are in need of adult (over 18) volunteers** to run Drayton Rainbows, for girls aged 5 - 7 years. Full training and support from other local leaders is available.

Meetings are usually an hour long and while there is additional planning time needed, it doesn't have to take over your life!

Maybe you were involved in Guiding in the past or would like to try something new, you will be very welcome to join us.

Please email Mary Thompson (our District Commissioner) at [steventonrainbows@gmail.com](mailto:steventonrainbows@gmail.com) or comment below and we can get in touch.

If you are interested in **your daughter** joining us in Rainbows or Brownies, you can register their details at [girlguiding.org.uk](http://girlguiding.org.uk). **Spaces are available** now for girls aged 7-10 at Brownies in both Drayton and Steventon.

### THAMES VALLEY FARMERS' MARKETS (8.30 to 1.30)

Fresh, Quality produce, Locally\* produced, Competitive prices  
(\*'Locally' – Didcot mkt has a wonderful fishmonger, up from Sussex, always sells well – little sea for fishing round here?!)

**Nov Dates** Ab'don (3rd Fri) 15th; Didcot (2nd Sat) 10th

TVFM news - ring 01235 227266 see website - [Tvfm.org.uk](http://Tvfm.org.uk)

# 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', he is a Privy Councillor, & chairs the All Party Parliamentary Groups for Arts, Health and Wellbeing; Commercial Radio; and Creative Diversity)

I am sure that many reading this would like an update on the latest activities in Westminster, however as I write well in advance of publication I **cannot predict** with any certainty what the situation will be when you read it! We may be in the throes of a general election! I **regularly update** my website, Facebook and Twitter pages so for more up to date news please do follow them.

Locally there have been **two major successes** in the past few weeks (I write at the beginning of October.) As the population of the local area increases so does demand for essential services. Key among these is the demand for excellent schools. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) predicts that primary schools across the county will require an extra 25,000 places by 2031.

I was therefore dismayed earlier this year to hear that schools across Oxfordshire were having trouble expanding their facilities, in particular classroom space, to meet the increase in demand. Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) had asked the Department for Education (DfE) for permission to expand their classrooms and they were refused, on the basis that the sacrifice of playing field space at the schools would be too great.

I was asked to intervene by parents and staff of schools in my constituency; I visited one of the schools, Marcham Primary and after a **successful intervention by MPs** across Oxfordshire I was delighted to receive news last week that the applications for expansion across the county have been approved.

A further cause for **celebration** is that NHS England have confirmed that not only will **PET-Scan services** at the Churchill be protected and remain in the hands of Oxford University Hospitals (there were fears earlier this year that they may be lost to a private operator) **new scanning services** will be provided at other Hospitals serving the constituency, including the Great Western in Swindon (following intervention by Oxfordshire MPs).

Once again these issues go to show what can be achieved if communities, local councils, MPs and Government **work together** to achieve the best outcomes.

NB Ed Vaizey MP's constituency office will be closing on 1st November 2019. BUT – you can still contact him, 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 [vaizeye@parliament.uk](mailto:vaizeye@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)

COULD YOU GIVE BLOOD? There was an appeal recently, local TV news, **more blood donors needed**.

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!

# Police & Crime Bulletin

[from Matthew Barber, deputy PCC for Thames Valley]

The Home Office have announced the first tranche of **police officer recruitment** to meet the pledge of 20,000 new officers promised by the Government.

Thames Valley will be able to recruit an additional 183 officers in the first year of the scheme (2020-21) with figures for years two and three of the uplift scheme yet to be confirmed. Government funding for recruitment in 2020-21 will cover all associated costs, including training and kit.

This announcement follows positive conversations between the Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner & Govt in recent weeks and is in addition to the 209 police officers and staff supporting frontline policing (such as call handlers) announced by the PCC earlier this year.

**GPS Tagging** - From this month the Courts will be able to utilise a GPS tag system when bailing suspects from court. The scheme supported by the Ministry of Justice will allow courts and the police to minimise the risk of further offending and safeguard victims whilst suspects are on bail.

The courts can consider both exclusion and inclusion zones and may be combined with timing restrictions or curfews. This allows better monitoring whilst minimising the impact on the lives of individuals awaiting further proceedings. →>

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→>> **Have YOUR Say** - The role of the PCC includes holding the Chief Constable to account, setting the council tax precept for policing, commissioning services for victims of crime, funding community safety partnerships and setting the policing priorities for the Thames Valley.

