

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE



MERRY CHRISTMAS, & A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR  
(depending of course on Lockdown Restrictions?!!)  
to all Our Readers, AND to Everyone who helps get the  
Chronicle produced & delivered through the Year

# COMING CHRONICLES

The Jan/Feb Chronicle will be available for distribution to Area Agents on or about **Friday Jan 29th**. The Editor will be **Margaret Inger (07967 730735)**. Contributions may be e-mailed (as below, best to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green, **NO LATER than 5.15 pm on Monday, Jan 18th**.

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 Jan 15th, due to their preparation time.

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

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

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

to reach the next editor → [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!).

## ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12<sup>th</sup> page)  
- - - Number of Monthly Inserts - - -

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

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

**All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.**  
They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours, OR send your requirements :- [advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

### DATES for the FOLLOWING Chronicle

| Issue for  | Copy Deadlines :- to Editor (& Ads on the Fri before these) | Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:- |
|------------|---|---|
| <b>Mar</b> | Mon Feb 15th  | Feb 26th  |

**DISCLAIMER** This Journal is published in all good faith and every care is taken in its compilation. The organisers of the DRAYTON CHRONICLE, and its Agents, therefore accept no responsibility for OPINIONS EXPRESSED, nor for the validity of any ADVERTISEMENT, nor for any EFFECTS ARISING WHATSOEVER from the publication.

## THE WHEATSHEAF



**Under New Management**

**Sam and Marco are looking forward to welcoming you through our doors soon**  
**Please visit our website:**

<http://www.thewheatsheaf.pub/>

**to see what is planned**

**Located on the Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA**

## !!! DRUM TUITION !!!

Socially Distanced Lessons available at my Home Studio in Drayton (OX14). Or Remote Drum Lessons via Skype/Zoom. All ages and abilities welcome.

Weekday and weekend slots available.

Please contact me for more information!

07918 878256 [Peters.tom@hotmail.com](mailto:Peters.tom@hotmail.com)



This Month's Cover – In fact, scattered right through this December issue are to be found **assorted images** – cartoons, Christmas paraphernalia, all sorts, which were free to use, BUT for licensing reasons, their respective websites are very particular to ask for recognition or 'attribution'.

Some are genuinely free, and don't require such a mention, but there follows a brief list of those that do:-

The front-page "Year we . ." image is via 'FreePik.Com', the letters-page "Merry Christmas" (Santa in a mask), also a Snowglobe (centre page), and a Reindeer in a mask, (that's if he got fitted in somewhere, after umpteen re-shuffles!), are all via **Adobe Stock**.

And the Editor, who is indeed about to go for a lie-down, was Tony Holmes (if you liked it), but Boris if you didn't (well, the Govt gets the blame for just about everything now?!).

## KEYMINDERS

**Serving Drayton and nearby villages and towns for over 25 years**

**Professional yet personal care for your pets and home when you're away**

01235 520290 [info@keyminders.co.uk](mailto:info@keyminders.co.uk)

[www.keyminders.co.uk](http://www.keyminders.co.uk)

## Local Groups & Clubs



### Drayton Wasps FC 2020

#### Monthly Roundup:

Unfortunately throughout the whole of November, the FA suspended all grassroots football due to the lockdown. Before this occurred, Drayton First saw themselves sitting bottom of the table with 2 points to their name, these coming from draws against Childrey and Dorchester. However, the Reserves team find themselves sitting in 4th place, only 2 points off the top. We do not know when football will return, but we know for sure that when they do, both Drayton sides will be fighting ten times as hard to get some more points on the board.



#### Renovation Updates:

We have been working very hard over the last few months in modernising our clubhouse. A brand new plaster wall in our clubhouse has been erected with thanks to members of the club who put their skills to good use. Many other walls, that looked a bit worse for wear, have been filled in, ready for us to begin painting. Lights have been replaced and rewiring has occurred to accommodate our plans for future entertainment events that could occur in our clubhouse. In our communal areas, we have put floor sealant in our showers and installed a new sink/hot water tap.

Thanks to those in the community who have helped by donating to fund our efforts, like **Joanna from the Wheatsheaf** who kindly donated a washing machine and tumble dryer.

If you would like to donate any amount and contribute to the future of Drayton FC, please message our Facebook page "Drayton Wasps Football Club" or email us at [draytonwasps@gmail.com](mailto:draytonwasps@gmail.com)

*(Bradley Cox)*

**Red Lion  
Accommodation**  
All rooms are en suite  
For more information  
Ring Glenn or Janet on  
01235 531457 or visit  
[www.theredliondrayton.co.uk](http://www.theredliondrayton.co.uk)  
**ACCOMMODATION**

## Hazel Lee

Painters & Decorators  
Interior Local Decorators  
Reliable and Fully Insured

07866 509683

[hazel.lee78@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hazel.lee78@hotmail.co.uk)

### Christmas Services at St Peter's Church

[the 'normal' Church page is overleaf at page 4]

**Sunday Dec 20th** 16:00 (**Online!**) **Christmas Carol Praise:-**  
*Sing and hear the Christmas story from the safety of your homes with members of the church and village.* [NB This service, which as you may already know is **pre-recorded**, will be available **online** via [www.damascusparish.org.uk/homeworship](http://www.damascusparish.org.uk/homeworship)]

**And** on **THIS** day the church will be open from 1-4pm for prayer, **AND** if you would like to **light an LED candle** for those you will miss, and for the Christmas we didn't expect.

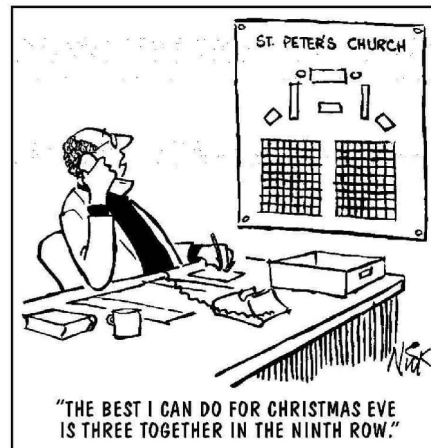
*There will be people in the church if you wish to speak to someone.*

**Christmas Eve** \*16:00 & \*18:00 Jesus' Birthday Celebration!  
\*23:30 Midnight Communion

**Christmas Day** \*9:45 Holy Communion for Christmas Day

**{\*NB for these marked services\* please call:** Sue Harris on 01235 533290 to book a place for you and your family, so that we can ensure a safe welcome for everyone}

**Sunday Dec 27th** 10:30 DAMASCUS Parish Holy Communion at All Saints', Sutton Courtenay.



"THE BEST I CAN DO FOR CHRISTMAS EVE IS THREE TOGETHER IN THE NINTH ROW."

*In the Christmas we didn't expect, may the hope and love of Jesus be born anew in our hearts.*

*Meg Heywood.*

*(Little did I think that when this cartoon was put in the Chronicle earlier this year that it would come to pass!)*

All these Church services are **subject to changes** in light of any new Covid-19 guidance. **DO please check** for the latest information on our website:- [www.damascusparish.org.uk](http://www.damascusparish.org.uk)

**Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group** continues to meet online, on Zoom, every Wednesday morning, during term time, from 10.00 – 10.30am. You are so welcome to join us!

Please email [suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com](mailto:suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com) for more information. Look forward to seeing you!

