

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE



**JULY**  
2020

Volume 43 No. 6  
Editor - Tony Holmes

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **August Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on or about **Thursday July 30th**. The Editor will be **Mo Pudick (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 20th**.

**After this deadline**, items get **less precedence** for inclusion (No guarantees!), & need to reach us by the Wednesday.

**STOP PRESS - ADVERTISERS should note** that the deadline for ads is **EARLIER, Friday July 17th**, due to their preparation time.

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

**NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS** (any doubts, ask the Editor!) All contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to **include the name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number of the author**. Contributions can be made :-

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

to reach the next editor → [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net)

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

2. An **email attachment**, in WORD please (NOT a PDF file!).
3. A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. **BUT** – IF you can type it, PLEASE see numbers #1 & #2 above?! [Scanning is a real nuisance, and tends to create errors!]
4. **Hand-written? Preferably not, if more than about a para**. This is 2020, should be a way to type & send it?! (= less errors!).

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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>Sept</b>	Mon Aug 17th	Aug 28th

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## CHRONICLE NEWS

**Carol & Colin Arnold**, our Distribution Managers, would like to thank the volunteers who came forward after recent appeals, so now (for a month or two?!) we should have a full group of Agents delivering Chronicles, and we're now blessed with a fourth Distributor (they split up the delivery from the printer, and take each allocation to the Agents) – shout out to the Woolleys!

**Chronicle Contributions**

Yes, we love contributions, without them, editing gets quite tricky! We HAVE for many years invited people to send in all sorts of articles; one thing we DO miss now, with Agents not knocking on doors to sell Lottery tickets, is all the relevant info for our '**Neighbourhood News**' item, movers in & out, perhaps a new baby, that type of thing. So, if you're aware of a new neighbour, or one who's retired to the seaside (?), do please let us know. But if it's someone new to the village, maybe check first, not everyone likes publicity?! (especially if he looks like Lord Lucan might do these days?)

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 Sutton Wick pond several times?!).

**This Month's Cover** – Grateful thanks to **Andy Cooke** (District Council) for sending in this rather unusual aerial shot of the village, taken he tells me from 1300 feet up in early June.

You can see most of Drayton in the foreground, (spot your house?!), with Sutton Courtenay stretched out in the background, a bit of Milton in the top corner, and even a bit of the giant Milton estate.

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## Local Groups & Clubs

### Drayton Table Tennis Club

Sadly as a result of the Lockdown the Didcot Table Tennis League was brought to an early finish one week before the published fixtures were due to finish. Also the Handicap Shield and Bidmead Cup competitions were disbanded for the same obvious reasons. The League tables were ratified at a recent League AGM and thereby I'm pleased to say that Drayton Fury were crowned Division 4 Champions. It was appropriate as they had an unassailable lead at the top. I'm also pleased to say none of our teams finished in the relegation positions.



The club has for the time being ceased playing and this has been the case since lockdown started. Clearly the school has other priorities at the moment but we are hoping that at some future date we can return to the table. The guidance from Table Tennis England suggests two players can practice within certain conditions but in all honesty this will be very hard to manage for any of the Didcot league's 200+ players. As things stand no one is able to predict when or how table tennis will resume and of course this applies to many amateur sports. The club AGM happened in June but not in time for these notes. I will report on that later.

Let us all hope that at some stage the 'new normal' will still enable all to enjoy their different sports, pastimes and hobbies. Keep alert and keep safe. *John Gould*

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The past few weeks have been another whirlwind of anticipation, preparation and delivery. With increased reports of young people gathering in open spaces it was essential that we were also out positively engaging with them and reminding them of the safety issues in a friendly way. **It has been great to see young people face to face again** as engaging virtually on a screen isn't always ideal.

Our staff team have been **supporting young people** in Drayton with baking parcels, socially distant walks and 1-2-1 support sessions. We have invited parents to engage in online virtual coffee evenings and topical bingo sessions to bring the community feeling back after being isolated for so long. We hope to see you all again soon, **Stay Safe**.

The ADYP Team – Roxy Elford (pictured), Jake Fleetwood & James Quartermain

Do contact any of us on:- [jamesq.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:jamesq.ycat@gmail.com), [jakef.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:jakef.ycat@gmail.com), [roxy.ycat@gmail.com](mailto:roxy.ycat@gmail.com)

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Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus, James Damascus

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<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Meg Heywood	537100
<b>Pro-warden</b>	Mrs Linda Johnson	527521
<b>Pro-warden</b>	Mrs Val Cross	535183

We're really pleased to say that the church is now open daily for private, individual prayer! {Sunday – Saturday, 10-4}.

For everyone's continuing good health, once in the building, please would you follow the [guidelines](#) for social distancing and using the hand gel. [Thank you.](#)

There are resources for [Home Worship](#) on the DAMASCUS Parish website or join one of the many 'virtual' services such as 'Oxford Diocese Church at Home' at 10.00am – for which please see website :- [oxford.anglican.org/livestream](http://oxford.anglican.org/livestream)

Listen to 'Sunday Worship' on Radio 4 at 8.10am. Also watch Songs of Praise (BBC1 at 1.15pm). There is also the Church of England free phone line, 'Daily Hope' 0800 804 8044, offering a selection of prayers, hymns, songs and reflections.

[Please let us know](#) if you are self-isolating and need help of any kind, so that prayer and practical support can be offered in a safe way.

## PARISH REGISTER

**Funerals:** There have been no funerals in the Church Records in May.

### [A Prayer for us all at this time](#)

Ever present God  
be with us in our isolation  
be close to us in our distancing  
be healing in our sickness  
be joy in our sadness  
be light in our darkness  
be wisdom in our confusion  
be all that is familiar, when all is unfamiliar  
that when all the doors reopen  
we speak of your goodness  
to an emerging new world  
for Jesus' sake  
Amen.

### [YOU STAY – WE PRAY \(July\)](#)

June 28th – July 4th	Manor Close; The Green
5th – 11th	High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close
12th – 18th	Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Drive; Abbot Crescent
19th – 25th	Chestnut Drive; Holly Lane; Walnut Way; Willow Way;
26th – Aug 1st	Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End; Virgate; Lammas Land; Fallowfield Close;



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## [From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team](#)

### Lockdown Paths . . .

6 weeks might be considered a long time to wander through the wilderness. This year a strange Lent saw the beginning of lockdown, an unprecedented experience for all of us. Now as I write, we're 12 weeks in and considering how we might ease out and move forward. Through this extended time of metaphorical and reduced physical wandering - has it all been wilderness? Looking back, we've journeyed through Lent to Jesus' death on the cross and to the empty tomb; to the joyful dawn breaking upon Easter morning as we celebrated Jesus' resurrection; to his departure from earth, known as the Ascension; and to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, which transformed the fearful disciples into courageous witnesses to Christ.

Just as the Holy Spirit brought new energy into the followers of Jesus long ago, she continues today to guide and strengthen each of us. Often we don't look forward to Lent as memories surface of struggling to give up our favourite things, yet during lockdown we've all been **forced into giving up numerous things** that perhaps we'd taken for granted. Words like 'sacrifice', 'discipline', and 'self-denial' are often used in ways that suggest that Lent is something to be endured rather than a time of renewal and spiritual growth. But at its heart it's a journey, and journeying through this period of lockdown we've witnessed numerous acts of self-sacrificial love for family and friends and neighbours and strangers; many more people (of all faiths, and none) tuning into live-streamed services from all around the country; and many more people searching for answers to the big questions of life and faith.

