



# Drayton Chronicle

August 2020

Read about the W.I dances in the village hall during the mid 1940's (p11)

Duck pond scandal (p7)

Update to voting for your preferred Village Art Installations (p15)

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Drayton Chronicle** will be the September 2020 issue.  
 Editor: **Margaret Inger** (07967 730735).

**Key dates for subsequent Chronicles:**

Archive copies of the Chronicle are available on the Drayton

Issue for	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
September	17th August	28th August
October	21st September	2nd October
November	19th October	30th October

website: [www.draytonvillage.co.uk](http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk) The current copy will be available on or near the same date that printed copies are distributed.

**NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS**

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are most welcome. Please be sure always to include your name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all.

However, please also note that the editor has to ensure that each Chronicle fits exactly into an even number of printed pages. The editor therefore reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required.

A contribution or advertising request can be sent to us in one of three ways:

The best is by email to [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net) Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as plain text or attached as a rich-text or Microsoft Word document!

Requests for advertisements should be emailed not to the editor but to [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net) Please note that advertisements eventually need to be in Word format, 9cms wide and, for a single block advert, about 4.5cms high. Please head your email and label any attachments with a name distinctive to you, not just 'Chronicle'. Also, make sure the editor or advertising manager acknowledges your email within 2 or 3 days.

If you cannot send your contribution by email, send us a good quality paper version, using fairly large, simple black typescript, without underlining on white paper, A4 or smaller.

Finally, we do accept hand-written items. However, in this case please write the names of people and places in capital letters. This does save a lot of mistakes.

Paper contributions should be either placed in the Chronicle letter box (outside Vickery's shop on Drayton Green) or posted to Vickery's at 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines listed at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed or delivered directly to the Editor's house by the Wednesday following the deadlines.



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All advertising **MUST** be paid for up-front, either in cash or via a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at or sent to Vickery's.

Requests for advertisements should (preferably) be emailed to **Stephen Fearnley**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, at [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net) or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please phone Stephen on **01235 531347**

**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**.



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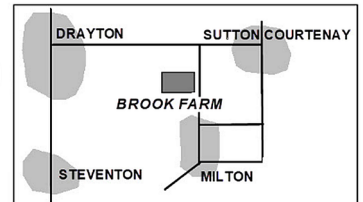
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## Letter for from the DAMASCUS parish.

### God is with us at the Crossroads.



Thank you Dave Phythian for the photo

It's probably fair to say that not many of us would have imagined last summer what our world would have gone through by the same time this year.

For a few months, the Coronavirus pandemic had dramatically changed how we saw life, the way we

lived and related to one another. The media was full of stories about the tragic loss of life, the amazing sacrifices being made by those working on the frontline, key workers, and those staying in their homes. Much of industry being shut down, the financial pressures being faced, and the demands placed on many by lockdown, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.

Yet in among the darkness and difficulty there were bright lights – neighbourhoods coming together, volunteers delivering shopping and medicines, people taking time to talk and listen. People enjoying nature, taking time to sort out cupboards, gardens and reflect on life. Cleaner air, and the environment restoring itself a little.

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project's community work in Drayton is going from strength to strength. Caudwell Close bingo attracted many people out of their homes to safely socialise and have a bit of fun. Our young people are bridging the gap and helping to change the perspectives within their community. Streetwork remains our main way of engaging with the young people so if you have any concerns about your young person please get in touch with the team to arrange a safe socially distant walk to talk.

The team were recently invited to deliver a training webinar for other youth work practitioners by Oxfordshire Youth on creating community connections. The work we have put in during the easing of restrictions has been recognised and applauded and this couldn't have happened without the great people of the Damascus parishes. The Thursday evening clap.

As we come out of lockdown, with its easing of restrictions and quickening the pace of life, it is easy to slip into familiar ways of doing things and looking at life. An opportunity to reflect on life and the possibility of doing it differently may be slipping away, to find ways of making every life matter: the marginalised, those in special needs, in care homes, as well as those whose skin is a different colour to ours, the poor and vulnerable. To find ways of holding onto what was started in lockdown - building community relationships and loving one another, and the knock-on effect on the environment.