# ST PETER'S CHURCH

(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)

www.damascusparish.org.uk



The  
**DAMASCUS**  
Parish  
Dreyton | Appleford | Milton  
Sutton Courtenay | Steventon

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

**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 sanitizer. **Thank you.**

**REGULAR SERVICES – We hope that public worship can continue to take place after December 2nd, following guidelines from the Government and the Diocese of Oxford.**

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

**NB:-** 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 10.00am – for which please see :-

**[www.oxforddiocese.online.church](http://www.oxforddiocese.online.church)**

Listen to 'Sunday Worship' on Radio 4 at 8.10am. Also watch Songs of Praise (usually BBC1, times may vary!). 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 & need help of any kind, so that prayer and practical support can be offered in a safe way. [NB . . .and re 'prayer', the usual 'You stay, We pray' feature on this page is on page 8, for this issue, as no room here!]

## PARISH REGISTER

|                                       |          |                         |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| <b>Funerals &amp; Burial of Ashes</b> | Oct 21st | Joan James              |
|                                       | Oct 27th | Raymond Keith Wakefield |
|                                       | Oct 29th | Winifred Rose Darvill   |

### **A Prayer of Hope**

Loving heavenly Father,  
One constant in our lives is your unending love for us.  
We bring to You those we know who are isolated or vulnerable  
That they may be touched by Your gentle presence.  
We pray for Your comfort and peace to enfold us  
And lift us as we all face again the end of lockdown and a Christmas we didn't expect.  
This we ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

### **BRING A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE!**

Would you like to **remember a loved one at Christmas** by writing their name on a star or a Christmas tag? Please place them in the box by the door into Church, from Monday Dec 7th.

These will be hung on the Christmas tree in St Peter's.

Please also see separate details about Christmas Services (p3).

## **From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team**

Despite what you might have heard, **Christmas has not been cancelled this year!** Whether or not we are able to gather for worship, Christians in the DAMASCUS Parish and all over the world will still celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, God with us.

As I write, we are in lockdown once again although hopefully it will end as intended early in December. **But the restrictions do make planning for Christmas quite difficult,** for churches as much as for everyone else. As I think about the next few weeks, the great Advent themes of darkness and light seem especially relevant. **2020 has felt particularly dark.**

Most of us have had moments of anxiety and uncertainty about the future. For some there has been fear and sorrow, others have experienced illness and loss, and **ALL of us** have endured unprecedented restrictions, limiting our physical contact with those we love and forcing us to keep our distance from each other. But despite all this, there have also been **moments of light** in the darkness. Many of us have been spending more time with our families. We have become more aware of what is really important to us. There has been great humour and forbearance. **We have risen to the challenges that have confronted us.** As a community, we have been looking out for those in particular need.

We have been wearing masks, not for our own benefit, but to keep other people safe. The great Christmas Gospel tells us that 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it' (John 1.5). We don't know the actual date on which Jesus was born. It is just possible that early Christians took over the pagan festival of Sol Invictus. But it is very appropriate that we celebrate Christmas in the middle of winter, when the weather is coldest and the nights are longest. **By a cosmic coincidence,** on the longest night of this year, Dec 21st, there will be a **rare 'great conjunction'** between Jupiter and Saturn. The two planets will appear very close together, their closest conjunction since 1623.

The two heavenly lights will almost converge, becoming a single light shining with **exceptional brightness.** Many people think that the 'star' the Magi followed to Bethlehem might have been a planetary conjunction, or perhaps a comet. Abraham, the ancestor of God's chosen people, was promised descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven (Genesis 15.1-6). The familiar lights in the heavens became for him a sign of hope and trust in God. When you look up at the night sky on Dec 21st, the light from Jupiter will have taken about 50 minutes to reach you, that from Saturn about 85 minutes. The three stars of Orion's belt are over 1200 light years away, celestial distances are mind-boggling, and Space is very dark. But the light of the stars still reaches us, bringing hope and joy to those who look up and see it. **The light shines in the darkness.** We may be socially distanced, **but God,** 'through whom all things came into being' (John 1.3) **is with us.**

The American theologian and civil rights leader, **Howard Thurman,** wrote this poem about **lights in the darkness:-**

"I will light Candles this Christmas, Candles of joy despite all the sadness, Candles of hope where despair keeps watch, Candles of courage for fears ever present, Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days, Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens, Candles of love to inspire all my living, Candles that will burn all year long. When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins:- To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart".

*With Love & Prayers, Helen  
(Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish)*

## LOCAL W.I. HISTORY

Looking back over 100 years of Drayton Women's Institute -- a review of our achievements. *Ann Webb*

**1920** - we were founded by Lady Rucker. We met in the Wesleyan Chapel, but we were asked to find another venue as it was unseemly for Ladies to meet in the chapel. So we went to the \*\*\*Buff's Lodge in the High Street, here we were standing round snooker tables - also not satisfactory! A move to the Village School was next, this was also not practical, (small desks, grown up Ladies, no other seats available!), so it was decided that we needed our own Hall. {\*\*\*NB The "Buff's" term is slang for the Royal Antediluvian Orde of Buffaloes, of which some folk may not have heard, but they are usually considered similar to Freemasons. Not so many around now}.

**1922** - The Hall was found and erected on land given to us, formally opened by Mrs Lloyd of Lockinge. From then on we ran whist drives, gymkhanas, dances and tennis tournaments to raise money for upkeep of the Hut. Christmas Parties were held for young and old.

**1938** - War was now imminent and our meetings change to afternoons, not so popular, children home from school and evening meal to prepare. The hall was then free for Home Guard to practice in preparation for the inevitable war. The Young Men's group was suspended, they also had been called up, and we were taught first aid should we need it. A lot of members were doing war work so numbers were still small. We had a sudden arrival of evacuees to be rehomed in the village.

We made jam and preserves with the allocated sugar allowance from the Ministry of Food, also canned plums and tomatoes from local gardens using the canning machine loaned to use from Canada. Presents were gathered for the troops overseas, and at home we were asked to help with the planning for rebuilding after the war. One point we made strongly was that **water and sanitation should be indoors in future**. (Ed's note:- younger readers may not be aware of the, um, delights of an outdoor toilet – mind that spider! – especially on cold, wet nights, or the issues with using a tin bath, usually placed in the living room near the coal fire or stove). →>

# ProClean

## Housekeeping & Ironing Services

Sue Oliver



Fully Insured & all Staff are DBS checked.  
All equipment & cleaning products supplied.

Call now or email for a quotation  
East Way, Drayton, Abingdon - Tel: (01235) 468402  
Email: [sue@hsoliver.co.uk](mailto:sue@hsoliver.co.uk)



# COOMBES

## Home Improvements

ELECTRICAL • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS

m 07827 258818

e [dean@coombeshomeimprovements.co.uk](mailto:dean@coombeshomeimprovements.co.uk)

[www.coombeshomeimprovements.co.uk](http://www.coombeshomeimprovements.co.uk)

→> **1960** - We were asked to make booties to complete a 'layette' for the new Royal baby, as Berkshire's contribution.

**1963** - was the extremely bad winter and we missed a meeting because no fuel, so no heating.

**1967** - The WI held the first of many Produce shows, and more importantly the hall, now almost fifty, was showing signs of decay. Health and Safety made it almost impossible to keep the building up to the required standard for public use and it was decided to give it to the village! It took five years of meetings, letters and consultations before it was settled. We carried on as usual without the burden of constant repairs and upkeep of a failing building.