So we may now find ourselves on a different path to that which, even just a few short months ago, we thought possible, but whatever the road, and however we travel, **perhaps we can continue to take time** to discover the riches of moving more slowly and to journey well with one another. Jesus said, "*Walk with me and work with me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.*" (Matthew 6:6, *The Message*).

**If we choose this path**, we will encounter God with new eyes and in new ways, in the people we meet, the places we stop, in nature's beauty and our own thoughts and feelings. Our experiences, especially during lockdown, will have changed us and hopefully because of that, we'll be more prepared for the unexpected as we journey forward, together, both individually and as community (villages and churches).

*"You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in your presence." Psalm 16:11*

*The Reverend Dr Karen Hyde*  
(Assistant Curate in the DAMASCUS Parish)

### [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.

## LOCAL W.I. HISTORY

Continuing the recent series on our history, now halfway through the war (extracted from the Diaries of the time).

This excerpt takes us through the last of the war years, and shows what we did to help make lives more tolerable in these difficult times. *{I shall continue this next month, into the post-War rationing years* *Ann Webb }*

(1943) Our group is smaller still, which is understandable with so many men away or doing Home Guard duty. The attendance was down to 15 each month but we carried on. In February we were entertained by the newly formed Girls Club, they gave a keep-fit demonstration.

In April, the talk was given by a county adviser who spoke about "Planning Our Villages after the War". May, the talk was about Local Government, sounds a bit dry!! In June we were invited to the gardens of Sutton Wick House (owned at that time by our president), the subject 'Folk Lore'. September we had 'travel talks', which seems odd in the restrictions of wartime? One was about Syria and the other was Village Life in New Jersey.

And some Members attended the Annual Council Meeting, the Speaker there spoke about Post War Britain Reconstruction. The venue was Rhodes House!!! A good report of the meeting that was given and much enjoyed, during the social half hour toys were made for the children in the London shelters, tales and recipes were added to the Institute book *{would love to know what happened to that}*. Other members knitted for the armed forces.

The hall was creosoted and painted in September, a produce sale was held on the village green to help pay for this work, it raised £6.3s. In October we worked hard arranging a social evening, this raised a further £7.4s.6d, plums and tomatoes were canned by some members. In November we said goodbye to Mrs Platt (our vice president) who was leaving the village, she will be very much missed. It is hoped we get more members next year, which would allow a more varied speaker list. For the last two years the hall has been used as a school for evacuees but owing to falling numbers the school closed.

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→ **Membership went up in 1944**, the first meeting was a social open to visitors, a demonstration of smocking was given. **February**, a talk given by Mr Upton on Sewage and Drainage, this information allowed members to fill in a questionnaire from the NFWI. **March**, another travel talk, on India this time, in **April** a talk on the life of Hans Andersen.

In **May** the talk was on local history, and **June's** was on the Courts of Justice. **July**, Miss James came and spoke about "Why Japan Entered the War!" - she entitled her talk "It Did not Surprise Me" [Ed's note:- she should have sent a note to the American Embassy, as it seemed to take them unawares?!]. **September** was an open meeting, one subject was Education and the other was a talk by the Berks Agricultural Committee on how to store vegetables.

**October**, "Life in South America", and **Nov** a talk on Chittagong and surrounding area. 'Make do and mend' classes then ran through into the New Year. The **County competition** was a **Bath mat made from old stockings!** During this year **two silver spoons** were presented to two members on the birth of their babies. The **knitting group** had also knitted garments for the children in **Liberated Europe**. Other ad-hoc events had seen a concert and play (**July**) arranged by Sutton Courtenay Scouts and Players, and a tea party was held at the Grange, altogether they raised £25. Members also contributed to **Christmas gifts** for the forces, and Ministry of Food leaflets were distributed around the village.

On to **1945**, **January**, Pattern cutting, and a collection was made to make up occupational parcels for prisoners of war. **February** was **rush-basket making**, BUT classes on basket making were abandoned because of . . . (wait for it . . .) lack of rushes!! **March** was a "Journey to Little Tibet", **April**, a demonstration of recipes from The Hand to Mouth cookery book. **May** an agenda was discussed, in **July** WVS members were invited to hear a talk on 'The Housing Situation and What Happens to your Rates', then soft toy making in **September**, and 'A cruise to Madeira' in **October**. A Welcome Home Fund committee held a concert to raise funds, and Sewing and Keep-fit classes were started.

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## WESTMINSTER VIEW



Our new MP (Wantage/Didcot) is :- David Johnston OBE (awarded for services to Social Mobility & Education).

I spent lockdown in the constituency, in the home we got in the Didcot area in February. Whilst none of us have enjoyed lockdown, it was nice to spend an extended time in our new home.

Having lived in Oxford for 6 years I was already somewhat familiar with Didcot, but spending an extended period here – rather than just the Friday-Sunday as is usually the case when parliament is sitting normally – helped us to get to know it better still.

**Virtual parliament** was smoother than I had expected – despite me thinking it would feel strange speaking into a webcam and having it beamed into the House of Commons. You get used to asking questions and even giving speeches from your desk, as I did on legislation such as the Domestic Abuse Bill and the Agriculture Bill.

**But parliament has now returned.** We still can't have more than 50 people in the House of Commons at any one time, some of you will have seen the very long queues when we first had to vote, but they have now come up with a much better system. Our staff can't return yet and like a lot of people they miss being in a different environment to home and seeing their colleagues, but for MPs it has been nice to be back for the same reasons.

**There is plenty on our plates.** We have been debating a number of pieces of legislation, including the **Counter-terrorism and Sentencing Bill**, designed to prevent the sort of attacks we saw at the end of last year and beginning of this year. There are ongoing debates both in the House of Commons and in the Education Committee (I am a member) about the **reopening of schools**. I am firmly on the side of seeing all schools open for all children as soon as possible: the Children's Commissioner told our Committee that we are on course for 8 million children to be out of school for 6 months which will be damaging to all children and the most disadvantaged will suffer most.

As shops start to reopen, I'll be returning to spending at least every Friday visiting local businesses, charities and, if we can make it work, schools – keeping my distance, of course. I'd encourage everyone to **try and support our local shops if they can**, so they can hopefully survive what has been a very tough time. I recently invited people to **nominate their volunteer hero** – the individual or organisation they feel has really made a difference lately. I was pleased to see such a huge range of people and organisations nominated. The top 3 were the **Ray Collins Charitable Trust, Helping Hands and Maymessy** – congratulations to them all.

<<< If you need to get in touch with me, email [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk), & for up-to-date info please see my Facebook page @davidjohnston4wantage

The **Waste Wizard** is a new online tool to kill the confusion around recycling and help Oxfordshire defeat General Waste. Type in your postcode and the name of any item to find out whether it can be reused, repaired, donated or recycled - [oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastewizard](http://oxfordshire.gov.uk/wastewizard)

## What Did YOU Do in 'Lockdown'?

In this very strange Covid-19 'lockdown' period, lasting several months, most of us have had at least some difficulties, and for some it's caused real hardship, sometimes heartache, even heartbreak.

But though this story was in the news a few weeks ago, to some extent, maybe some people wouldn't have seen it at all, and it details what a determined girl of just 15 achieved!



**Jyoti Kumari** won great praise for carrying her injured father hundreds of miles across India by bike after promising her mother she would get him home safely.

Tens of thousands of migrant workers were forced to make their own way home when India announced one of the world's strictest lockdowns and their work disappeared overnight. Health experts say India's vast lockdown has helped limit the spread of COVID-19, but it has pushed millions who live on daily wages to the brink of poverty. Scores fell ill or died along the way as they walked hundreds of miles in intense heat after most public transport was halted.