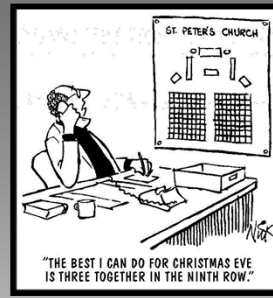
In the Bible, there are many books written in times of hardship and persecution and being in exile, especially Isaiah and Revelation. In these books we find that God is very much with his people, offering a new way of seeing things – from his kingdom perspective. His kingdom, where everyone is cherished, justice is for all, and every tear is wiped away from our eyes by God – and creation is also restored. Let's draw close to God, at our crossroads of these times, and ask his help to make good choices for a better future for our children, and grandchildren and the nation we live in.

*'For surely know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.'*

**Jeremiah 29:11-12.**

*Rev Meg Heywood*

## Sunday Worship



We're again please to say that the church is now open for Sunday worship – a bit different, reflecting the times, as well as for daily private prayer. Unlike the cartoon, you don't have to book to attend a service, but you can just turn up at 9:45.

For everyone's good health, once in the building, please would you follow the guidelines for social distancing and use the provided hand gel.

<b>Rector</b>	Revd Helen Kendrick	01235 848297
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Meg Heywood	01235 537100
<b>Associate Priest</b>	Revd Rosie Bruce	07707 087131
<b>Pro-Warden</b>	Mrs Linda Johnson	01235 527521
<b>Pro-Warden</b>	Mrs Val Cross	01235 535183

Website: [www.damascusparish.org.uk](http://www.damascusparish.org.uk)

## REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion on  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month only.

Sunday 9.45 am Holy Communion (CW)

**N.B** There will be **NO** Thursday morning Holy Communion Service until further notice.

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 10.00a.m on [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.

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## PARISH REGISTER

### Funerals

There have been no funerals in the church records in the month of June.

### **A Prayer for emerging from Lockdown.**

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for holding us through the severest days of Lockdown, even the hardest times.

We pray for those who have been most seriously ill, those who have died and those who have lost dear ones.

We give thanks for those who have worked tirelessly caring for others and supplying our daily needs.

We pray for those facing the loss of their jobs and worrying about keeping their homes and providing for their families.

As we approach days of more freedom, help us to use these restored freedoms wisely.

Help us to appreciate the important things and to put aside the worthless ways in which we are tempted to waste time and energy.

And show us the opportunities we have to help others, through words and deeds of loving service.

In Jesus name

**Amen**

### YOU STAY WE PRAY, AUGUST 2020

2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Aug Lockway

9<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Aug Whitehorns Way

16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close

23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Aug Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippling-ton Court; Stone Hill

30<sup>th</sup> Aug – 5<sup>th</sup> Sept Steventon Road

## The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG5) SAFETY CORNER

### SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

You're probably familiar with some of the ways in which fraudsters approach and attempt to lure in their victims, such as emails, texts, phone calls, letters and traditional doorstep scams.

#### **But did you know that social media is also a favourite place for scammers?**

With billions of people using social media every day, and the trust many place in both the platform and fellow users, it shouldn't come as a surprise. Plus, at the moment, you probably have a lot of your mind, so it could be easy to drop your guard.

There are a number of ways that social media is used as a means to commit fraud. Examples include links in posts or direct messages which advertise content; free items; special offers or quizzes - which actually lead to fraudulent websites designed to steal your money, identity, or both; and posts instructing you to call or text a number, which turns out to be premium rate. Also, fake customer service Twitter accounts with fraudulent support links.

#### **Top tips to avoid social media scams**

Get Safe Online's safety experts have put together some simple tips to help you to avoid becoming a victim of such scams.