**I want to know your views** about policing where you live. Please spare a few moments to complete my short survey and tell me what you think is going well, & what can be improved. Please see :- [www.matthewbarber.co.uk/haveyoursay](http://www.matthewbarber.co.uk/haveyoursay)



**CHECK YOUR CHANGE?** There are some quite valuable 50p coins around – IF you can ever remember to examine them?! Masses of different designs make this coin very collectable, it's the 2009 Kew Gardens 50p design which remains the nation's rarest coin, with just 210,000 created. Other good ones are Flopsy Bunny, & Peter Rabbit (2018) and a number of 2011 coins featuring Olympic sports. Got one? Well done, get to EBAY?



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## WI - Life in the 20s

This letter and two others were in a box recently given to me (Ann Webb) to give more on our past as we in our local branch approach our 100th birthday.

Last month saw the original, July 1927, to Canada, and this one is their reply (there's a very different writing style!). We hope to publish the final letter in a later Chronicle, as & when space permits.

### Reply to Drayton WI from Canada

Dear President & Members Of Drayton Berkshire England

The Drayton Institute, Ontario members were all delighted to be one of the first to get correspondence from England (the land of roses) and myself being a native, from Devonshire, can't really express the pleasure it gave me to receive it. I was born on the fringe of Dartmoor near Exeter but left there 30 years ago. Have been back once and spent 14 months among relatives. Promised to return in two years but two months before I intended to return my Father died (my mother having gone several years previously). So that took all my longing to return away. Enough about myself.

I have been secretary for Drayton Branch for 7 years. We belong to the West Wellington District which consists of 5 branches, viz Palmerston, Rothsay, Moorefield, Glenalley and Drayton. This year to date Drayton has 163 members. Our fee for one year is 25 cents. I don't know but I think our membership has grown little this year as we are all working for a flag - a 14ft 6inch Union Jack. We have won it twice and three times in succession wins it outright, so of course you will readily understand why we are working. (Long list of points awarded for membership, attendance, competitions, crafts and other items). I am forwarding a copy of our Old Boy Home week and in conjunction with another group, Drayton WI got our war memorial ready to unveil. It took 2 years to get this into shape. We got up plays and concerts to pay the costs and we are all proud of our labour.

We have to get seats but as the grass seeds were only sown in the spring, it is really not fit to be used as seats and feet yet. So we will not put seats around until next Spring, when we hope some of our merchants will donate things, this is what we hope for. ➔➤



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Am forwarding a programme for 27/28. Our year ends May 31st and members usually pay in the May meeting for the coming year. Well you will say 'that woman tells all and doesn't stay on one subject long enough to explain properly.'

We all laughed at your folk dancing competition, and all hope you will win the banner, as we all hope to win the flag once more. We are all villages, there are about 700 souls in Drayton Village, but a large quantity of farmers wives are good scouts, many of them born in the British Isles.

Of course the WI in Canada have nothing whatever to do with religion or political issues, everyone is welcome and one meets people at the WI that one would never meet any other way. It's a school for grown-ups and we have lots of fun out of it. Time and temper passes.

Isn't it a fact that out of a bunch of women there is always one who can do something, just one something better than all the rest. We try and find that expert when she demonstrates her particular hobby. Whether it's icing, or making a cake, making candy, boning a fish, making salads, canning fruit or vegetables in fact anything, singing, playing, giving an address.

On Feb 14th, St Valentines Day, we have a masquerade, give prizes for the best costume in each class. Charge 50cents each, give them coffee and cake and sandwiches. Play cards in part and dance in another and really it's got to be an annual treat the young people look forward too. As soon as Christmas is over they want a list of characters that will be given prizes. We change them each year and have special classes for children under 12, these little tots look eagerly forward to St. Valentines Day.

I think I said enough for this time for I am afraid it will tire you out but sincerely hope it won't so Good Bye for today and shall expect answer from you soon.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Jesse Dowling

**ANY WOOL to SPARE?** The League of Friends (JR hospital, and Churchill), would love to receive contributions, so their knitting corps can create some items (toys, gloves, etc) to sell in their cafes & raise valuable funds. To make a gift, well, you MUST know somebody that goes up to one of them?!