Jyoti had gone from Bihar (near Nepal) to visit her father, a rickshaw driver on the outskirts of New Delhi, in March after an accident left him unable to cycle, and stayed on to cook and clean for him.

Against his advice, she managed to get a bike and they set off to get him home. Carrying just a small bag of flattened rice and a few clothes, the two mainly survived on biscuits and food given to them by people when they took rest breaks at roadsides and fuel stations.

**This journey was some 745 miles** (although they did apparently get a lift on a truck for about 50 of them). Maybe 695 miles doesn't sound so bad, but it's roughly from here to John O'Groats (avoiding M-ways!), and most of our cyclists wouldn't be doing that journey with an adult perched on the back of the bike, in some 40 degrees (Celsius) heat (yuk!), and living on subsistence rations!

She's now bemused, apparently, to be getting asked for interviews! She has said she did not regularly attend school in the past because the family was poor and she had chores at home, but now intends to resume her studies. Bihar is one of India's most under-developed and conservative states, where child marriage is rife and **girls are routinely denied education**.

"I never thought I would be famous," said the shy teenager, who frequently asked her father to speak for her during the interview. "I think people are fascinated because I am a girl."



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### PUZZLE TIME (Coffee-Break Quiz?)

This one is a **Word-Ladder**, quite a well-known puzzle, you have to get from the start word, to the target word, by changing one letter at a time. For example MAIN to LINE looks like 5 steps, Main – Maid – Laid – Land – Lane – Line (could be other ways).

THIS one is a bit tougher, can YOU get from **HARDY to BIKER** (see story in the L-H column!) in as few steps as possible? Some clever bod suggested a couple of solutions, so we think it's possible in from 6 to 8 steps?

But have a GO, maybe nobody will find the shortest route? Answers on a bit of paper to the Chronicle Box (Vickery's) by July 17th, and Lawrence Vickery has kindly agreed to donate a prize, £20 voucher against something in the shop (probably not Izzy). **DON'T FORGET** your contact info!!

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## What Did THEY Do in 'Lockdown'?

Several months of (for most of us) Covid-19 'lockdown' period, and in that time, the papers and TV channels have had little else to throw at us but virus-related topics, so anything this Govt has announced, or done, has been subject to the Media getting every 'expert' they can find to pontificate on why just about anything might be good, might be bad, might be, well, can't be sure really. As in, Lockdown, yes/no, Masks, yes/no, Schooling, yes/no. Etc.

Various tactics by OTHER countries have been looked at too, and as just about no two countries have had an identical approach, no shortage of material for 'experts' to jabber on about, for just about ever zzzzzzzzzzz.

Looks like there isn't a definitive approach, that's sure to work against this terrible virus, but this account may be of interest, it describes how JAPAN did things, got generally (by most accounts) pretty good results, BUT the headline seems to be that they don't really know why?!

It comes from the Spectator's correspondent, who resides there:-

Japan's Covid 'State of Emergency' is (June 1st) officially over. Tokyo's cautious three-step programme of **reopening all commercial premises and entertainment venues** can begin. The war over Corona may have been won here, but with a host of competing theories and interested parties hoping to claim credit, the battle to decide how it happened is just beginning.

Japan's official death toll from Covid-19 has not yet reached 1,000. This is in a country of 126 million people with densely packed cities, where people live a cheek-by-jowl existence on public transport, in compact offices, snug bars and restaurants, and tiny living spaces. This remarkable outcome was achieved in a country with no centre for disaster control and which **ignored** the 'test, test, test' mantra of Matt Hancock and his equivalents across much of the rest of the world.

Yes, there was a **lockdown, of sorts**, but it was all a bit phony. Major department stores closed, shrines and parks were cordoned off, and most, though not all, chain coffee shops, cafes and restaurants either shut or converted into takeaways. But the bustling and narrow *shotengai* (local shopping arcades) that lead to the stations, and through which most people will walk at least once a day, remained just as bustling as ever, which made a **mockery of official attempts to encourage social distancing** through the 'Three Cs' approach (avoid closed spaces, crowded places, and close contact).

**So what happened?** A rapid response 'contact and trace' system is claimed to have been in operation in Japan, though I neither saw nor heard any evidence of it. With **hardly anyone actually tested** and no significant outbreak clusters of the virus, you wonder as well who they were actually tracking and tracing?

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Nor should we assume that the measures taken were done with any degree of efficiency or effectiveness (Japanese administrative competence is one of the **quainter and most enduring myths about the country!**)

I sauntered through Haneda airport at the end of March after arriving from plague-ridden London and set off a thermal scanner in the process (because I was overdressed, I suspect, rather than ill). **I was paid absolutely no heed by officials whatsoever.** I duly complied with the guidance to self-isolate for a fortnight, but no one checked that I actually did so.

**Other theories** for Japan's success include the generally superior health condition of the Japanese, particularly their extremely low levels of obesity, their better hygiene, rather chaste social customs (no hugging or kissing), compulsory flu shots, the culture of mask wearing (air pollution), and even the idea that the Japanese language emits fewer potentially infected droplets – thus saving lives!

It's also theorised that the **Asian version of Covid-19** was never as strong as that faced in Western Europe.

It may also be that the figures are **simply misleading** – to the point of worthlessness. With so few tests carried out, it could be that Japan grossly under-reported its number of cases, although it may have more accurately recorded the number of definitive Covid-19 deaths. Perhaps millions of Japanese did contract the virus, with mild or no symptoms, and simply recovered. Who knows?

Japan, then, has not used any of the standard measures for tackling Covid-19 – lockdown, test, track and trace – with any great vigour. Neither has it succeeded in snuffing out the virus by any other means. If you think Boris or Trump have been reckless in some way, you ought to be berating the Japanese government far more. But you won't because Japan, in spite of its *laissez-faire* attitude, has had **remarkably few deaths**: just SEVEN for every million citizens, even Europe's Covid pin-up – Germany – has suffered far worse, 103 per million.

This brings one to an inescapable conclusion that has been obvious since mid-March, at least to anyone who has been prepared to see it: that there is a **fundamental difference** in the way that this virus has behaved in the Far East compared with Europe and America. It has been far, far deadlier in the latter two, and in a way which cannot even nearly be explained by the way different governments have handled the epidemic. This raises two possibilities: either there is a **difference in the virus** that has been attacking Western countries or there is a **difference in the human populations.**

Is there some kind of **natural resistance** to Covid-19 among people in the Far East that is not present in Europe and the US? Have people there gained some degree of **immunity**, perhaps a cross-reaction from infection by another coronavirus that has circulated widely in the Far East but not in Europe or America?

**One day, hopefully, we'll know FOR SURE!**



# YOUR LETTERS

## Grateful THANKS

Dear Editor, via email

My wife and I have been on the receiving end of the help provided by village volunteers during the current virus crisis and we **would like to record our thanks** both to the Parish council and to the volunteers on the ground who have helped us. I am 81 years old with a history of chest problems and although I am not on the government's severely critical list there is no doubt that if my wife or I became infected, the consequences would be very serious, probably fatal.

Even before the government's lockdown rules came into force we decided that it was dangerous out there so we decided that the best way to reduce the risk of infection was to stay indoors. The last time we went out was in the middle of March, we haven't even been out since, not even for a walk. We have only been able to do this because of the help provided by local volunteers working under the Parish Council's Community Support scheme. In the May issue of the Chronicle Andy Cooke explained how this was organised from central government down.