- Don't click on links in posts, tweets or direct messages unless you're 100% certain that they're genuine and well intentioned.
- Don't respond to posts offering free app downloads. These may be fraudulent. Only download apps from the authorised app store for your device.
- Don't respond to online quizzes or questionnaires, however engaging they appear. The data you provide may be sold to third parties, and developers could obtain sensitive information from your profile, friends and IP address.
- Fraudsters frequently use social media platforms to advertise fake or non-existent goods. Do all you can to check the authenticity of the seller, and never pay by bank transfer in case it's a fraud.
- Don't click on shortened URL's (website addresses) or QR codes, as they may divert you to a fraudulent website.
- Think twice before responding to approaches such as friend/contact requests, or approaches to take some unusual or irregular action.
- Learn to recognise fake notifications or warnings of financial problems, or others that seem to good to be true. These might include investment opportunities; get rich quick schemes; unusual work opportunities or supermarket vouchers.
- Check that any communications via Twitter feature the correct handle of the authentic organisation. Even if they appear to have come from an organisation you trust, their account could have been hacked or spoofed.

- If in doubt call the correct number of the organisation or individual who the post or tweet claims to be from, to check its authenticity. Look up the number yourself.
- Ask yourself if a genuine organisation or individual would really contact you in the way that they have.
- Get into good, basic, habits like using strong, unique passwords for social media accounts; not sharing personal information; making your accounts private; having up-to-date information security software/apps and not using public Wi-Fi when what you're doing is confidential.

#### **If you become a victim of a social media scam**

- Report it to the social media network via the reporting mechanism on the website or app.
- If you've lost money as a result of social media or any other fraudulent activity, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or via their website at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

### CONTACTING THE POLICE

**The police request that you only call 999 in an emergency and 101 if it's urgent.  
If possible, please use the online reporting services at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)**

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



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Your local MP—David Johnston



The most exciting news since my last update is Grove station being put on a list of rail projects to be assessed for Government funding, part of the Beeching Reversal Fund commitment made in the Conservative manifesto. It does not mean that we will be successful this time round as

there are 50 other projects on the list, but I have been plugging away with ministers since I was elected and will keep doing so until we are successful!

I have enjoyed being able to visit local shops, pubs and other businesses in Faringdon, Wallingford, Didcot, Wantage and elsewhere across the constituency as they reopen. Of course, some businesses didn't close and were grateful to the local community for the support they showed during lockdown – some have told me that products they never sold in normal times suddenly flew off the shelves!

I have also been preparing to speak on the Business and Planning Bill – which lets pubs, bars and restaurants seat and serve us outside more easily – I discovered we have 85 pubs across the constituency, making Wantage and Didcot joint 7<sup>th</sup> out of 650 constituencies for the highest number of pubs. We have a huge range and they are at the heart of our towns and villages – do please support them and our shops and other businesses whenever you can.

In parliament it has been a busy time as we head towards recess. I was put on my first bill committee, in which you scrutinise legislation line by line, for the Trade Bill. The Trade Bill is designed to create continuity agreements for us with the countries we have been trading with through the EU, from South Africa to South Korea and it will also create a new Trade Remedies Authority to recommend action if UK producers are subjected to unfair practices. I was pleased to be a co-sponsor of the Local Electricity Bill, a 10-minute rule bill that would allow local communities to sell the electricity they generate themselves, as at the moment the costs are prohibitive.

After the recent unauthorised traveller encampments, we had at Great Western Park and in the Ladygrove area, I raised the issues of anti-social behaviour that constituents experienced in both the House of Commons and with the Home Secretary, Priti Patel. I'm assured that measures that will enable these to be dealt with more quickly will be coming forward soon.

During recess, I will be trying to visit as many businesses, charities, individuals and other places of interest as I can, beginning with those that I was not able to visit due to lockdown. If you have a suggestion of somewhere you'd like to see me visit, do let me know via:- [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)

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**Coffee-Break Quiz**

Thanks to all the entrants for the July Quiz, a 'Word-ladder', and the name that came out of the hat was **Eniko Molnar**.

Grateful thanks also go to Lawrence (Vickery) for his £20 voucher for something in the shop.