# YOUR LETTERS

## Notice of & Invitation to AGM

Dear Editor, via email

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project - the trustees, staff and young people - would like to share some of the highlights and achievements of their work in 2018/19 and hope that you are able to attend.

It's **Tuesday November 12th**, at 7.15pm, and the venue is **Sutton Courtenay Village Hall**.

Kind Regards Anne Whitehead (Secretary)

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## Macmillan Coffee Morning

Dear Editor, High Street

A very big THANK YOU to **everybody** who came and supported our Macmillan coffee morning.

We raised an **incredible £1,085 !!** We really appreciate all the local support for this very worthy cause.

Yours sincerely, Liz Kidd and Brenda Malin

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## Chronicle – and its Future Content

Dear Editor, Abbeymead, Gloucester

As an ex-resident of Drayton, I keep in touch with Drayton news via each month's edition of the excellent Drayton Chronicle, initially the online version and then I re-read the paper version which my parents save each month for me.

You have kindly published various articles from me since I moved to Gloucester and so I was very interested to read Keith Clough's letter about 'Drayton Village Life' and his suggestion that more local items need to be included, which may need some 'arm twisting' and a more proactive approach.

I have some suggestions to help, as follows: (1) There used to be regular items about Drayton's WW1 casualties, re the Great War centenary. Could there be similar features, with the focus changed to Drayton's WW2 and Korean War casualties?

(2) It may be possible to get regular inputs from the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust who are always looking to spread news about the great work they are doing in trying to restore the canal from Semington (Wiltshire) through to Abingdon?

(3) Keith suggested that some old features could be revived and that could include some of the 'history of Drayton' type items that have been produced over the years.

(4) How about a regular feature 'Thoughts of growing up in Drayton or 'Memories of Drayton' from those of us who are no longer residents? I would be happy to provide such an item and I am sure that current residents could put the Chronicle in touch with their relations scattered far and wide across the globe.

(5) How about a regular section about Drayton Football Club history because it has been at the heart of the village for over 112 years – there must be lots of old photos scattered around the village (and beyond) of teams and their achievements through the years.

(6) I am old enough to have attended the old school in High Street (with its separate playgrounds for boys and girls) so could there be a 'Drayton School through the years' section, with pictures or other memories/ achievements?

(7) Or perhaps a 'Drayton Heroes and Celebrities through the years' article or two?

Yours Faithfully

Adrian Smith

[Ed's Note :- for a little more re 'content', please see page 2]

## Your District Councillor



Well, quite a lot to mention this month.

Firstly, and most infuriatingly, the developers at Halls Close won their appeal to the planning inspector to have planning conditions eroded, and were also awarded costs. We don't regret fighting it – it was the right thing to do.

This entire development is a legacy of the period when speculative development was rife as the Vale didn't have "a five-year land supply". This is known as "planning by appeal" – developers made speculative attempts outside of existing planning, the District Council rejected them, they appealed, and inspectors granted them simply because there is no five-year land supply.

When this happens, Neighbourhood Plans are weak and District Councils are all-but-powerless in the field of planning control. As the Halls Close development was originally put forward in that period, it was forced through at that time and the erosion of the conditions is simply a hangover of this – while it would not have been granted planning permission today (as we now have a five-year land supply), the inspector noted that it *had* obtained planning permission at the time and decided that the conditions could therefore be removed. In effect, the developer had managed to get their foot in the door while it was ajar and we now could not prevent them from making themselves at home.

At the moment, though, we **do** have a five-year land supply, which means that attempts for **new** speculative developments are now far, far harder and the Vale, at last, can protect Neighbourhood Plans from these – **as long as we retain that five-year land supply**. We can stop them from forcing their foot in the door in future, cutting these issues off at the very start.

This brings me on to the **Full Council Meeting** on Oct 9th, when we debated adoption of Local Plan Part 2 (LPP2). This is supposed to be the master plan that drives and controls all development in the Vale until 2031, and Neighbourhood Plans are created to adhere to it.

It designates housebuilding and standards, controls affordable housing numbers, specifies building locations, incorporates infrastructure improvements, and governs how we meet our climate change undertakings.

The problem is that the current LPP2 was made almost under wraps, that the new administration disagrees strongly with huge chunks of it, and it leaves us in a poor position with regards to sustainable housing, affordable housing, community impacts, and environmental impacts.