We were made aware of the scheme by the flyer hand delivered by members of the Parish Council. I rang Tamsin Crane, one of the co-ordinators and she listed us as people that would like shopping and prescriptions collected. Sue Harris then contacted me with the names of James Howe and Michelle Ainscough. James has been collecting our Tesco shopping and Michelle has been collecting our prescriptions and posting letters. **Our grateful thanks to them.**

We were particularly grateful for this help when the infection rate was very high, it appears that the risk of infection is now reducing so we hope that sometime in the future we will be able to get out more ourselves but we will review this as the situation develops. In the meantime, **thank you from us to all those involved** in the help that you are providing.

Kind Regards Dave & Heather Lee



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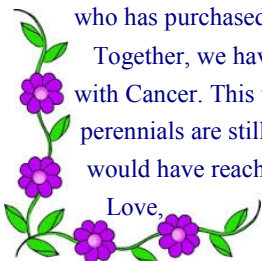
### Plants Fund-Raiser

Dear Editor, Church Lane

I would like to express my **heartfelt thanks** to everyone who has purchased plants this year.

Together, we have been able to donate **£640** to Children with Cancer. This total will increase as the cottage garden perennials are still selling (despite me thinking Drayton would have reached saturation point long before now!).

Love, Paula - the Church Lane 'plant lady'



### Bad Dog? – NO! Bad \*@?#\$%^ Owners!!

Dear Editor, via email



My husband and I enjoy walking most days, like I am sure a lot of other Drayton and local residents. Our walk usually includes East Way Lane to the Milton Road, as we live close by.

This walk is increasingly becoming an activity of '**dodge the dog poop**'. The Lane is literally littered with poop and makes walking really difficult and unpleasant (and smelly!).

I wonder if you are able to put a notice in the Chronicle to remind dog owners to pick up the mess and dispose of it in the correct manner. I am not sure if it will stop owners\*\*\*, but may guilt some of them to pick up the poop!

Kind Regards Caroline Evans



{\*\*Ed's Note – I presume Caroline is one of our newer residents, so unaware of the squillions of similar letters we've had over the years! The local Facebook gets almost weekly complaints, with extra layers of annoyance that some owners DO the pooper-scooper thing, and then later chuck the bag into a suitable hedge, as if to say "I didn't really want to pick it up in the first place". (Surely not) . . . and so it goes on, judging by other village mags, this problem is everywhere. What's the answer, CCTV EVERY-where? Though I think I saw an article from a dog-trainer, she thought she could train dogs to do simple commands, as per the pictures; you can guess her punchline re some owners!}

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# MORE LETTERS

## Giving Thanks >>

Dear Editor, via email

In these strange times we find ourselves in, an awful lot of us would like to say a public "Thank you" to someone, or for some act of kindness. Could people email in and they could be published, hopefully it could almost fill the Chronicle with inspiring messages!

Mine would go something like this :- **THANK YOU** to the **village shops** that have done such a great job, and on a personal note to Janet M for her kindness and offers of help if needed, and Annette M when I was sad and she had the time to listen.

Kind Regards Jane McWhirter

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## Fred Long

Dear Editor, via email

Drayton Short-Mat Bowls Club is very sorry to learn of the passing of Fred Long, formerly of Binnings Close.

He and his loving wife Eileen had formerly bowled at Drayton for about 20 years, and were both valued members of the club.

Our sincere thoughts go to Eileen and their families at this very sad time. He will be sorely missed by his many friends.

Val Locke (Chair)

[Ed's note:- Apologies. This letter should have appeared in an earlier edition, but due to an editorial glitch, probably caused by the mass of Covid-related items we got deluged with, it got omitted]

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Seen on the Village Facebook, just as this issue was being prepared, a picture (from Barry Davis) that should provoke memories for the older residents. There seemed to be some discussion about exactly who these **five dinner-ladies** were (from the early 1960s), but doubtless some readers will know them all!

People also seemed to fondly remember the school dinners, but I'm from that era, and though at a school far away, my recollection was that they were designed to boost the school tuck-shop profits.



## An Historic Puzzle?

Dear Editor, Marcham Road

I've been doing some reflecting in this strange last few months, and one thought was that before the War (so, up to Sept 1939 for younger readers), my fried bread was fried on BOTH SIDES, but then after war was declared, rationing started and food became scarce, my bread was only fried on ONE side.

This circumstance has never yet been corrected, I'm waiting, but will this be the same as my best-selling novel, (which hasn't been written yet)?

Kind Regards Eric Curtis

[Ed's note:- I don't quite date back that far, but I'm familiar with the fried bread 'treat' – as also was regarded bread & dripping in those hardship days. Re the 'both sides', my guess is that you needed to sack the chef, or get a new frying pan - you're only a short walk from Vickery's? And you/they missed the Judy Collins hit, 1970, Both Sides Now??]

# Drayton Public Art Installations (Drayton Parish Council)

Further to the article I wrote in March 2019, here is an update. That seems decades away in terms of time, when Corona meant a fizzy orange drink and the nearest we got to lockdown was when watching an old Porridge episode. How times have changed! However, the idea of public art hasn't, and we are resurrecting it, as time is running and we need to catch up.

That article had set out the concept of having artistic installations in the village, funded by the developers of the three main housing developments, who under section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990), are **obliged to make a financial contribution to the local council to spend on projects to enhance the village**. A portion of the funds has been allocated to "Public Art" (the Neighbourhood Plan has more info), and it is up to us to decide how this is spent.\*\*

If you remember, after that article, the Parish Council's Public Arts working group set up a public meeting for members of the village who responded by coming along to discuss, put forward ideas and vote on what artistic projects they most wanted to see in the village.

Because of financial constraints, we have been able to give the following projects priority:-

- Village entrance signs;
- A Mosaic for the small hall (Village Hall) to be produced by villagers;
- A Labyrinth;
- Wayfinding maps and signs;
- Bollards for the small green (by the bus stop).

The total funds allocated to Public Art projects amount to approximately £81,000. Our first project is to erect artistic entrance features at the three main entrances to the village and we have a short list of three artists to be chosen for the project. If you remember, we had planned to display examples of their work at the Drayton Parish Meeting (March 16th). However, that very day it was decided that we should all go under lockdown, so the meeting was postponed. Such bad timing, but the virus waits for no man! {OK, or woman!}.

So we have come up with an alternative plan, which you will see here. We need your help in deciding which one of these three artists should be awarded the opportunity and privilege of designing a high quality and lasting tribute to the character of our village.



Now, turn the page and explore the sample images they've provided, then tell us which artist's design style you would like to see enhancing our village appearance in the near future.

**Pervin Shahin**  
**(Parish Councillor)**

[Ed's Note :- Pervin is pictured, many readers will know she's also a gifted harpist, but some won't]

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### WHAT TO DO NEXT

Simply cut out the section with the artist you prefer, A, B or C, drop it into the Chronicle letter box at Vickery's.

Of course, more than one person in your household may vote, so just write the total number of votes on whichever artist's slip(s) you prefer.

If you'd rather not spoil your copy of the Chronicle, a slip of paper showing your choice of artist will do.

**No names or addresses are necessary.**

You can even email your vote, A, B or C to:-

[publicart@drayton.org](mailto:publicart@drayton.org)

Please return your slips, or email your vote, by:-  
**Tuesday July 14th.**

**Well done** for getting this far and, thank you very much for taking the time to read this. As some people's boredom levels are quite high at the moment, I'm hoping this might have been a bit of a distraction, and I trust you will follow up with your vote.

We look forward to being able to work on our exciting new arts installations, and together we can choose a feature that will **enhance the feel of our village**.