The Drayton Amenities Society, & the 'Hall News' (now the Chronicle) were born, and they took over this task while a new Hall was designed and built. **The new hall was opened in May 1975** and we were given some concessions because the old Hall provided enough funds to start the build. In the following years we also ran a very successful produce show called **Grow, Cook And Sew**, open to all the village. We had some amazing pieces of work displayed and fantastic cookery exhibits. It was always amazing how a precise recipe and instructions arrived looking all so different! This ran for many years until we thought of the quiz, ('Wit and Wisdom'), very popular with local WI groups and villagers alike, raising some excellent charity contributions.

We are now quite a small group (with the modern technology we are having a job to compete). Last year we began our plans to **celebrate this year in style**. Plans were made, we had a new president and a wonderful year to look forward to until . . . you know what!!!! But like a lot of people we have moved kicking and screaming into technology, we now Zoom with those who have the ability.

Who would have thought 100 years ago that we could talk to and see one another without leaving the comfort of our own homes? **Our planned 100th birthday party had cake and champagne!** No socially distanced cream tea in a box.

But like so many other people all over the world, fingers crossed **we will celebrate next year when we are 101**.

[NB A Couple of WI Banners from that starting point 100 years ago – 1920 – can be found overleaf on page 6].

# BAPTIST CHURCH

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



REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES >>

**SADLY, DUE TO COVID-19 Our Services are Cancelled until Further Notice.**

## griffin interiors

...soft furnishing solutions...

Interiors and soft furnishings workroom located in Appleford making quality handmade curtains, pelmets, blinds, cushions, alterations.

Headboards, loose-covers and upholstery.

Poles, tracks and fitting service.

Design studio with extensive library of fabrics and trimmings.

Fabrics and curtain making materials available for home curtain makers.

20 years experience. Off street parking.

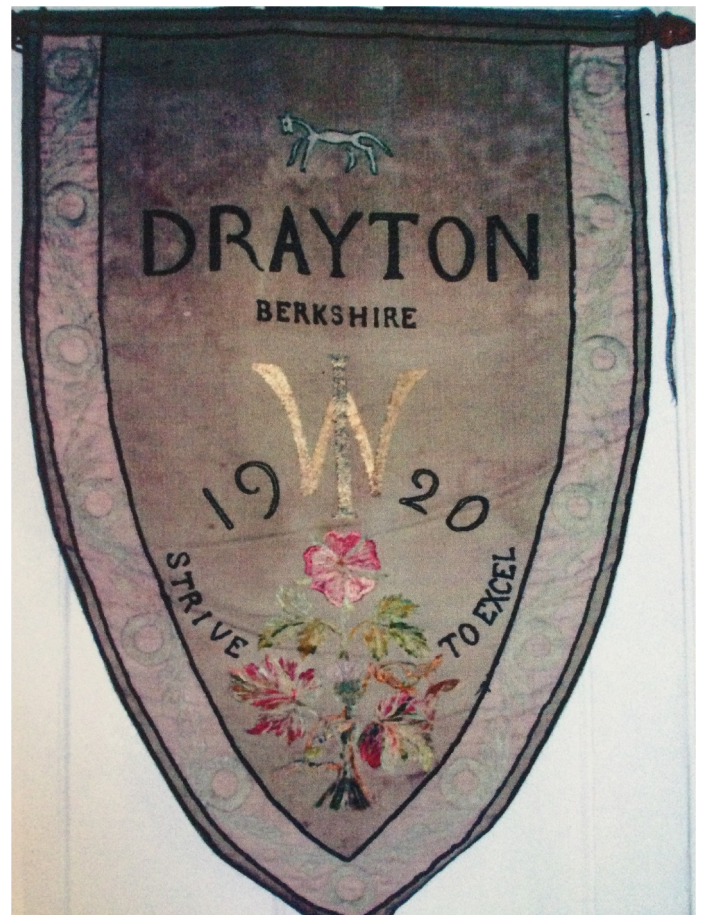
Flexible opening hours.

01235 847135/07808 762626

griffin.interiors.oxford@gmail.com

www.griffininteriorsoxford.co.uk

## W.I. Banners (previous page)



## REMLOC PLUMBING & HEATING LTD

*Trading Standards Approved*

*Gas Safe & CIPHE Registered*

- Central Heating Installation
- Boiler Servicing
- General Plumbing
- No Job too Small
- Emergency Call-outs
- Free Estimates

01235 536345 / 07709 961 655

[www.remloc.co.uk](http://www.remloc.co.uk) / email: [info@remloc.co.uk](mailto:info@remloc.co.uk)

**If you need to get in touch with our MP,**

email [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk), & for up-to-date info please check out his Facebook page [@davidjohnston4wantage](https://www.facebook.com/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)

### Letters to the Editor

You may request that your name & address are not shown; however we MUST have those details, and phone number .



## Local Groups & Clubs

### Drayton Table Tennis Club

Since my last notes there has been little change in local table tennis circles. The Didcot League did endeavour to set up a small test League of two a side teams. This was due to start in November. However with the new lockdown starting, it has meant that there will be no table tennis this side of Christmas.



There are currently twelve clubs in the Didcot Table Tennis Association, of which only 5 have any sort of activity ongoing. Just like ourselves, those who play at local schools have been unable to return to their venues. However four of our players have managed to get some practice at Grove Village Hall but again this is meant to stop before the end of the year. The Oxford League, in which some of our players participate, managed to get a mini League start in October, however that has now been suspended and again it is not known when it could restart.

We all hope that come 2021 we will be in a position to return to the table, pick up our bats and resume playing. In what shape or form this will take place, no one knows, but we keep our fingers crossed that at some future date we will have table tennis back in Drayton.

Meanwhile we can only hope that **everyone stays safe**, and fingers crossed we'll be able to enjoy Christmas with their families.

**John Gould**



### Milton Garden Machinery Ltd

Delivery & Collection service available

*Please call or email for a quotation*

We repair all types of petrol driven machinery.

Main dealers for: Alko, Atco, Briggs Stratton, Countax, Cub Cadet, Echo, Efco, Hayter, Lawnflite, Mitox, MTD, Murray, Toro, Westwood, Wheelhorse.

We repair Stihl and Honda machines too.

Windyridge Farm, Milton Road, Drayton, Abingdon,

OX14 4EZ      **Tel: 01235 555115**

Email: paul@miltongardenmachinery.co.uk

www.miltongardenmachinery.co.uk

*Established for over 30 years*

### KOGELS of Abingdon Limited

HOME EXTENSION SPECIALISTS  
AND GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS

72 Steventon Road  
Drayton

Tel: Abingdon (01235) 531200

Email: kogelsofabingdon@btconnect.com

www.kogelsofabingdon.co.uk

Abingdon  
Oxon  
OX14 4LD



## Culham Garden Services

Local, Reliable and Professional

Available for all aspects of garden  
maintenance and clearance

**Call: 07857383069**

**james@culhamgardenservices.co.uk**

Regular maintenance

One-off services

Public liability insured

References available Est.2012

James Rockall

13 High Street

Culham

OX14 4NB

### The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Our team have once again had an eventful few weeks with all the government guideline changes and the new lockdown announcement. With October of course comes half term and inevitably Halloween! In Drayton the team were out delivering the Pumpkin Trail posters for families to safely walk around the village and find without having to knock on doors. Those that returned their trail form have been entered into a raffle and a winner will be announced!

During the Half Term week the staff, volunteers and young people held a **litter picking event** around the village collecting plenty of wrappers, alcohol containers and face masks in the process! [For a **litter-pick pickers pic**, see next page!]

As we approach the second lockdown we are busy planning how we as a project can continue to work and engage with young people so stay tuned to our social media to keep up to date. **If anyone needs support** please do get in touch the team, details are below.