The number of houses to which LPP2 commits is based on a flawed and excessive number, which ends up being doubly damaging: as the number of houses in it is too great for the builders to keep up with, our projected *actual* five-year housing construction decreases to below our commitment, breaking the five-year housing supply (it's currently projected to break below 5 years in 2021/22).

In addition to this, far too little notice is placed in the Plan on genuinely affordable housing amongst those developments, the infrastructure improvements in it gloss over rail and public transport, and cycleways, do not do anywhere near enough to provide sustainable housebuilding (a huge amount of carbon is given off in construction; this does not need to happen), and housing developments should be (we believe) more co-located and coherent with rail and public transport systems. And so on (I can go on for hours on this). →> (next column)

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→> However (and there's always a "however", isn't there?), the LPP2 is so far advanced to have been found legally sound and failing to adopt it at this stage could be very damaging. Not only have OCC threatened to withhold the essential Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) improvements to our infrastructure if *anyone* refuses to adopt their Local Plans, but the Government themselves have threatened to step in and *force* adoption if necessary (in fact, since our Council Meeting, they have attempted just that with SODC, our neighbouring council, causing uproar).

Moreover, our five-year land supply will be broken far faster if it is not adopted – within months! We are already aware of speculative developers poised to jump on some areas (I must emphasise here that there are plenty of ethical developers who work with communities and councils to produce sustainable and needed quality housing; for example, I know of villages where certain developers have worked closely with parishes to help develop their Neighbourhood Plans, and of other developers who have helped to advise both the council and myself and are intent on providing quality sustainable housing in alliance with the communities rather than chasing profit – the problem is that the ones who chase the speculative attempts tend to not be the ethical ones. The speculative grabs also discourage communities from working with development, overload existing communities, and are almost always less coherent with infrastructure). →>

This piece was in before, but worth repeating, as YOU can make a difference! 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 far from 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>

## More from Andy

➔ We looked at the option of rewriting the Plan before adoption; but, as it turns out, **this is impossible this late in the development stage**. But if we adopt it, we can rewrite whole chunks of it and adopt an updated Plan (under our own focus, as above) in two-and-a-half-years. If we fail to adopt it and insist on rewriting from scratch, a fuller process is needed, which would take four-and-a-half years.

In circumstances where there are no good options, pilots have a saying: **"Fly the crash"**. This means that you keep control as much as possible, and aim to minimise the impact. Or, in other words, "aim for something soft."

We concluded that regardless of what happens, we shall be rewriting the Plan; the question is simply how long that takes and what will happen in the meantime?

**If we do adopt the existing one for now**, we can rewrite it in 2-and-a-half years, maintain 5-year land supply at least until it is adopted (and, **with new, plausible figures in it**, aim to preserve five-year land supply indefinitely), and preserve our attempts to receive HIF funding (and Drayton's Neighbourhood Plan will have much more protection than before).

**If we do not adopt it**, rewriting it will take four-and-a-half years, we will not have our five-year land supply for almost all of that, opening up to speculative developers, we will be fighting about HIF funding... we would have almost no control at all.

Accordingly, we voted to 'fly the crash' and aim for something soft. The Vale will adopt LPP2 and immediately begin to rewrite it to include better and more appropriate housing, sustainable and genuinely affordable housing in concert with communities, better infrastructure, and far better principles to alleviate climate change. We anticipate a backlash over this, **but it is the least-worst outcome for the people who rely on us**.

**And at least Drayton's Neighbourhood Plan will be protected properly in the future, and we will be protected from further speculative development.**

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➔ After that lengthy discourse (apologies, but I do feel it's important to share as openly as possible the decision-making process, and issues with the LPP2), Council also adopted a motion to do as much as possible to help those non-UK EU members of our communities through the Brexit disruption to their lives, also a motion to move pensions into low carbon funds, and a motion to bring together (and make accountable) a variety of the organisations that influence regional development (so the likes of unaccountable and non-transparent decision-making such as the HIF cannot be done again without closer scrutiny and accountability).

Lastly, but importantly, we unanimously agreed to organise co-ordination meetings with Highways England and other key stakeholders to press for re-routing arrangements on the A34 (which frequently requires them) to avoid small roads and villages and instead to stick to primary routes wherever possible (or use contraflows if feasible); the impact of incessant heavy nightly traffic from HGVs is a blight on the lives of many.