=====  
*\*\*We respectfully ask that you do not write in to say that you think the money used for public art should be allocated to other causes. In addition to the money allocated for the Public Art, the developers' money has **also** been earmarked for **multiple other categories** of projects, such as a new road crossing, allotment improvements, cycle path improvements, etc. These categories were legally agreed between the District Council and each developer, and the funds will be spent in due course as specific projects are identified over the next few years.*

**Artist A**

**Suzanne O'Driscoll**

**[www.suzanneodriscoll.com](http://www.suzanneodriscoll.com)**

Suzanne is a gifted artist, with many exhibitions, and for 10 years has been supplying Public Art works, some locally situated, Wantage, Didcot & Bicester (& many others). DO PLEASE see her website, for more examples.

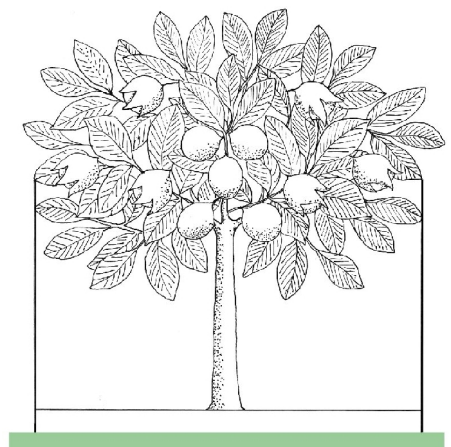
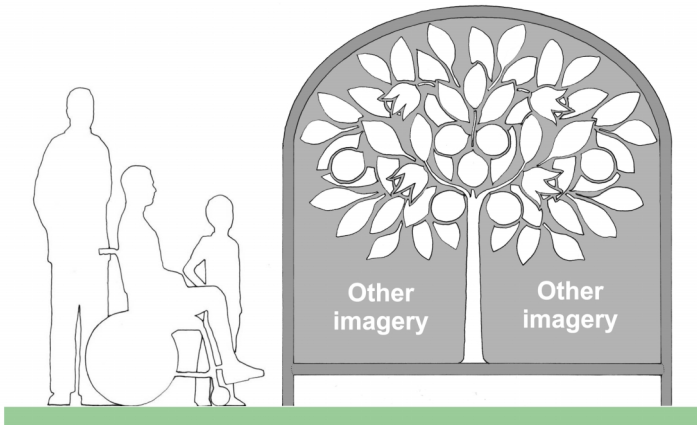


**Artist B**

**Steve Tomlinson**

[www.saatchiart.com/SteveTomlinsonsPublicArt](http://www.saatchiart.com/SteveTomlinsonsPublicArt)

Stephen is also very experienced in supplying Public Art works, for Councils and Authorities all over the UK. DO PLEASE see his website, for more examples of his output. [NB He added that the drawings reflect part of the brief, which mentioned Drayton’s famous history with Walnut trees. Artist ‘C’ has used some drawings too >> ]



**Artist C Julie Edwards & Ron Thompson <http://planetartsculpture.co.uk>**

And yes, Julie & Ron are ALSO very experienced (also 20+ years) in supplying Public Art works, for Councils and Authorities all over the UK. DO PLEASE see their website, for more examples of their considerable output.



## Your District Councillor



Despite the welcomed relaxation of many of the restrictions, Covid-19 is still with us. We're in a dangerous moment – it's all too easy to fall into the trap of believing it's all over.

Together, we've done very well in stopping the exponential rise in cases, getting it under control, and fighting it down (and by "we" I mean "you" – the public response to the lockdown rules and self-isolation rules was over and above the best forecasts of the Government). The Government has started to carefully release some of the restrictions, aiming to use what has been learned (the difficulty the virus seems to have in spreading outside, the effectiveness of masks in stopping spread, the use of screens and working out the optimum separation distance between people, and so forth) to better target measures and allow us to live our lives as much as possible until a better solution is found.

**Please remain alert** – we've had weeks of a steadily declining trend in cases in Oxfordshire, but this decreasing trend has recently slowed and levelled off, which is a bit worrying. Thanks to everyone's hard work, the number of infections is now far lower than it was (which means that the risk of infection from any particular interaction is a lot less); we need to keep it as low as possible so we don't get a second wave. We can do this as long as we stay cautious.

**The contact details for the County and District Council support lines are here:-**

People who have been identified as extremely vulnerable by the NHS and have nobody around to help with day to day tasks like shopping should call 01865 897820 or email [shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:shield@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Anyone in this situation that is not considered high risk can email [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk) or call 01235 422600. These support lines are open 9am to 6pm Monday to Saturday (reduced hours from last month).

### Local Outbreak Plans

The Thames Valley Resilience Forum (which incorporates ourselves as well as the other Oxfordshire Districts and Oxfordshire County Council) is developing a local outbreak plan to coordinate the management and response to any localised outbreaks. This will incorporate identifying and planning how to manage high risk places (such as care homes, transport hubs, shared dormitories and so forth), identifying methods for rapid local testing (such as local pop-up sites or mobile testing units at high-risk locations), co-ordinating local and regional contact tracing, and supporting vulnerable local people to get help to self-isolate.

### Discretionary Grant Fund

We've had a great response to our discretionary grants scheme, which was launched last week. This is very encouraging, especially given the amount of evidence needed to be considered for a grant.

As there isn't a great deal of money available, we're also letting businesses know what other support is available – all the information is on our SVBS website (the South and Vale Business Support) <https://www.svbs.co.uk/>



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### Car parks

As shopping and working has ramped back up, parking charges have been re-introduced (although the free period - with a ticket! - in all District Council car parks remains). This is to improve the availability of parking spaces as people start to visit local shops again and encourage them to consider using more sustainable travel methods when visiting our town centres.

Car parks will operate as normal, so users must display a ticket, including the free charging periods. Normal rates will apply. We will also start issuing new permits and re-issuing permits to anyone whose permit would've expired during the lockdown.

NHS staff and care workers who display a national COVID-19 parking pass can continue to park for free - to claim a pass, email [carparks.southandvale.uk@sabagroup.com](mailto:carparks.southandvale.uk@sabagroup.com) with proof of the relevant employment.

### Virtual meetings – Full Council on July 15th

The Council continues to use virtual meetings, with a full schedule of committee meetings and planning meetings now held over software. There will be a **full council meeting** on Wednesday July 15th. This can be attended by members of the public – a video link will be made available 5 days prior to the meeting and can be found (together with links to all available virtual meetings) on this (super catchy) website:- <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/local-democracy/councillors-committees-meetings-and-agendas>

That's all for now. Stay safe and take care, **Andy**

This piece was in before, but worth repeating, (yes, even AFTER Lockdown!), 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. **Stopped for a minute? Switch OFF!**

## Recipe Time!

From local resident Peter Greaney (head chef at a local Holiday Inn)

### Home-Made PIZZA

500g strong or plain flour, and extra for dusting.  
1 tsp (teaspoon!) salt, half tsp dried yeast (not fast action), 400ml of warm water, and oil (for greasing).

Put the flour and salt in the bowl and mix the yeast into the water. It's always a good idea to wait 5 mins before using the liquid to see if the yeast is working.

Knead for 5-7 mins until the dough is shiny and it springs back when you press your finger into it. Oil a bowl and place the dough in it. Turn it around so that it's lightly coated in the oil. Cover tightly with cling film and then a tea towel. Place in a draught-free area that's warm and leave until the dough has doubled in size. If it's a hot day, it should only take 2 hrs to rise.

Divide the dough into 2 pieces for big pizzas or 4 for plate-sized ones, then shape into balls, dust them in flour as they will be sticky, you can use your fingers to gently stretch the dough out. Once it's about 16cm, place the disc over the tops of your hands (not palm side) and use them to stretch it further, up to about 25cm. You can start pressing out the other discs, then wait to do the final bit when you're ready to cook.