There were several possible answers, changing one letter at a time (as usual with that type of quiz), one example was from HAR-DY, via Hards – Hares – Hires – Hirer – Hiker to reach BIKER.

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## A desirable property...if you're a duck!

I had thought a few weeks ago that we should, tongue in cheek, suggest applying for a government grant to repair the duck house on the Sutton Wick Lane pond. (*Ed: or even use 106 money*)?

On 21 May 2009, *The Daily Telegraph* reported on Sir Peter Viggers' claims as part of its investigation of MPs' expenses, which it said showed Viggers was paid more than £30,000 for gardening expenses over three years. The paper noted in particular that Viggers had attempted to claim for a "pond feature" worth £1,645 which was identified as a "floating duck island", although it was unclear whether he had actually been repaid as an official had written "not allowable" next to it. On hearing the details of the story the *Telegraph* intended to run, Viggers announced late the previous night "at the direct request" of party leader David Cameron his intention to stand down at the next election. He also stood down from his role as spokesman for the Speaker's Committee answering Parliamentary Questions for the Electoral Commission. On his website, however, he said about expenses: "Personally, I have of course always scrupulously observed the rules".

I see now that the house has been removed. I'm not sure who was responsible for building it in the first place but ap-



plaud their efforts. Does anyone know? I thought that it compared very favourably with the original above.

**Editor: In the May issue of the chronicle I displayed a photograph taken from the Barrow Road lane bridge over the A34 during early lock-down.**

**Compared now to seemingly normal traffic flow on the same stretch of road this last week.**

All Photographs and main article re, the Duck House scandal courtesy of **Stephen Fearnley**.

Dear Editor,

I noted the three submissions for the "beautification" of Drayton village, all of which in my view, were "flim flam".

When money is so short, our shabby village in places has many outstanding projects and amenities that would benefit all residents, especially with regards to the promised playing fields and sports pavilion.

Smartening up the for-fronts of our village shops would go some way to improving the image of the village along with making "The Green" a cultivated area to sit and enjoy without it being used as a car showroom and carpark.

If this money has just been earmarked for frippery, did the idea of substantial partial gateways and meaningful signage welcoming people to the village go out of the window?

Of the options presented in last month's chronicle, artist 'C's submission is the most aesthetic. There was also no guidance as to the various costings against these visions.

Jayne Castle

## Drayton Wives

Well its been a long time since I have written to the Drayton Chronicle but at last we have an announcement!!!!

Our August meeting on the 25th August will go ahead outside the village hall on the recreation field. we have turned it into a picnic so you need to bring a chair or blanket and your own refreshments

It will start at 11.00am and finish when everyone stops chatting!!!!

It will be nice to see everyone again and hear what they have been doing in lockdown!

A few of us had a lovely walk led by Josie, around Standlake looking at the various mosaics along the way and having a picnic on the benches .

There was only one mishap when Betty dropped one of her new poles down the nettle bank towards the stream. Well we ( me ) struggled a bit to bend down and retrieve the pole from the nettles with a few stings along the way then we (me ) struggled to get up again and there wasnt a dock leaf in sight!!!

But we found some Mirabelle plums which was unusual and they were lovely.

So hopefully in a few months we can resume some kind of get togethers.

**Lisa Lammiman**

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am an occasional contributor to the Chronicle (having moved away in 1981) and keep up to date with Drayton News so I was very interested in the article about reviving the Drayton History Society .. I'd like to register my interest and despite living in Gloucester, I would make every effort to attend meetings so please could you record my interest.

My mother - Pamela Smith - on copy -would also be very likely to join me so please can you keep us informed of progress by email?

Many thanks

Adrian Smith

23 Brome Road, Abbeymead, Gloucester GL4 5YW  
07557 325656

---

Hello,

*I would like to look at the stuff. (History Society)*

*I asked on Facebook a while ago if anyone was interested in seeing it but I did not get any response.*

*Chris (deputyclerk@draytonpc.org)*

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Hello

I have just read the article in the Drayton Chronicle about a History Society.. As a newcomer to Drayton village I would be very interested in learning more about it. I think further articles in the Chronicle sound like a good idea.