That's all (eventually!) from me this month, take care,

*Andy Cooke*

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# More LETTERS

## How About A Wildlife Group?

Dear Editor,

Hilliat Fields

If you're thinking that you've never heard of Drayton Wildlife Group before, that's because, as far as I know, it doesn't exist! But I think it's time we started one, so I would be really grateful if anyone who's interested would get in touch with me, at [tjesson@live.co.uk](mailto:tjesson@live.co.uk).

I am particularly interested in Wildlife Gardening, birds, hedgehogs, and in tree planting. The Woodland Trust provides free trees to community groups for planting, and their next batch will be available in March. It would be lovely if we could get a group together so that we could be ready to get some planted by then.

The group could also share tips on wildlife gardening (I'm no expert, but we've made some small changes and now have numerous birds and at least four hedgehogs visiting our garden regularly), discuss concerns and ideas for improving things in the village, and maybe support some of the wider campaigns of organisations such as the RSPB and Woodland Trust. It might be that we could join forces with the Millenium Green Trust, Stonehill Community Garden and others for some projects.

So please get in touch if you'd like to join forces and maybe we can get something off the ground.

Many Thanks,

Tracy Jesson



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## Kennington Memory Club

Kennington Memory Club has just celebrated its first anniversary. It opened a year ago to meet the need for a local **Dementia Day Care Centre**. With qualified and experienced staff and our team of dedicated volunteers, we aim to provide a safe and supportive meeting place for people with dementia. Our members have the opportunity to exchange memories and opinions, take part in a choice of stimulating activities, as well as enjoying the fellowship of shared meals (at an extra cost). We give their families respite and the offer of support, advice and comradeship.

If they want to, carers can go to the **carers' support groups** that take place every two months.

The club meets on **Mondays & Thursdays from 9.30 to 3.30** in Kennington Methodist Church, Upper Rd, Kennington, OX1 5LR. Members must have a diagnosis of dementia, and we welcome enquiries by them, or by carers on their behalf, for details please phone our organiser **Helen on 07852 883496**

Best Wishes,

Margaret Newton



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## A Reminder of Summer

Dear Editor,

via email



During the week of 7/8 September St Peter's Church was decorated with a glorious display of flowers. They had been brought in by Suzy Willis whose daughter, Venetia, married her childhood friend, Freddy Paske, now a successful artist.

Those with long memories may remember Venetia when she was eight years old, selling her home-made cakes around the village. That early entrepreneurial instinct never left her and she is now a business consultant.

That was on the Saturday, but the flowers remained in the church for others to enjoy. They included the congregation at the Sunday morning service and a family party of those who attended the christening that followed (for Edie Laughton).

Edie's parents, Amy and Mike, together with her five-year old sister, Gracie became one of the first residents of the new development off Abingdon Road. Gracie is in the Puffin class in the Primary School, where she is very happy.

(name & address provided, withheld by request)

[Ed's note:- this 'Reminder' letter was held over from the previous issue, for space reasons; the Memory Club letter in the L-H column has been extracted from a larger article – ditto]

## Hedgehog Street

Hedgehogs hibernate through winter and need somewhere sheltered to protect them from the cold and hungry predators. Why not help a hog by building them a home in your garden?



The *Hedgehog Street* team - ran by wildlife charities the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) and People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) - is urging people to **help hedgehogs by building them the perfect home**, providing a **safe haven** that's cool, cosy and comfortable.

Last year, *Hedgehog Street* launched the first ever Hedgehog Housing Census, which looked at how, when and why hedgehogs use either homemade or artificial hedgehog houses in gardens across Britain. The results show that:-

Hedgehogs **prefer homemade** houses, but artificial houses are still a good alternative if they have the right features; **they need time** to get used to a new house before they use it; **Feeding hedgehogs**, putting water in your garden & providing bedding (such as dry leaves, pet straw or both) increases the chances of a resident hedgehog moving in; they prefer houses found in back gardens, in **shaded areas**; and pets or badgers don't appear to put off a hog from moving in

**Building your own hedgehog home** is fun, and easy to do (they say!). Lack of space in this issue prevents the instructions being listed here, BUT >> To download a PDF with **simple instructions** on how to build two different types of house, please DO see this website:-

[www.hedgehogstreet.org/housingcensus](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org/housingcensus)

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### GREAT CENTRAL LINE (v HS2)?