Place the pizza on a baking tray with baking paper add passata sauce (tomato sauce) and the topping you like with cheese preheat oven at 200 degrees (fan-oven) and cook for approximately 12 minutes until golden and crisp.



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350g self-raising flour, plus more for dusting

¼ tsp salt 1 tsp baking powder

85g butter, cut into cubes

3 tbsp caster sugar 175ml milk

1 tsp vanilla extract 50g sultanas

squeeze lemon juice a beaten egg (to glaze)

jam and clotted cream, to serve

Heat oven to 220C/fan 200C/gas 7.



Tip 350g self-raising flour into a large bowl with ¼ tsp salt and 1 tsp baking powder, then mix.

Add 85g butter cubes, then rub in with your fingers until the mix looks like fine crumbs, then stir

in 3 tbsp caster sugar.

Put 175ml milk into a jug and heat in the microwave for about 30 secs until warm, but not hot.

Add 1 tsp vanilla extract and a squeeze of lemon juice, then set aside for a moment. Put a baking sheet in the oven.

Make a well in the dry mix, then add the liquid and combine it quickly with a cutlery knife – it will seem pretty wet at first.

Scatter some flour onto the work surface and tip the dough out. Dredge (sprinkle) the dough and your hands with a little more flour, this is where I add the sultanas then fold the dough over 2-3 times until it's a little smoother. Pat into a 'round' shape about 4cm deep.

Take a 5cm cutter (smooth-edged cutters tend to cut more cleanly, giving a better rise) and dip it into some flour. Plunge into the dough, then repeat until you have four scones. You may need to press what's left of the dough back into a round to cut out another four.

Brush the tops with a beaten egg, then carefully place onto the hot baking tray.

Bake for 10 mins until risen and golden on the top. Eat just warm or cold on the day of baking, generously topped with jam and clotted cream.

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## BEE-Friendly?!

Following on from the terrific recent article (in May) by Andrew Bax on Bee-keeping, here's some helpful hints about increasing bee numbers in the garden.

Almost every week we hear more warnings about the dangers to bees because of problems with habitat, pesticides and even global warming, but this [website](#) has a MASS of **great advice!**

Unfortunately, it doesn't have a short snappy ID, you'll need to type it in, at some length (but I've seen worse!):-

<https://www.loveproperty.com/gallerylist/86772/how-to-help-bees-22-garden-ideas-to-protect-the-pollinators>



but some of the key points have been listed below, to give you a taster.

You can **build a Bee-hotel** (some old bits of wood, bit of chicken wire, basic tools – the site has a video guide if needed).

Get **more varied plants**, BUT BEAR IN MIND what **bees like**. Apparently they can see colour, like ultra-violet (which we can't!), and especially plants of blue, pink, purple and white tones, so look for those. Lavender, foxglove, heliotrope and crocus are just four. Tubular flowers like honeysuckle and penstemon are good too. There are some **apps** which can help you choose, one is **BeeSmart Pollinator Gardener**.

Bees appreciate some **shade**, and some **water**, and maybe **go easy with that lawnmower** at times, things like dandelions (especially in winter) and clover encourage a greater diversity of the little chaps. They also mention the term '**wild meadow**', which for most gardens just means a small patch, not the size of a bowling green!

And **pesticides, that's a no-no**. It's all very well getting rid of bugs, but not much point if there are no pollinators?!

**Flowering fruit & veg are good**, so tomatoes, runner beans, raspberries, etc, and they like **herbs** apparently, as many have the colours they like, and the foliage which is usually scented. ENJOY!

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<https://makingadifference.cards/supporting/sobell-house-hospice-charity>

NB:- To see more about Sobell House generally, what they do, how they can help, and their present extra appeal for funds re COVID-19, please see:-

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## Richard Webber - Oxon CC

### County Council Report

'Living With Uncertainty' >>

If, like me, you are feeling a bit suffocated in Covid briefings and are unsure if the latest news is good or bad, then you probably won't be wanting more updates, more advice and more emergency phone numbers from me.

Suffice it to say that despite a small rise in domestic violence, nationwide protests following events in America, there has been **some good news here**. Oxford protests have been peaceful - and there has been some exemplary restraint from the British police. Despite the uncertain evidence, it seems highly likely that Oxfordshire's Covid statistics are beginning to head in the right direction.

**The biggest problem** we are all having to deal with is uncertainty.

**What's the damage** to the National and local economy? How long will it take to repair? **Who is going to pay** the greatest share of the cost of repair? What damage is being done to **young people's education**, and their future employment opportunities? **How many businesses will survive?** **How many theatres and concert halls** will survive?

**The list of uncertainties seems endless** and they affect us all - young and old, rich and poor, whatever our race or nation. And Brexit, far from being a life-defining issue, is now just one more uncertainty.

However these uncertainties are resolved, there is one issue we cannot escape.

#### Climate change and the environment.

We are told with increasing conviction that we have a very few years to address the problem of carbon output and global warming. We have all noticed the quieter, cleaner, healthier world that Covid has offered us. And we have noticed how friendly and mutually supportive we have all been.

So we may be poorer in the future, but we should all hope that in a rush to get wealthier again, we do not lose sight of what the last few months have taught us.

A very kind friend and neighbour suggested recently that, rather than read my monthly ramblings, people might appreciate the chance to ask questions via parish newsletters on Council related matters. **If any resident would care to email me a question they are prepared to have published**, I would be very happy to send in a reply for the next edition. Alternatively, if a resident wished to send a question to the newsletter, I would endeavour to publish a reply. It would obviously depend on the editor's judgement as to whether or not the question (and answer) were fit for publication.

**If you have feelings on any County issues you would like me to hear, please contact me:- richardwebber777@gmail.com or 01235 534001.**

*Richard Webber*

(OCC Cllr, Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division)



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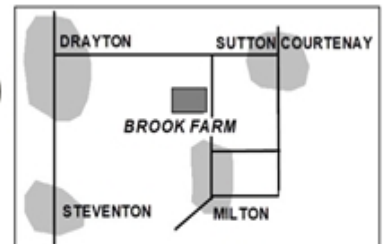
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Dear Residents,

I hope you are all well, keeping safe, and have been taking advantage (as far as possible and in line with social distancing!) of the sunny days we had in May and early June. Let's hope the warm weather continues.

**Covid-19 Action**

Although the mandatory lock-down is now starting to be relaxed, the Drayton Parish Council Community programme continues its work, with support of the Drayton Community Trust. During the lock-down period, our programme has been coordinating volunteers to do shopping, collect prescriptions, post letters and undertake a variety of other supportive actions for residents who remain self-isolating or who are otherwise unable to get about. We are extremely grateful to all our wonderful volunteers.

**The Parish Council's meetings and ongoing work**

The Covid-19 lockdown meant that the Parish Council had to suspend holding its regular in-person monthly meetings, but the UK government has since introduced regulations to permit remote meetings to be held. So, we have successfully held a few meetings online via a video conferencing facility, and we encourage all interested residents to attend the next public meeting in early July via this forum, the details of which will be published on the Parish Council's meeting page of the village website: <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/drayton-parish-council/agendas-minutes/>.

The Council is continuing its work as much as the lock-down allows, and you will see an article from Pervin in this issue of the status of our Public Arts projects, and we **welcome your feedback on that**. We hope to be able to report on some other actions in the August Chronicle issue, including certain improvements to the allotments.

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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! AND now, no surprise, you can DOWNLOAD their App, search for 'NHSGiveBlood' on the Apple App Store, or via Google Play.