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

**Do contact** any of us on:- jamesq.ycat@gmail.com, jakef.ycat@gmail.com, roxy.ycat@gmail.com

Tel:- **01235 848694** or **07875 649008**



Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus,  
James Damascus;



Jake\_Damascus;  
James\_Damascus; Roxy\_Damascus

YouTube - The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project

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



**YOU STAY WE PRAY, DEC 20 / JAN 21 (from p4)**

Nov 29th – Dec 5th Whitehorns Way  
6th – 12th Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close  
13th – 19th Drayton Rd; Milton Rd; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Rd; Meads Close; Rippington Ct; Stone Hill  
20th – 26th Steventon Road  
27th – Jan 2nd Eastway; Eastway MHP  
3rd – 9th Church, Henleys & Gravel Lanes; Caudwell Close;  
10th – 16th Abingdon Road; Oday Hill  
17th – 23rd Binning Close; Haywards Road  
24th – 30th Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive  
31st – Feb 6th Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close

**PARKLANDS DOMESTIC SERVICES**

HOTEL STANDARD HOUSEKEEPING FOR YOUR HOME

With 20+ years running a local 4 star hotel, we can clean, organise and act as your concierge for your domestic needs.

**Our services include:-**

Regular Cleaning - Deep Cleans  
Decluttering - Interior Window Cleaning  
Linen Changes

Concierge Package includes dry cleaning.  
Grocery shopping cut flowers etc.

Products and equipment provided if required

[info@parklandsdomesticservices.com](mailto:info@parklandsdomesticservices.com)

**Alison 07534 447096**

**Sue 07762 706903**

**A.L. VICKERY AND SON**

Hardware and much more

**Keys Cut while you wait,  
cookshop, housewares,  
tools, gardening...**

...you'll save money, time  
And mileage when you try



*Vickery's first!*

5 The Green, Drayton,  
Abingdon OX14 4JA

**01235 531497**

**Just park outside!**

**OPEN Monday to Saturday 9am to 5.30pm**

**Lights of Love**

**SOBELL HOUSE** invite you and your loved ones to join our unique **Lights of Love** remembrance service at **4pm on Sat 5th December, 2020.**

In a year where so many of us in Oxfordshire have experienced **separation and loss**, we hope you will be able to join us to celebrate the lives of all those we have lost. {01865 225860 for queries or the website plays up}

It's an ONLINE service this year, if you **tell us you'll be attending**, we'll send you your very own Lights of Love at Home pack, containing instructions on how to join the service, a programme, and a small remembrance candle for you to light as we light our tree outside the Hospice.

<https://sobellhouse.org/lights-of-love-invitation-pack/>

NB The Sobell website also has details of their Christmas Card range, an important fundraiser for them.



**Fun and Imaginative Dance Classes  
for Children 2-16 years**

**Book for a Free Taster Session!**

Thursdays @ Steventon Village Hall

Wednesdays @ Northcourt Centre, Abingdon

Email: [bettybloombdance@gmail.com](mailto:bettybloombdance@gmail.com)

Website for more information:

[bettybloombdance.co.uk](http://bettybloombdance.co.uk)

Mobile: 07785 232862



[From p7, the litter-pick pickers, pictured! By village hall]



**Martin Hudson Flooring**

Hudsonmartin@hotmail.co.uk | 07590192298

**Martin Hudson**

*Floor Layer*

Carpet, Vinyl, Lino & Luxury Vinyl Tiles





# YOUR LETTERS

## Grateful THANKS

Dear Editor, Sutton Wick Lane

Christmas Greetings to everyone in Drayton, and a huge THANK YOU to all the people who helped all of us this year.

What would we have done without all the volunteers, friends and neighbours? The shops were closed and the delivery slots from the supermarkets were full.

A team of volunteers was set-up to help with the shopping. Help came from people we hardly knew before the pandemic.

So – thank you all, from all of us!! Have a lovely Christmas – and hopefully, a better New Year!

Kind Regards Daphne & David Pointer



## DANES/MACE STORE

Mon-Sat 5am-8pm - Sun 6am-6pm  
FOR ALL YOUR PAPERS, MAGAZINES,  
GROCERIES, FROZEN FOODS,  
CARDS, OFF LICENCE and  
SAVOURY SNACKS.

LINK CASH MACHINE AVAILABLE

**LOTTERY TICKETS**

**In Store Bakery and  
Freshly cut sandwiches**

**MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN**

NOW WITH PAYPOINT

TEL: 01235 554813

Fax No: 01235 531217



## L H GOODWIN professional decorator

Our services include both domestic and commercial painting and decorating. We are fully insured and all work guaranteed 25 years' experience – References available.

For a free estimate please call Leigh on **07789 873483** or visit my website

[www.lhgoodwin.co.uk](http://www.lhgoodwin.co.uk)

## Bryan Bond

Dear Editor, Lockway

We wish to thank EVERYONE for the very kind condolences, and messages, on the death of my husband Bryan.

It was so comforting to know that so many people thought well of him.

Kind Regards Sylvia & Teresa Bond



## Town Furlong Cattery

Kingston Road, Frilford  
01865 391864

[www.townfurlong.co.uk](http://www.townfurlong.co.uk)

## On The Trail

Dear Editor, Steventon Road

Please could we say a **huge "thank you"** to those involved in organising the Drayton Fireworks Trail in aid of FODSA?

We really enjoyed following the three routes and it was encouraging to see so many others doing the same. The trails took us on routes we have used many times but also introduced us to parts of the village with which we were not familiar. Hopefully there will be more trails to follow in the future.

Kind Regards Jenny & Peter Clare



## Poppy Appeal

Dear Editor, Steventon RBL

This year, the Poppy Appeal was very low key compared with previous years. There were no 'house to house' collections and no poppy sellers at strategic locations. Additionally the supply of Poppy Trays and collection tins was very much reduced from last year. However **Vickery's Hardware store** requested a collection box and raised £76.67. Another box was given to **Danes/Mace store** who raised £66.71 for the Poppy Appeal.

**I thank both stores for their co-operation and also to all those who contributed.**

Kind Regards Ian Baird

# MORE LETTERS

## Garden Find (Historical Challenge?!)

Dear Editor,

Plough Lane

In December last year, we relocated as a family of five from Bedfordshire to Drayton. We spent some time discovering the area, decided on a new build on the Bloor Dovecote estate, and have settled here nicely with the kids all starting the local primary school and us all getting to know our new neighbours. We have found the neighbourhood to be warm and friendly and are grateful to be accepted into the community.

Once all the dust had settled following our relocation, we decided that we wanted to extend the patio and set about contracting the work. Whilst taking off the first few inches of soil under the turf, the lads discovered a lump of cast iron that appeared to be a maker's plaque of some sort. I gave it a brush down and discovered the words "Shand, Mason & Co." with an address in Blackfriars, London. Curiosity got the better of me and I undertook some internet searches to find out who they were!



According to Wikipedia, **Shand Mason** was a British company that designed and manufactured **steam powered fire engines** and other fire-fighting equipment during the 19th and 20th centuries. The first commercially successful fire-engine was a water-borne version developed by them and put into service in 1855. In the 1860s the company developed land-based fire fighting equipment including hand pumps and horse drawn fire engines – both manual and steam engine versions.

This must have been an exciting time for the development of firefighting, as innovation in equipment allowed the introduction of machine-assisted firefighting techniques. Shand, Mason & Co. must have been pioneers of their day and across the internet we can see their equipment was in service across the globe.