Kind regards

Sarita Ormrod

---

Dear Editor

Despite everything Jean Caudle, Mary Hancock, and a few volunteers managed to carry out their usual Christian Aid fund raiser. This time over 200 hundred cream teas were delivered to our homes by hand. The total raised was well over £1,100. Amazing! Only yesterday I saw Jean and her grandson in High street litter picking they are an example to us all.

Jayne Henderson.



Drayton  
Football Club  
"The Wasps"

After an unfortunate and abrupt end to last season, we are happy to say that we are slowly easing a form of social distance training to our squad in order to get fitness back for the upcoming season. We are now waiting for the FA to officially approve contact football and supply regulations which could be sooner than expected.

We have a few internal updates from the club that have occurred over the last month or so:

Pete Ivey, who has done a tremendous job keeping the club alive and running over the last 5 years, has stepped down from his role as first team manager and will now focus on his role as chairman and help bring the club back into the community.

Lewis Allen is now the new first team manager. He has been a big influence as a player on the pitch in his career and will continue to strive for future success in his new role with Matt Woods continuing his role as the reserves team manager.

Drayton Football Club have also raised over £1000 in donations/fundraising in the last few months which will be used to modernise our clubhouse, which according to a few older heads, has looked the same for the last 25 years at least. Currently, we are focusing on the hygienic aspects of the clubhouse and then we will be moving onto our interior design.

Please like our Facebook page Drayton Wasps Football Club for photo updates and messages about the club. We are also holding a raffle with tickets priced at £2.50 for 5 cash prizes, the top prize being £100. If you are interested in this or want more information please check out our facebook page or drop us an email at [draytonwasps@gmail.com](mailto:draytonwasps@gmail.com). If you would like to make a donation of any amount to the club you can contact us via email, we would be very grateful for your contribution.

Thanks for taking the time to read this.

**Bradley Cox**

Dear Editor:

### Coop (Steventon) & their Volunteers

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to Louis and his staff and their team of volunteer delivery drivers who have kept me going with provisions during this long isolation.

The whole experience has been completely stress free. They deliver three times a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. I place my order by telephone in the morning, they call me back later in the day when they can tell me how much I owe and the delivery is made within the hour.

You couldn't get a better service than that, what a team!!

Shirley Thomas



## County Report

### Covid 19

Oxfordshire, for most of us, is surviving the Covid 19 crisis well. The great work being done by community volunteers has ensured that all our vulnerable People are being cared for with food and medicine deliveries. The Damascus team has been out and about caring for our young people as well as the whole community with visits, outdoor bingo sessions and much more.



Whilst we must not forget those that have lost friends and relatives, the statistics for the County are heading the right way. The separate statistics for Vale and County Care Homes are far from good however. And questions will eventually have to be asked over why, in March, the Government ordered Hospitals to move many elderly people from hospitals to Care Homes untested, Oxfordshire is at the top of the table for worst affected Care Homes and we need to understand why. This is just one of the lessons we have to learn from the pandemic if only to ensure that it never happens again.

#### Government Reorganisation

In September we are promised a Government White Paper on Local Government reorganisation. The Leaders of all Councils are busy locking horns with Whitehall to discuss the future of Oxfordshire with rumours of Unitary Councils, Combined Councils and Mayors. Oxfordshire is a hotbed of different views but it seems certain that we are in for change. It will suit some and anger others but it is certainly a space worth watching over the next few months.

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## Drayton, Australia

Continuing our series on other Draytons, this month we feature one that could hardly be further away. Once it was a settlement in its own right but today it is a suburb of Toowoomba, in Queensland

Around 1840, Thomas Alford emigrated to Australia from Drayton in Somerset, which featured in the March issue of the *Drayton Chronicle*. Arriving in a campsite in southern Queensland, he opened a store and post office which he decided to call Drayton to remind him of his birthplace. It was on the junction of important trails across the Darwin Downs, a vast area found suitable for sheep and cattle grazing. Queensland is also rich in gold but the nearest mine is some 40 miles north of Drayton.