In a recent 'Spectator', I saw that HS2 was going to cost over 50% more, up to £80 BILLION. The article suggested instead to re-open the forgotten Great Central line, closed by Beeching, but with the spaces for the lines apparently largely intact.

Far cheaper, but actually much more useful, as it WOULD regenerate various Midlands towns (HS2, at vast expense, actually misses them out, & doesn't go to New Street!), and enable new stations at Brackley (soaring in popularity now – but no train!), AND a junction with the mooted Oxford to Cambridge line (that we've heard much about, along with stealthy ideas to shove even more vehicles up the A34).

Let's hope the Govt, once free of wretched Brexit (!), **cancels** HS2, adopts this plan, and uses the saved money to regenerate the ailing transport of the Midlands & North. [eg Liverpool & Leeds super-Trams would each cost under 1% of HS2].

**For the full article**, see (just register an a/c) Ross Clark's :-

<https://www.spectator.co.uk/2019/08/there-is-a-far-better-option-than-hs2-and-it-already-exists/>

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

I recently had to attend the JR, to discuss possible treatments for the **hernia** I'm told I now have (yes, sadly having to give up triathlons & the limbo dancing) – the bus meandered through Marston and stopped right by '**Crotch Crescent**'. Enough to make you start believing in God again, as He/She clearly has a GSOH?



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See <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk> & search for 'home security' (it's under 'downloads').

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## Richard Webber - Oxon CC

### County Council Report

The 'Growth Deal' >>

This has been an eventful month for Oxfordshire's Councils. There is much concern that the actions of one council could affect others. At its recent Council Meeting, after much anguish, VWHDC finally agreed to **adopt its Local Plan**. The good news is that, for the moment at least, the area **should be protected** from speculative planning applications which have plagued us for some years. The downside is that all Oxfordshire Councils are working towards plans with greatly increased housing numbers. Though not as bad as some, VWHDC is already slipping behind its target allocation and this could see the return of speculative planning within a very few years.

Did I say "all" Oxfordshire Councils? The **problems** of South Oxfordshire's Local Plan have been in the news on many occasions over recent years. They have been unable to agree where their housing allocations should go. Indeed, the argument has seen the disintegration of one administration and culminated in May of this year in the installation of a new one. The SODC Local Plan was always well behind the Vale's and, in the short term, they are under less threat from speculative planning. In order to make adjustments to their Local Plan, last week, their Cabinet was about to ask the Council to withdraw their plan. A simple enough decision you would have thought - but nothing in planning is ever simple.

Many months ago, **Oxfordshire Councils collectively signed up to a "Growth Deal"** with Government where, in return for £250m, the Councils would together deliver 100,000 new homes by 2031. In addition, OCC made a successful "HIF" (Housing Infrastructure Fund) bid for a further £150m needed to pay for a link road and river crossing from Didcot. OCC argued that this was needed if the roads supplying the many thousands of houses proposed for Valley Park, Didcot were to be built. The problem was that the VWHDC local plan depended on the successful delivery of those houses and that this government money was contingent on all Local Plans being in place. ➔



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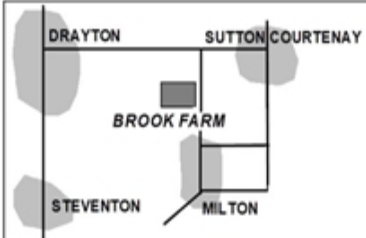
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So, (in the hope that you are still with me!), it seemed that the non adoption of the SODC Plan **could well upset the whole VWHDC Plan**. Or alternatively that Government would have to agree to a different source of funding to pay for the new link road and bridge. Last week SODC received an email from the Housing Minister, Robert Jenrick MP, "ordering that SODC must not discuss its Local Plan until he had made a decision". This notice went to all Oxfordshire Councils and the press and it raises **many questions**. Here are a few:-

- Is the Housing Minister using the right Act of parliament to justify his decision?
- Is the VWHDC plan now in place or not?
- Given how essential it is to Government that Didcot should grow, could the money not be found from some other source?
- There has been enormous pressure from other Councils on SODC not to withdraw its local plan and accusations of bullying. Is this right?
- Is this decision a flouting of local democracy? In May, SODC residents voted in their new council in part because they did not like their local plan – where does the Minister's decision leave them?

And we all thought Brexit was a complicated business!