{1861 Shand Mason – the firm appears to have ceased trading by 1928 when they were bought out by another company}



{1866 Company advert}

Through researching this garden find, we note that the badge has various styles over the history of the company; our find appears to be from a horse-drawn fire cart from the 1860s/70s era, as per the Brigade Fire Engine from the 1851 Great Exhibition (entry 410).

We are now in the process of cleaning the badge up, and will give it a rust treatment and repaint, before it takes **pride of place** on the garage wall! We wondered if anyone in the village can shed any light on how this may have ended up in our garden?

It is possible it was brought in on a grab truck by the builders with the soil for the development, but then again someone in the community might have other ideas! **We look forward to hearing your replies!**

Kind Regards

Marcus Stott

[Ed's note:- See page 16 for more on the smaller Stotts!!]



## Larkmead

VETS

Caring for pets, horses & farm animals throughout South Oxon

Didcot, Great Western Park  
& Sutton Courtenay : 01235 814991  
Cholsey & Benson : 01491 651379  
Horses & Farm Animals : 01491 651479  
www.larkmead.co.uk

f t i

## ALBION WILLOW GARDENS

GARDEN MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Gardening services including:

|                  |                |               |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Mowing           | Edging         | Planting      |
| Tree Work        | Hedge Trimming | Pruning       |
| Garden Clearance | Power Washing  | Heavy Lifting |

**Call: 07851 924 524 01235 799 782**

[albionwillowgardens@outlook.com](mailto:albionwillowgardens@outlook.com)



# Your District Councillor



## Coronavirus

As you read this, we should be still in the lockdown period. If you need any help, or feel you may need it, during this lockdown and beyond, please contact our Community Hub:- **01235 422600** or the website:- **www.southoxon.gov.uk/communityhub**

Email:- **communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk**

At the time of writing, we are still obtaining guidance on the **Business Grants and Additional Restrictions Grant** we will be able to offer. This should be available by the time you are reading this, local business owners should look at our **South and Vale Business Support** website at **www.svbs.co.uk**

We have been writing to **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable** (CEV) residents, by email and letter. We've also been calling all the 676 people across the Vale and South Oxfordshire who received government assistance with food towards the end of the initial shielding phase.

**If you are in either category and haven't heard from us** – or if you are in neither category but would like some help, **please don't hesitate** to contact our Community Hub on the telephone number, website, or email address above.

## Vaccines

**Vaccine news has been extremely promising**, with all indications that efficacy (effectiveness of the vaccines in development) are far higher than we'd dared hope. At this point, many of us will be wondering about safety and whether or not safety corners may have been cut.

I did mention in last month's article that there had been **no compromise on safety**. The MHRA are VERY concerned about safety, and they are insistent (quite rightly) on full safety protocols being followed. Each vaccine will have gone through lengthy safety testing with 20,000+ people involved for months. For comparison, if everyone in Didcot over the age of 12 was jabbed, that's still short of the numbers on which each separate trial had for safety testing, watching them like hawks throughout (so with 3, 4, 5 vaccines possibly available in the near term, we're looking at multiple towns-worth of people who've already had it given to them and been carefully watched). →>



Flat roofing specialists. Tile repairs. Fascias, moss removal, guttering, leadwork, felt roofs. 10,15,20, year guarantees supplied with all roofing works  
GET IN CONTACT FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION

**Tel: 01235 239631**

e: **abingdonfeltroofing@outlook.com**

Web: **Abingdonfeltroofing.co.uk**

Proud members of



→> **These people weren't just healthy adults**: I've read the Pfizer testing protocol, which included children from age 12, and elderly people to age 85, and people with a whole slew of conditions (including heart disease, COPD, asthma, diabetes, Hepatitis, and even HIV, as well as people who would be taking immunosuppressant drugs). If they haven't shown any negative effects, it does help reassure me that me and mine will be fine.

The vast majority of adverse reactions from any vaccine show up rapidly (other medicines can take longer to show side-effects), and these have had months to show any such reactions. Of course, even paracetamol can have freak outcomes, anything can – but those who've been involved for many years have noted that any such freak outcomes from a vaccine usually mean that the live virus would have even worse effects.

## Sewers

The recent heavy rainfall has caused the sewers along the High Street to overflow. This issue isn't confined to Drayton (!!); the entire Thames Water system seems rather overloaded. The Environmental Health department can put pressure on TW, but the number of people with issues is crucial. If you have been affected by overflowing sewers, or if you are affected in future, please send details to me, **andy.cooke@whitehorsedc.gov.uk**

## Planning

The Government's proposed Planning Reforms (which remove a lot of local power to feedback, direct, reject, or amend planning applications) are, we are told, being revised following **massive pushback** from many Local Authorities & MPs.

Given that the number of applications we have approved far outstrips the number under construction, we rather feel the Government's proposals are aimed in the wrong direction. We have, in my mind, got to the point where we've put together a decent system; the Neighbourhood Development Plans have brought local concerns into the decision-making process.

We believe that local people **MUST** have a say in planning proposals affecting them, it's an important democratic principle, and removing the right of the people to have a say in order to mindlessly bulldoze things through will inevitably lead to massive blowback.

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

## Ahead of his Time?

So, **almost three weeks on** (as we go to press) from the U.S. Presidential election, their mighty fiasco rolls on, with Trump ('Chump'?!), perhaps about to glue himself in the White House, and the evidence-free squawks of "fraud" are **still ongoing**.

Having once worked at a local count (2017 Gen Election, 3 'seats' counted at Ab'don Leisure Centre), I saw the British processes close-up, the USA saga seems especially ludicrous.

A US satire piece had a quote from a journo (**H L Mencken**), who'd been working in the early 1900s, it said "**Nobody ever went broke under-estimating the taste of the American public**". We don't know the context, but had he seen Trump in a (bad) dream?!

On looking up Mencken, I also found:- "As democracy is perfected, the office of President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last, and the White House will be adorned by a downright moron". Seems they also had **some dodgy geezers in the White House** back then?!

I see my own doubts about national politicians in a further quote:- "If a politician found he had cannibals among his constituents, he would promise them missionaries for dinner"! {I'm guessing Mencken was a bit of a cynic . . .}



**TRAINING AND THERAPY**


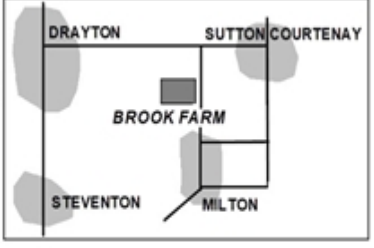
Over 10 years experience

**PERSONAL TRAINER ~ SPORTS THERAPIST**  
Private home studio located in Drayton

- 1-2-1 and small group sessions
- Deep tissue massage
- Injury rehabilitation

07500870638  
tara\_kafke@hotmail.co.uk

*HAVE YOU TRIED OUR **FREE RANGE EGGS?***

**Brook Farm, Milton Road OX14 4EZ**

**OPENING HOURS**  
Mon to Sat - 9.00am to 1.00pm Except Friday 9.00am to 6.00pm

**FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)**



**CHG Improvements**  
Carter Home & Garden Improvements

- **KITCHEN FITTING • CARPENTRY**
- **FENCING & DECKING • EXTENSIONS & RENOVATIONS**
- **GARDEN OFFICES / STUDIOS**

07539291613  
CHGImprovements@gmail.com



Sp Adobe Spark

**POST OFFICE**

## Drayton Post Office

Mon - Fri 9 - 5.30 Sat 9 - 12.30

### & CONVENIENCE STORE

Open All Week 8 am - 10 pm


9, The Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA  
01235 531359

**SORRY – NO NATIVITY** this year, the Three Wise Men can't risk a travel ban. The Shepherds have been furloughed, and the Inn-keeper has shut, under Tier-3 regulations (but he'd had a bookings slump anyway). Santa won't be working, as he'd be breaking the 'Rule of Six' with Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Comet, Vixen, Donner & Blitzen. Oh, and as for Rudolph, with that red nose, he should be taking a test and self-isolating?!