*A family house in 1911*

In 1847, an ex-convict built an inn of superior quality called the Bull's Head, distinguished by having a bathroom. It became the social centre for the area, hosting meetings on state governance and church services, and staging cattle auctions and horse racing. Following a visit by the state governor in 1860 its name was changed to the Royal Bull's Head; in recent years it has been restored by the National Trust of Australia and is now a museum.



*The Royal Bull's Head Inn*

The Drayton National School was one of the first state schools in Queensland and Drayton also published the area's first newspaper, the *Darling Downs Gazette* which later became *The Chronicle*. In 1887 St Matthew's Anglican Church was dedicated, later joined by Catholic and Wesleyan churches.



*St Matthew's Church*

Four miles north of Drayton was an area known as "The Swamp" which, because it had a better water supply, was settled more rapidly and eventually became Toowoomba. In 1867 the railway reached Toowoomba causing it to expand further, eventually absorbing Drayton.

Today, Drayton has a population of some 1700 and is primarily a residential area, including accommodation for the nearby University of Southern Queensland. The community is supported by local shops, a sporting complex and local shops, a sports complex and local hall.

**Information by Andrew Bax**

### **Support for unpaid carers**

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## W.I. History continues...1946—1949

We approached **1946** our first year after the end of the war, membership has increased and talks for the coming year were to include Life in India, work in a canteen, life in America, work of the probation office, cake decorating, dress accessories and finally how to cook on an electric stove.

We began the year by celebrating our 26<sup>th</sup> birthday there was a donation of a beautiful cake and followed by an amusing entertainment given by members, the subject of the play "queuing" very apt for this time. Sewing classes would stop in May and recommence in October with the work produced being greatly admired.

Our finances were very sound due to the "Old Time Dances" held weekly except through the summer months. A concert was given and a donation of £12 was given from the dance club. The donation given in January was to go towards a concrete path around the hall, regrettably this has not been done yet because materials were hard to come by.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RoNw068t8n4>



Swing Dance 1946—YouTube

The second series of old-time dances raised £45 for our funds. The profit from one dance meeting £4.5s, 10p was given towards the organized Victory Celebrations.

The electric lighting has been greatly improved inside and out, the crockery and glassware have been replaced. Two parcels of food and two tins of jam have been gratefully received from Australia, the jam was raffled at the meetings and the food parcels were used at meetings and our birthday party. (*I remember the tins of apricot jam, nothing like it before or since.*)

**1947** numbers slightly down as some people moved away. This is the year of the bad winter **47/48** February meeting canceled because of lack of fuel. Talks this year; cane basket work, painting glass and china, methods of fruit preservation and jam making and patchwork. A combined Christmas and Birthday party was held this year, it was unsurpassed for quality due to the people providing the food. At this party we could bring one MALE guest, the prestige of the W.I. was greatly raised by the excellent supper.

A summer fete was held in Lime Close garden, raising nearly £60. The banner was won at the autumn meeting for "something new from something old" consisting of six pieces made by members. Since September, the hall has been used as a dining hall for the school. The roof has been repaired and the inside must be decorated when money permits. The ground at the end of the hall has been cultivated for vegetables, and very good they are too. Two potatoes were given to each member and almost one hundredweight was grown and sold.



**1948.** much as last year, talks on local history, my journey through Malaya during the war, and the Lost City of Petra. A children's party was given in January Towards the end of January we had a visit to a pantomime in the New Theatre Oxford.. We finally managed to fit new window curtains and stage curtains assisted by a members husband. In total £10, 10s and a pair of towels has been sent to Denman College for the Berkshire room.

**1949.** talks were given on the Housing Question by Abingdon R.D.C., People I have met, Local History, again and several other talks we have had before. Not sure what has happened, but these two years appear to be the same. So, I will leave it there and see you all next month.

Anne Webb

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Class of '82/3

Photo & info courtesy of : Judy Henman (Teacher)

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?, Julian Mole, Martin Breakespeare, Rebecca Etwell, ?, Ben Border, ?, Barry Northing, Ian Woodward, Darren Broad, Sarah Davis, Emma Dix, Karen Roberts.