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

## Parish Council Tamsin Crane (Chr)

[Ed:- We didn't receive a report of the latest Parish Council news, but as we go to print there's just been a meeting with Miller Homes (yes, another one), so there should be an account in the next issue].

The next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday Nov 4th**, 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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### NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

A belated welcome to Tracey Warmington, who has moved into Hilliat Fields from Milton.



[NB & please DO send us in these snippets of in/out news (ask the folks first!) as we now rarely hear such things!]



## Neighbourhood Action Group 5

### Safety Corner – Bogus Census Group warning

Neighbourhood Watch has received reports of fraudsters operating in Thames Valley who are posing as Home Office officials. They have documents with the Department of Home Affairs letterhead and **claim** to be confirming that everyone has a valid ID for the upcoming Census. **Their true aim is to attempt to rob homes.**

There is **NO SUCH INITIATIVE** of this kind from the Government. These fraudsters are moving around the area and they look presentable.

IF such criminals turn up at your door, don't let them in, call the police, and/or if there's a nearby neighbour who can quickly help, or a relative or friend, call them.

**Two-factor authentication** (2FA) - the easy way to keep hackers out of your accounts

The explosion in popularity of online apps and services means more and more of us need to remember an endless list of passwords. That can sometimes lead to shortcuts that are bad for our online security, such as using the same password for multiple accounts, or creating a simple password that's easy to guess.

Your important online accounts, such as e-mail or any account that holds personal or financial details, should be secured with a strong and unique password. Further protection can be gained by enabling two-factor authentication (2FA). Accounts that have 2FA enabled require you to verify your identity with your password (first factor), and then a randomised code (the second factor) that's sent to your smartphone. This means that even if your password's stolen, fraudsters will still need your phone, and if that's stolen, they'll need your password.

For instructions on how to enable 2FA on popular online services visit [www.telesign.com/turnon2fa](http://www.telesign.com/turnon2fa) ➔➔

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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### Passwords Advice

These hints were given a few months ago, but a reminder doesn't hurt:- 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 DO ensure you store the information in a secure location! [There are cases of experienced professional people who had a password written on a yellow 'sticky' note, helpfully left on the rim of their PC screen – like leaving the car with the keys in it].

**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.

### 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)



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. Shania Twain was there with Man, I feel like a Woman (20 years? Can't be?!), and Westlife were Having a Dream, plus John Lennon's reissued Imagine was outshining everything, as it would. Cliff Richard did hit #1 with The Millennium Prayer – presumably bought by all the companies hoping their computers wouldn't go phut when switched on in January 2000??!

Go back 30 years and there was nothing of note, bar Band Aid (2) and their Do They Know It's Christmas was on its way to #1.

40 years ago (can it be that long?!) was much better, ABBA with Gimme Gimme Gimme (you do the rest . . .) & Pink Floyd adding Another Brick in their Wall. Sting & The Police were Walking on the Moon, and the Nolans were In the Mood for Dancing!

FIFTY years ago (for real old-timers) and this had the hugely irritating Sugar Sugar (the Archies - don't start singing it), and Kenny Rodgers was asking Ruby to not Take Her Love to Town. Blue Mink had Melting Pot high in the charts, along with Stevie Wonder's Yester-me, Yester-you, Yester-Dayyyyy. And Elvis was also there with the great Suspicious Minds.

Can anyone remember 60 years back?! Here's a few hits for any other ancients out there (and they're good 'uns!) – Emile Ford (+ the Checkmates) What Do You Want to Make those Eyes at Me For, the fantastic Neil Sedaka with Oh Carol, the Avons (who?) with Seven Little Girls, Sittin in the Back Seat, and Adam Faith with What Do You Want (if you don't want money).

In 1989, this month, the Berlin Wall fell, and we had the House of Commons televised live (whoopee – what a ratings winner!).

Back in 1979, we'd just had Margaret Thatcher taking over from Jim Callaghan, & the Govt were shortly to announce that millions of council house tenants would be able to buy their homes, from the following year [this made her very popular, but the move has been criticised ever since as they seemed to forget that more housing stock would be needed!].



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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 **Nov 5 & Dec 10th**. Keen-eyed readers will note that the Dec date is the **SECOND** Tuesday (because it's the Christmas Party). If you need **transport or further information** please give me (**Jean Hager**) a call on 531558.

## DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Our **stage curtains** have been missing for several months now, taken down to be cleaned, but that proved too tricky, and we just never bothered to put them back. The new set IS now being constructed, and should appear in the not too distant future. New colour too!

As you may have seen from the ad on page 11, we have a **new exercise class** starting in January, precise date to be confirmed, but it'll be Mondays at 11.30 (squeezing in between our cleaner's usual early session, and the Short-Mat Bowls Club's normal Monday afternoon slot). It's called **FunFit for over-50s**, and "suitable for all levels" – so I might even go, as my level is flat out, and pooped. It's led by Carl Davis, who runs several similar things round the Oxford area.

We have now lost our **Dementia Support group**, they had to use the Small Hall, as Main Hall is in use for much of their slot, and outgrew that space. By coincidence, there's a letter in this issue re a similar group in Kennington, although that's twice per week, so if you know a family struggling with this affliction, maybe give them a mention?

We're getting to the time of year when it's a struggle for people to remember to **turn the lights off** when they go – hint hint!! We also recently found the urn wasn't working, apparently some folk think (!) turning it on before putting water in is a good idea (it's not, the thing just cuts out).

**Grateful thanks to Gary Hibbins**, for his work over several years as our bar manager, his counselling work has increased to the point where it (+ his young family) takes up most of his time, so he's handing over to **Andrew Fudge**, who will be known by quite a few round the village. We only have occasional events that need a bar service, but it's good to have someone in place (he runs the Grapes in Abingdon too). Moving forward, he DOES hope to be organising an occasional Sat night 'do', perhaps a few tribute acts will be turning up, watch this space.

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## YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

**Parish (Clerk)** Lorraine Watling (clerk@draytonpc.org)  
OR phone 07909 176 061);  
**District (VofWH)** Andy Cooke (07507 602911)  
& **Oxfordshire County** richardwebber777@gmail.com

## LISTINGS

**Millennium Green Tidy-Up** – scheduled for **Nov 2nd at 10am** (if you can help) - Jane says they're removing ivy from the walls, & trying some restoration work, suggests you need gloves, secateurs and a GSOH?!

**Woodstock Museum** - (closed Mons) - has their excellent Christmas selling exhibition again, by the Oxfordshire Crafts Guild, Nov 16th until Dec 29th; featuring many of the county's leading contemporary craft designers and makers – the perfect place to find that special Christmas gift!

**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?

**Abingdon's 'SAFE PLACES' scheme** >> a reminder :- It aims to provide a **safe place** for people to go if they are feeling lost, worried or threatened and will provide important help for **vulnerable people**, such as those with dementia, learning disabilities or mental health needs. Places signed up to help are **Abingdon's Library, & Museum, & Boots, Costa Coffee and the Co-Op**.

**Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire** is looking for **new volunteers** to support local families with young children who are experiencing difficulties. Are you a parent, or have experience working with young children, and **can spare 2-3 hours per week** giving friendly practical and emotional support? Full training and on-going staff support given. Please contact 01235 511152 for more info, or email to: [admin@homestartso.org](mailto:admin@homestartso.org)

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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 Nov 13th 6.30 to 8.15pm** (Barton Children & Family Centre, Waynelete Road, Headington Oxford, OX3 8DD).

(NB >> DO please check with that team if the event is still at that address, they're just moving office, the address given is the new one, and plans can go awry!)

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

## Hall Diary for NOVEMBER

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

(for other regular events, see the R-H column >>)

Sun	3	10.00am	Dog Seminar (re Griffon Bruxellois)
Mon	4	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> <i>Caudwell DC</i>
Tues	5	1.45pm	Bowls (League matches, some Tuesdays)
		2.30pm	1st Tuesday Connections <i>Church Room</i>
Thur	7	11.00am	Baptist Café (and EVERY Thursday) Tea, coffee, cake and a chat! <i>Baptist Church</i>
Sat	9	11.00am	Private Function
Sun	10	10.00am	Dog Show (French Bulldog)
Thur	14	2.00pm	'U3A' Crafts Group (Mthly – Small Hall)
Sat	16	1.00pm	Private Function
Sun	17	1.00pm	Private Function
<b>Mon</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Chronicle Deadline</b> (p2 – Ads Fri 15th)
Sat	23	1.00pm	Private Function
Sun	24	9.00am	Bowls Club
Sat	30	10.00am	Private Function (Wedding)

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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

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 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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