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**Suspended Annual Parish Meeting**

We are planning to reconvene the suspended Parish Annual Meeting as soon as this is legal and practicable. We will publish the new date, time and location on the Council's website & Facebook page as soon as we know.

**Updates on Village Developments**

As we've previously reported, there is still landscaping and other work for the developers to complete at the three developments in the village: Manor Farm/Edward Park, Dovecote and, more significantly, at Walnut Meadows. Understandably, the Covid-19 lockdown has meant that work stopped completely or slowed down, but it seems the developers are now starting to get back to work. The Parish Council remains engaged in ensuring the projects progress to completion. Landscapers were back on site at the new village green in early June, which has now been levelled and rotivated and (I believe!) seeded, so we hope soon to have a grassy space for kids to run around on and for picnics.

**Bonfires**

Once again, we urge residents to take advantage of the local waste disposal centre near the Golf Course to dispose of household and garden waste, and not to have bonfires at home. Not only are they bad for the environment, they cause a nuisance for neighbours, especially those with breathing difficulties (asthma etc).

**We thank you for your understanding on this.**

**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.

## Neighbourhood Action Group 5

{This information was correct at the time of writing, mid-June}

### CORONAVIRUS-RELATED SCAMS

#### HMRC scam

Action Fraud warns about scammers who claim to be from HMRC, offering 'financial support' as a result of coronavirus.

If you receive a text, email or phone call claiming to be from HMRC which asks for information such as your name, credit card or bank details or, in the case of texts and emails, asks you to click on a link, you should be aware that **this is a scam**. **Never click on links and/or provide personal or financial information.**

#### Test and Trace

There is concern that criminals may pose as public sector officials, in order to obtain personal and financial information from members of the public. Action Fraud has issued the following advice and information:-

Contact tracers will **only** call from the number 0300 013 5000. Anyone not wishing to speak over the phone can request the NHS Test and Trace service to send an email or text inviting them to log into the web-based service instead. All text or emails sent by NHS Test and Trace will ask people to sign into the contact tracing website and will provide you with a **unique reference number**. **People are also STRONGLY advised** to type the web address **<https://contact-tracing.phe.gov.uk>** directly into their browser, followed by the unique reference number provided, rather than clicking on any link provided in the message.

#### **The NHS Test and Trace service will NEVER :-**

**ask you to dial a premium rate number to speak to them (e.g. those starting with 09 or 087);**

**ask you to make any form of payment or purchase a product of any kind;**

**ask for any details relating to your bank account;**

**ask for your social media identities or log in details, or those of your contacts;**

**ask you for any passwords or PINS, or ask you to set them up over the phone;**

**ask you to download any software to your PC or ask you to hand over control of your PC, tablet or smartphone to anyone else;**

**ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or the NHS.**

#### Suspicious Email Reporting Service

This **new service** has been launched by the National Cyber Security Centre and the police. In the first two weeks 160,000 reports were received, leading to more than 1,400 links to bogus websites being removed. If you receive a suspicious email please forward it to **[report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk)** (this excellent new service is quickly having an effect, please note they DO send you a confirmation email) – then of course delete it from your inbox!

**To contact the police** call either 101 (if it's urgent) or 999 (for emergencies). IF POSSIBLE, please use their online reporting method 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)**

### OMEGLE – INFORMATION AND ADVICE FOR PARENTS FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

**Omegle** is a virtual chatroom which connects users to other users at random. Once connected users can chat via text, audio or video. The tag line for Omegle is **"Talk to STRANGERS"**.

Chatting to different people online can be fun but, as Omegle acknowledges, **there is a strong risk of users encountering sexual content on Omegle**. This is not limited to viewing adult sexual content but could also be young people performing sexual acts, or exposing themselves.

**Talk to your child about the dangers** of giving out personal information such as their age, their location or their full name, to people that they don't know.

Video chat has three different options – moderated, unmoderated and adult. Unmoderated and adult ask the user to confirm they are over 18, but **this information is not checked**.

**You can find out more about Omegle**, and how to keep your child safe while using it, in the parent's guide to the app at **<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/omegle-parents-guide.pdf>** and more info (inc re similar 'services'!) is at **<https://blog.theparentalcontrol.com/is-omegle-safe-for-kids/>**

If you're concerned about the safety of a child call Thames Valley Police on 101 or the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 500.

If you, or anyone you know, has 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>**.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NHW)

If you're not a Neighbourhood Watch member, don't live in a street which has a scheme or can't contact your NHW Co-ordinator and need help and support - or know someone who does - please contact Drayton and Sutton Courtenay Area Co-ordinator for NHW, Bridget Haffenden, on 07762 597118 or e-mail **[nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com](mailto:nhwsuttoncourtenay@outlook.com)**

The Neighbourhood Watch in Sutton Courtenay Facebook page is providing a **wide range of Coronavirus-related information** in addition to the usual content, updated daily. See:-

**[www.facebook.com/neighbourhood.watch.in.sutton.courtenay](http://www.facebook.com/neighbourhood.watch.in.sutton.courtenay)**

#### **Find more online security info 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/>**



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# BLAST from the PAST

Usually I venture further back in the Pop Chart annals, but I thought I'd check who was charting this time of year, just 20 years ago. Well, not too bad, David Gray had his first chart hit with Babylon, and both Kylie (Spinning Around) & the Corrs (Breathless) had #1 hits, as did Ronan Keating with Life is a Rollercoaster. TWENTY years!!

Back 30 years and there was little of note in that month or 2, bar the Steve Miller Band with 'The Joker'.

40 years ago (can it be so long?!) and Olivia Neutron Bomb (with ELO, can't forget them!) had just had XANADU at #1, the wonderful Kate Bush was climbing the chart with Babooshka, so too Sheena Easton with '9 to 5', Diana Ross was 'Upside Down', and Kelly Marie also had a #1 with Feels Like I'm In Love.

FIFTY years ago (for real old-timers) and we'd just had at #1 Mungo Jerry with 'In the Summertime', and the Kinks were in the top 5 with 'Lola'. And soon to be in the top 3 were all of Smokey Robinson (Tears of a Clown), Three Dog Night (Mama Told me not to Come), Jimmy Cliff (Wild World), Deep Purple (Black Night), and the Chairmen of the Board (Give me just a little more Time – just how I feel editing this!). And for those who like it noisy, Black Sabbath weren't far away with 'Paranoid'.

Can anyone remember 60 years back?! Here's a few hits for any other ancients out there (!!) – Johnny Kidd & The Pirates had just been at #1 with Shakin All Over, Brian Hyland was in the charts with (don't start singing this!) Itsy Witsy Teeny Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini (don't write them like that any more . . .), and the wonderful Shadows would soon be #1 with Apache.

In 2000, in this month we lost the great actor Walter Matthau, and soon after another great, Sir Alec Guinness. Back in 1990, the Berlin Wall had fallen, and West Germany merged its economy with East Germany, also Saddam's Iraqi forces were getting ready to invade Kuwait. At home, Aldi opened its first store (whatever happened to them?), Nigel Mansell announced his retirement, and the first Hampton Court Flower Show was opened.

In 1980 the local MG factory was soon to close, Alexandra Palace burned down, and the old sixpence (a 'tanner' to those of us around then), had just been withdrawn, last day of June. The Bundchens (Brazil) decided to call their new daughter (& future superstar model) 'Gisele', but we lost the wonderful Peter Sellers.

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**FOUND !!**

Susan Brooks found this soft toy in Henleys Lane, presumably dropped by a child. It's been advertised on the local Facebook Group but no one has claimed him.

Susan is on **01235 531173**

**ALSO FOUND** (presumably lost first?!) was a Child's (red) zip-up jacket, AND a pair (size 6) of Streetline Roller-blades (both of those were near the Village Hall).