## K. L. YATES BUILDERS

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING SERVICES

- Extensions and Alterations
- Property Maintenance
- Kitchens and Bathrooms
- Carpentry and Tiling



**Call RICHARD for an estimate on  
01235 531275 or mobile 07788 738248**

## 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](http://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

## Could YOU Help?



# We're Searching for Volunteers

The **DRAYTON CHRONICLE** needs a volunteer or volunteers who would be prepared to act as **distributors**.

This involves receiving the delivery of Chronicles from the printer, and dividing them into batches of varying sizes and delivering these to the agents around the village (who then put them through letterboxes).

Currently our distributors are each doing this no more than four times per year. The more distributors we have, the less often each will have to perform the task.



If you feel that YOU could help, then please contact:- **Carol & Colin Arnold (01235 531923)** or via email [cullimore3@sky.com](mailto:cullimore3@sky.com) and we can arrange for you to shadow one of the existing distributors to see in depth what is involved [oh, & we sometimes need a new agent or 2 . . .].

### YOUR LOCAL GARAGE

Servicing all makes and models of vehicles,  
Diagnostics, General Repairs,  
Tyres, Exhaust, Air Conditioning, MOTs

# AUTO-CHECK

## OXFORD LTD

[www.autocheckoxfordltd.com](http://www.autocheckoxfordltd.com)  
[autocheckoxfordltd@gmail.com](mailto:autocheckoxfordltd@gmail.com)

Unit 3, Cuebar Court, Lashford Lane,  
Dry Sandford, OX13 6EB.

01865 730011

Courtesy cars available  
Free collect and delivery service

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project  
Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project is advertising a one-year part-time trainee post

If you are supportive, young-people-focused and share our commitment we would like to hear from you. Previous relevant experience in youth and community work essential.

For more information please contact

[rita.atkinson@googlemail.com](mailto:rita.atkinson@googlemail.com)

or [anne.whitehead284@gmail.com](mailto:anne.whitehead284@gmail.com)

If you are unable to access the internet, please telephone **01235 848694** or **07846 663010**

DEADLINE: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Start Date: 1st January 2021



Seen on a notice board :-

"As I get much older, I'm finding I really only need three shops, Specsavers, Boots, & Greggs" . . . . .

. . . "My life is just Specs, Drugs, and Sausage rolls!"

## Steventon Back Pain Centre

Our aim is to  
Discover the cause  
of your pain, get  
you well faster and  
for you to stay well  
for longer.



General  
Chiropractic  
Council



Chiropractic Relief From:

Back Pain  
Leg Pain (aches & pains)  
Headaches (cervicogenic)  
Frozen Shoulder  
Tennis Elbow  
Neck Pain

**Rapid Release**

Tel:01235 848008

the  
Back  
Pain  
Centre

### Free Spinal Check

The Back Pain Centre  
4C Deanes Close OX13 6SZ Steventon  
[www.steventonbackpaincentre.co.uk](http://www.steventonbackpaincentre.co.uk)





**Magpie Windows**  
Double Glazing Solutions

magpiewindows.co.uk  
info@magpiewindows.co.uk  
**07724640435**

- Free No Obligation Quote
- Window & Door Repairs
- UPVC Window & Door Installation
- Composite Door Installation
- Misted & Broken Unit Replacements

## AP Window Cleaning Service

**Local, Reliable and Affordable**  
**Purified Water Pole System**

All types of window, Frames and Sills  
Conservatories and Gutter clearing

Call for free quote: **07702 861526**  
or email: [anthony477prince@btinternet.com](mailto:anthony477prince@btinternet.com)



**THE BRIGHT SPARK**  
ELECTRICAL SERVICES

Qualified. Experienced. Reliable.

Matt: 07841677921  
[thebrightspark.info@gmail.com](mailto:thebrightspark.info@gmail.com)  
: the bright spark electrical services



## HALLS GARAGE

Established 60 years – Servicing and repairs

- MOT's
- Batteries
- Diagnostic Facilities
- Vehicle Collection Service
- All Makes and Models

(Milton Park, Drayton, Steventon, Culham, Appleford, Sutton Courtenay)

The High Street, Sutton Courtenay, Abingdon, OX14 4AW  
Tel: 01235 848236 • Mobile 07767165072  
[mothallsgarage@gmail.com](mailto:mothallsgarage@gmail.com)  
Open 06:30 to 18:00 Mon-Fri

## BENTON & BRYAN BUILDERS

For all types of building work from a reliable local company

Extensions, Alterations, Kitchens & Bathrooms,  
Carpentry, Decorating, Patios, Plastering,  
Roofing, Brickwork and Plumbing

**MOB: 07905386150**

**Mobile Foot Healthcare Practitioner.**  
**Jane Organ SAC Dip.RFHP.**



**Jane's Foot Care**

Nail trimming and Burring.  
Corns and Callus Removal  
Thickened and Fungal Nail Treatments.  
Ingrown Toenail and Verruca Treatment.  
All treated in the comfort of your own home.

**For more details or to arrange an appointment please contact**

**Jane's Foot Care on**  
**07752 209278**

**Email: [janeorganfootcare@gmail.com](mailto:janeorganfootcare@gmail.com)**



**VALE** CURTAINS & BLINDS

**Bespoke Made to Measure**  
**Free Expert Advice**  
**Friendly Family run Business**  
**Call: 01235 758010**

Email: [enquiries@valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk)  
[www.abingdonblinds.co.uk](http://www.abingdonblinds.co.uk)

**Oxfordshire's best source of reclaimed wood**



One stop wood shop for your DIY projects



Good quality soft and hard wood reclaimed timber in many sizes and at economical prices. Scaffolding boards, pallet wood, plywood, natural edge native hardwoods and a fabulous range of reclaimed wood furniture.



Find us at: 4 Suffolk Way,  
Abingdon OX14 5JX  
Tel: 01235 861228

*An Aladdin's cave of locally reclaimed timber.*

Opening Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 8.30am-4.30pm  
Sat: 9.00am-3.00pm

[www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk](http://www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk)



## Richard Webber - Oxon CC

### County Council Report

#### COVID, Lockdown, and Vaccines

With the news that a vaccine or vaccines may be closer than we thought, it is very tempting for us all to take our foot off the caution pedal, but there remain many immediate threats which have to be addressed before we can indulge in mass celebrations. Our own Oxfordshire data suggests that the problem has moved away from the behaviour of the young to the **behaviour of older people**. It is the tendency of them (or perhaps I should say "us") to want to get together with friends and family in our houses and gardens that seems to be the source of local spread of COVID-19. The second national lockdown gives us a window to get the figures under control. There are signs that the rate of increase is slowing, but we need it to flatten (or get the "r" number below 1). All of us are feeling anxious to see friends and family but if we are to get together at Christmas and/or as soon as possible in the New Year, the health message is clear. We owe it to friends, family and each other to accept it.

#### **Information overload?**

In the meantime, the local community COVID groups continue to perform a vital function in looking after people of all ages, ensuring everyone is fed, has access to medicines and advice on where to go for specialist help. Given the hundreds of contact names and numbers and the detailed pages of instructions and guidelines from government and Councils, it would be easy to get lost in the plethora of well-meaning advice.