**Front Row**

Jonathan Baker, Sarah Mace, Tamsin Jones, ?, ?, ?, David

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**Village Hall Report**

Well, the Hall is edging cautiously towards reopening, but there are so many restrictions in the Govt Guidelines that hirings will not be simple for quite a while. Our NHS Groups are still using us for occasional meetings and training (some weekdays – daytime), but they've agreed to make it easier for some evening groups to start operating, and one small daytime group (they won't be in that morning).

As I write (July 22nd), I am trying to digest the latest update of those Guidelines (about the 4th in six weeks). I have heard that some Halls have decided not to reopen at all until next year, and I'm not surprised given this huge extra burden.

Groups are supposed to take on board extra cleaning requirements (before and after a hire session), restrictions on numbers (varies a bit depending on the activity), and the need to try and maintain suitable 'social distancing' – which it is recognised will be a 'challenge' in parts of most Halls! Halls have been encouraged to set-up a one-way system; however, we don't really have enough corridors. Quite thoughtless of the architect & builder back in the 70s?! The more vigorous of the exercise activities will be hampered by the extra space requirements per person, they are suggested to be guided by the Orgs for those activities, rather (hurray) than us having to conjure up a number!

Wedding receptions (& other similar gatherings) are a no-no except for an attendance of 30 or fewer (we've had most of ours postponed to next year). One tweak to the latest guidelines seemed to be children's parties, (very popular here), which CAN be permitted. BUT (you'd have guessed there's a 'but'?) – numbers are restricted, depending on age group, if they're from the same school, and it's nice if a parent or two is familiar with managing what's needed. Entertainers ARE to be permitted (they need to work again!) and they have their own guidelines about what they can do. Or not.

We'll have some extra sanitizer pods installed in due course, we've some assorted signs to put up (you've likely seen them already, on every TV news!), and some extra bins will be placed to catch all the extra wipes that will be getting used (not down the loo please!).

Group leaders will need to sign up to an extra hiring agreement re Covid-19, and any leaders that have not yet, can get in touch to discuss what's needed. Maybe put time in the diary for a lie-down afterwards.

Oh, and Lord help us if someone actually starts complaining they've got Covid systems on the premises. I think we are obliged to call the Chemical Warfare team from Porton Down to come and sterilise at least the Hall, possibly the whole village.

Tony Holmes

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# Drayton Public Art Installations

Hopefully readers will recall the survey in last month's issue, asking them to vote for their preferred choice of Artist/ Designer to work with the Parish Council to produce artistic installations in the village, funded by the developers of the three main housing developments.

And hopefully lots of people voted, however, due to what I gather can be called a "techno-glitch" (there's a less-polite term too!) at the relevant server (these things happen, with IT stuff or anything!), those votes seem to have gone down a small black hole just the other side of Jupiter, never to be seen again, despite the best efforts of clever people with electronic spanners. SO – the PC is asking you to PLEASE VOTE AGAIN. Or perhaps, if you forgot last month, it's a second chance. And I'm assured that this email address has protective padding round it! [NB For those who voted the old-fashioned way, with bits of paper, they got through just fine!!]

There's a reminder on this page of the styles of the three contenders, and it's still a vote for A, B or C. **Email to [publicart@draytonpc.org](mailto:publicart@draytonpc.org)** and you can still vote with a slip of paper too, 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 as needed. **No names or addresses are necessary.**

Please email your vote, (or return your slips!),

by:- **Tuesday Aug 11th.** *Pervin Shahin (DPC)*

**\*\*As before, PLEASE DO NOT tell us the ART funds should be allocated to other causes. It was part of the original Developer contracts to allocate funds to multiple categories, inc Art, as described at some length in the Neighbourhood Plan.**

## Artist A (Suzanne O'Driscoll)



## Artist B (Steve Tomlinson)



## Artist C (Julie Edwards/Ron Thompson)



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