# NOTICE BOARD

## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

**Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company?** Now, in these COVID affected times, the USUAL monthly tea and chat afternoons have had to be suspended, **BUT** the 'support group' aspect is continuing, by phone, with a volunteers rota calling round, at least once per week.

If you'd like a chat, with a friendly sympathetic voice, please call me (**Jean Hager**) on **531558**.

## DRAYTON HALL (Lack Of!) NEWS

At the time of writing, June 20th, we have **no definitive news** of how re-opening the Hall for our users & groups might be achieved. The Halls Association sent out a hint that the Govt MIGHT announce something in early July, with an intention that Halls MIGHT be able to open (maybe in just a limited way) at some point in that month. But it was just a hint! They ALSO sent a couple of massive documents, a **huge list of guidelines that would need to be followed**, the obvious topics in these COVID times being the requirements for '**social distancing**', a mighty list of **cleaning & disinfecting regimes**, and reminders about the difficulties of using loos and kitchens whilst trying to 'stay safe'.

I've had a couple of enquiries, from exercise classes who seem to think that Halls will be available soon, though as they'd be new customers, and we (normally!) have a pretty full book of sessions anyway, I doubt that we can help them.

What is CLEAR, from my reading of the guidelines, is that the Hall CANNOT provide dedicated cleaning personnel, to do the **suggested before and after disinfecting** of anything & everything that users might have touched or breathed on! That burden is going to have to fall on the groups themselves, though we could help with providing cleaning materials.

We're also extremely unlikely to be able to provide 'marshals' ('sheriffs'?! ) to check if everyone is indeed keeping far enough apart. Though it now seems that the Govt is dropping BIG hints that a 1metre distancing guideline would be sufficient, which would help people **apply commonsense** to the sessions they're attending.

One thing that would be a real bugbear (whether we'd reopened in a limited or full way), is if anyone was taken ill, in Hall, with Covid symptoms. The guidelines have a huge spec of what should happen, a absolute mountain of requirements (which include the need for supplies of PPE!).

**Our group/class leaders** might like to start thinking (if not already) how they could get going again, especially if they have only a limited number of users. I'm guessing that our more vigorous exercise classes will have great difficulty in finding a satisfactory way to operate for quite a while?

[And at present, **our temp users**, the local NHS groups, are still using Main & Small Halls for some meetings and training sessions, I guess that if the '2metre' guideline becomes one sometime soon, their own facilities will have enough space?]

## **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



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## LISTINGS

### ABIMEDS PRESCRIPTION COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SERVICE

**AbiMeds** community service will collect medication from pharmacies in Abingdon and deliver to all residents in Appleford, Drayton and Sutton Courtenay. To use the service please call **01865 818351** between 9am and 4pm Monday to Saturday once you know your medicines are ready to be collected - please don't wait until it's urgent. Deliveries are on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. The number of pharmacies included in the service has increased. More info on website <https://abimeds.org>

[Ed's Note:- I used this service, called them on a Tuesday – having checked the prescription was ready – and a cyclist appeared with the package the next day. Great stuff!]

### Coffee-Break Quiz

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

To the winner of June's Word-Search Quiz, we had a great response, thanks to the many who entered.

The answer was 'MEADS', and the name plucked from the hat was Janet Smith, of . . . Meads Close (just a coincidence, it was a pretty full hat!)

## **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, recently increased, so up to £569 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. Their website has comprehensive info:-

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering) to find out more details, or please call **0800 783 5724**. Types of placements are both short & long term and include sibling groups.

And you can check for updates on their Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshireOCC/](https://www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshireOCC/)

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

# Pandemic Panic

By 'Doggerelle'

Who would have thought at the start of this year  
We'd be living in lockdown and living with fear.  
Who would have guessed that schools would close  
down

And we'd all be too scared to go into the town.  
That buses of passengers would all be devoid  
And empty our roads with no cars to avoid.  
Hard working students would not need to fret  
For written exams they would none of them get,  
But tutors their grades would try to assess  
And award them degrees at a very rough guess.  
We'd not have surmised we could not socialise,  
To stand close to our friends would be very unwise.

Outings and holidays that we had planned  
Were very soon cancelled and all of them banned.  
Closed are all cinemas, theatres and halls,  
No more school Proms and end of term balls.  
We've all had to think of some new things to do  
Like reviving old hobbies & new ones pursue.  
Our lawns are well mown and borders are neat,  
And clearance of cupboards is almost complete.

As boredom sets in and we start to despair  
Scientists, Ministers now all declare  
That at last there is progress and lockdown less strict,  
So will life become normal, who can predict?  
None of us knew what a year this would be,  
What lay ahead of us no-one could see:  
From anxiety, sickness, dying and grief,  
Failing economy there seems no relief.  
But out of these traumas one thing we've seen  
How caring our friends and neighbours have been.  
These difficult times have brought out the best,  
Shown communities all were up to the test.  
Prescriptions collected, a friendly phone call,  
Assistance with shopping, chats over the wall.  
So when Covid is over whatever we do  
Let's not forget that love helped us get through.

## **Drayton Window Cleaning Service**

Est. 1990 - we provide a friendly reliable service  
Every 5 - 6 weeks - Free quote - no obligation  
Craig Taylor - Tel: 01235 512881 Mob: 07778 661548  
www.elitewindowcleaningservice.com  
A bill can be left for postal payment if you are not home.  
Online payment also welcome. Other services include:  
Pressure Washing; Conservatory roof cleaning;  
Fascia cleaning; Gutters Unblocked & Cleaned out

## **(DRAYTON DIARIES)**

Just a little reminder of what the village USED to be  
doing, just a few short months ago . . . . and maybe,  
hopefully (?) we'll be doing again at some point!

### **(EX-)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  
11.30 am Fun-Fit Over-50s Exercise class (Carl 01865 920460)  
6.00 pm 'Bounce Fit' (1hr - Sophie 07791 778388)  
7.00 pm Table Tennis (Coaching, one hour) *School*  
7.15 pm Badminton (Private Group)  
7.45 pm Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) *St Peter's*  
8.00 pm Table Tennis (Social Play, one hour) *School*

#### **TUESDAYS**

9.30 am Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925)  
1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) *Caudwell Day Centre*  
2.30 pm First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) *Church Room*  
7.00 pm League Table Tennis (three hours) *School*  
7.00 pm 'RockBox' (to book, see Clubbercise)  
7.30 pm Bingo Session (over 18s) *Caudwell Day Centre*  
8.00 pm Clubbercise (run by Gemma Pearce, see her F'book)

#### **WEDNESDAYS**

10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) *Church Room*  
1.45 pm Whist Drive (ACHLoFriends) *Caudwell Day Centre*  
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) *School*  
7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session

#### **THURSDAYS**

9.00 am Foot Clinic (1st Thurs) *Caudwell Day Centre*  
9.15 am Holy Communion (\*\*) *St Peter's Lady Chapel*  
9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)  
11.00 am Baptist Café (to 1pm) *Baptist Church*  
2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session  
5.30 pm Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs)  
7.00 pm League Table Tennis (three hours) *School*  
7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) *Caudwell DC*  
7.30 pm Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)

#### **FRIDAYS**

11.00 am The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466 *Caudwell Day Centre*  
7.15 pm ShikiDojo Martial Arts (check w Paul - 07479 824887)

#### **SUNDAYS**

(\*\*) For all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), **PLEASE see our St Peter's Church page**  
6.00 pm Evening Service *Baptist Church*



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**DON'T FORGET to vote for your preference of the  
artists/designers featured in this month's issue!**