The simple message is that the local Community Group are the ones who can point us at any advice or help that may be needed.

#### **Roadworks and congestion**

One of the predictable outcomes of the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan was that the ambitions to improve road safety in the village would wind up with a period of traffic bedlam and hold-ups while improvements are carried out. Anyone driving through the village recently will have been held up outside the development in the village centre. It was unfortunate that it has taken three attempts for the developer to get it to the correct design in the right place. However, the work is now done and the result is a "table" that should act as a traffic calming device. Given the ambition to have at least two similar tables elsewhere on Drayton's roads in the next two years, we probably need a year to recover from the frustration that roadworks cause, before the next table is constructed!

One consequence of all the development in and around Drayton, Marcham, Milton and Sutton Courtenay is that **services have to be upgraded** – particularly water and sewage services – and this also involves temporary roadworks which can wreak havoc with local congestion and threaten local businesses already hard-pressed by COVID.

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)



### EVERLAST ROOFING SERVICES

New Roofs • All Flat Roofs • Tiling & Slating  
Demossing Chimney • Repairs & Pointing  
Facias & Guttering • All Repairs • 24/7 Call Out  
No job too small

01235 532273  07553 911258

[quote@everlastroofingservices.co.uk](mailto:quote@everlastroofingservices.co.uk)



## Tonks Brothers Funeral Directors

*158 Ock Street, Abingdon OX14 5DT*

*Tel 01235 539444*

*166 Kennington Rd, Kennington OX1 5PG*

*Tel 01865 736144*

*Day or Night*

[www.tonksbrothers.com](http://www.tonksbrothers.com)

*'Proud to be a family business'*

## CPPM LOCKSMITHS

Locked Out  
Key Snapped  
Keys Lost  
Faulty Locks  
Lock Upgrades  
UPVC Locks



Emergency Locksmith – 24 Hour Service

[www.cppm.org.uk](http://www.cppm.org.uk)

email: [colinpizzie@btinternet.com](mailto:colinpizzie@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01235 239068 Mob: 07760 537147





[www.DraytonPC.org](http://www.DraytonPC.org)

**Another Covid-19 lockdown continues!** Another period of restrictions and limitations on our work and home lives, our activities and hobbies, but let's hope that these sacrifices do result in a reduction of cases such that we can soon start to move back to normal life. The Parish Council hasn't restarted its volunteer programme, but will look to do so if we become aware that it is needed.

The Parish Council continues its usual work during this second Covid-19 lockdown, in compliance with government guidelines. We continue to hold our regular monthly meeting, although via video-conference call rather than in person. All residents are welcome to join these video-calls, and details are included on the meeting agendas which are posted the Village website. (NB from Jan 2021 we shall be meeting on **Tuesday evenings** instead).

Our usual work continues, with discussions and decisions being taken on a variety of projects. These include:-

**Planning matters.** The Parish Council recently submitted a response to the Government's *White Paper on Planning for the Future*, which proposes a fundamental change to planning policy and the way in which decisions are made.

**Footpath renovations.** We are working on ways of alleviating flooding/muddiness on some paths.

**Allotment improvements.** The Parish Council has approved the installation of fencing around the allotments with a view to minimising local wildlife eating produce, and are waiting for the contractor to confirm the date to do this work. A new second water trough has also been ordered, so hopefully this will make watering your plots much easier in the summer months.

**Village Green area, centre of village.** We are taking steps to improve the centre of the village. The bus shelters will be deep-cleaned and painted early next year; we also plan to add installations to stop parking on the grassy areas opposite the post office, so that these stay green instead of a muddy mess! In the meantime we urge all residents and their visitors to park on the road surface – there is plenty of room to get past without going up on to the grass.

### DRAYTON TELEVISION SERVICES

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Digital TV aerials installed | Extra aerial points |
| Satellite Sky or Freesat     | Repairs             |
| TV tuning and programming    | New TV Sales        |
| Television Wall mounting     | FREE ESTIMATES      |

Telephone: 01235 531451



**Cotswolds Construction**  
*Dream - Design - Build - Achieve*  
**0800 634 9670**

[www.cotswoldsconstruction.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldsconstruction.co.uk)  Like us on Facebook

Suzy Willis & Associates  
 MCSP HCPC AACP  
**CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPISTS**  
 Old Lodge, Henleys Lane  
 Drayton, OX14 4HU  
 Tel 01235 531269  
*Please ring for a phone or video consultation*

**Developments at Walnut Meadows, Manor Farm and Dovecote** >> We continue to work with the developers to ensure that any outstanding issues affecting residents and our community are resolved as soon as possible.

**Dovecote** - we will be doing an inspection of the development in mid-November, to identify any landscaping issues and to understand when the various playgrounds will be open for use.

**Manor Farm** - the public open space seems to be improving, with the grass finally growing! The intention is for this new Village Green to be handed over to the Parish Council, at which time we will investigate how we can further improve this area, for example potentially with additional tree planting and cultivating a proper wild flower meadow. We continue to liaise with Cala to ensure that any existing dead trees are replaced, certain stony pathways are stabilised, and to get the low level lighting installed and switched on (critical in these dark winter months).

**Walnut Meadows** – Millers have resubmitted revised plans for the sports pitch land showing a new elevation and these plans are under review by the Vale of White Horse District Council's planning team. As regards the junction of Chestnut Drive (within the development) and Abingdon Road, as you will all be aware a section of Abingdon Road was shut while certain work was undertaken; inclement weather prevented the final stages of this being completed, and so further works will be required although we understand that **this will not necessitate a full road closure** (thank goodness)! A street light also needs to be moved, we await confirmation of the dates for this, and the roadworks.

Finally, the Parish Council is aware that the **raised table** which has been installed at the junction of Abingdon Road/Hilliat Fields (for the third time) appears to be problematic, and seems to be adding to or causing flooding problems, which is very frustrating for road users and pedestrians trying to walk or cross here. As all road works are the responsibility of the **OCC Highway Dept**, we have been in touch with them urging an investigation to see if the works have been completed correctly in accordance with plans, and to visit the site as soon as possible.

On a more positive note, **FODSA (Friends of Drayton School Association)** have been very active recently organising activities for the village's younger residents, including the wonderful **Fireworks Trail** and the **Halloween themed art competition** for Drayton's younger residents which was free to enter and just for fun. **Prizes** were kindly donated by **Waitrose in Botley**.

I was **very pleased** to be asked to judge the entries, and they were all really fantastic – we have a talented bunch of children living in our village! It was really difficult to choose between the pictures, but there could only be one winner in each age category, as follows:- **Congratulations** to the winners, and well done to all those who took part. See **page 20** for the winners of the various age groups:- **Evie Stott** (4 & under), **Florrie Granito** (5-7), **Tyrion Savage** (8-10), and **Lyla Stott** (11+).

**[NB - For PC Contact details, please see page 19 this issue]**



## Neighbourhood Action Group 5

{NB Information correct at the time of writing, in mid-November}.

### Sources of support (food banks and finances)

VOFWH Council can help if you're struggling with **living costs**. Call **01235 422600** or you can go online via <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk> then click on **Covid-19 Support, Advice & Guidance**, & from the next page, '**Financial Guidance if you've been affected by Coronavirus**' (they just mean as a result of the Pandemic, not if you've actually had it!). There follows LOTS of advice in various categories, inc an online help form, or just email [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk)

**Citizen's Advice** can help with **food bank vouchers** by calling 0300 330 904. If you're in financial crisis you can speak to a Citizen's Advice adviser in confidence by calling **0808 2082138 (free)** between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

### The Silver Line

This free, confidential, helpline provides information, friendship and advice to people aged 55 and above and is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call the specially trained Helpline team on 0800 4 790 80 90 for:-

**Conversation & friendship; Information & advice;**

**Protection and support** for older people who are suffering abuse and neglect; **Links to local groups & services;**

**Setting up regular friendship calls.**

### Scam warnings

Action Fraud has warned about **fake PayPal accounts**, where criminals trick online sellers into believing that payment for their items has been received and they're safe to send the items to the (criminal) purchaser. There are a myriad of scams purporting to be from GOV.UK or other government agencies.

Be **very cautious**, as these emails look completely genuine. Check the sender's email address, that the grammar and spelling are correct, as these can be give-aways. If you receive a suspicious email, [follow this instruction!](#) >>>

### Suspicious Email Reporting Service

This **new service** has been launched by the National Cyber Security Centre and the police. In the first few months, they had hundreds of thousands of reports, leading so far to several thousand 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) – then of course delete it from your inbox! (this excellent new service is quickly having an effect, please note they DO send you a confirmation email)

**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)

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>.

## COVID GIRLS CHARITY CALENDAR 2021

(In aid of **The Abingdon Bridge** and **Abingdon Foodbank**)



this long awaited, eagerly sought after, unique and (soon to be) highly collectable calendar is available NOW at £9.99 from:-

Willows Shake Shop, Stert Street, Abingdon

Millets Farm Shop, Frilford

Peachcroft Farm Shop

or by contacting

Miss August (Diane Livesley) on 07798 877882

Makes the ideal 'support your local charities' Christmas gift (100% of all sale proceeds go directly to these charities)



### Could you, or someone you know, be eligible for a free gas connection and central heating?

Heating a home with electricity is three times more expensive than with a gas central heating system, forcing many people to make the difficult choice between heating or eating to survive. SGN's **Help to Heat scheme** can support people struggling to make ends meet, by providing funding to connect some households to the gas network for free. In some cases they can also fully, or partially, fund a gas central heating system.

You, or someone you know, would qualify if you/they receive certain income-related benefits >>>>

- ✓ If your **household income**, after rent or mortgage costs, is considered low, and the expected cost to adequately heat your home is high.
- ✓ If you are **eligible** under your local authority's unique criteria, known as its 'statement of intent'. This will include income and may also include health conditions and/or your home's energy efficiency rating.

**To find out more** about the Help to Heat Scheme visit <https://sgn.co.uk/HelpToHeat> or call YES Energy Solutions on **0800 015 5174** to speak to a Help to Heat advisor. You can also email the team at [HelptoHeat@sgn.co.uk](mailto:HelptoHeat@sgn.co.uk) with your name and contact details.

### **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/>

# BLAST from the PAST

So, for this occasional venture back into the **Pop Chart annals**, who was charting this time of year, going back through time? OH, NB "this time of year" usually involves Christmas Singles, and while I don't detest all of them, I find that the annual bombardment we get from TV and Radio is quite sufficient!! So I'll try and remind you of other highlights from past Decembers.

**20 years ago** - not a strong month, but **S Club 7** (Never Had a Dream Come True) reached #1, as did **Bob the Builder**, asking Can We Fix It? **Ronan Keating** (helped by **Bryan Adams**) charted (The Way You Make Me Feel), as did Craig David, though sadly his "Walking Away" proved to be unfounded.

Back **30 years** and the **Righteous Brothers** hit #3 with the re-issued You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin', also **Rod Stewart & Tina Turner** had hit the top 5 with "It Takes Two", but despite the wonderful Tina's best efforts, anyone wanting a far superior version should try that of **Marvin Gaye & Kim Weston** from over 20 years before! **Cliff** reached #1 with Saviour's Day, perhaps leading to **Enigma's** #1 Sadness the same month? **Avengers** fans may recall that **Patrick MacNee & Honor Blackman** took "Kinky Boots" into the top five, oh, and **Iron Maiden** were soon to reach #1 with the rather different sounding (!) Bring Your Daughter . . . . . To The Slaughter!

**40 years ago** (can it be so long?!) **Abba** had just been #1 (Super Trouper), as had a certain **School Choir** with "There's No One Quite Like Grandma". **John Lennon's** "Imagine" unsurprisingly dominated the chart that month, but **Ultravox** were soon to be in the top-3 with "Vienna".

**FIFTY years ago** (for real old-timers) and we'd just had at #1 **Jimi Hendrix** (Voodoo Chile), & **Dave Edmunds** (I Hear You Knocking), but **Clive Dunn's** "Grandad" was to (drearily?!) dominate that month, with the **Mixtures** (The Pushbike Song), & **Ashton, Gardner & Dyke** (The Resurrection Shuffle) soon to be top-3.

Can anyone remember **60 years back**?! **Peter Sellers & Sophia Loren** had charted with the fun "Goodness Gracious Me" & **The Drifters** had just started the very long life of "Save The Last Dance For Me". **Bobby Vee** was moving up with the cheery "Rubber Ball" (I come bouncin' back to you ...), and **Elvis** was soon to be #1 with "Are You Lonesome Tonight" – then setting a record as the first act to have tallied six Number One hits!

**Sharman Roofing**

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist

tiling, slating, leadwork, guttering and fascias,  
new builds, re-roofs, extensions,  
maintenance & sheds

all work considered, call Mark on

07979 791075  
[msharmanroofing@gmail.com](mailto:msharmanroofing@gmail.com)

## Meryl computer doctor & tutor

technical expertise with the human touch

---

**Setup** PC, Apple, tablet, phone, internet, printer  
**Fix** technical & user problems, big or small  
**Learn** getting started, new skills, better ways

07794 656607

info@computertutorabingdon.co.uk  
www.computertutorabingdon.co.uk



This month in **2000**, just 20 years now since Americans showed they can't run Elections very well (déjà-vu?!), with weeks of faffing about with 'chads' (bits of machine voting cards), and assorted recounts in Florida leading to a Supreme Court decision to make 'Dubya' President.

Russia's Chernobyl nuclear plant was finally closed after the disaster four years earlier. Sadly we lost Victor Borge, and (in a tragic accident) Kirsty MacColl (her collaboration with the Pogues, 'Fairytale of New York' has been voted favourite Xmas song several times).

In **1990** the **Channel Tunnel** drillers met in the middle (good shot chaps!), and **Gary Kasparov** beat Karpov for the World Chess title. **Poundland** opened its first shop (what became of them?), and the last Rhondda coal mine was closed.


In **1980**, **John Lennon** was murdered in New York, and Oswald Mosley also died (had led the British Union of Fascists), as did (Admiral) Karl Donitz, last head of state in Nazi Germany.


In **1970**, anyone with a **ten shilling note** was wondering where to take it (they'd just ceased being legal tender, when I was young, a very welcome Xmas or birthday present from aunties!), and **Aled Jones** was born (yes, happy 50th!), with Zoe Ball being just a few weeks older, and Coronation Street was having its 10th anniversary.

Electrical Problems? Call

# ROBERTS

## ELECTRICAL



Domestic • Commercial • Industrial

- Electrical Hard Wire Testing
- Domestic Electrical Reports
- Landlords Certificates
- Portable Appliance Testing
- Re-wires Full or Part
- Extra Power or Lighting Points
- Electrical Showers Complete
- Security Lighting, Fire & Intruder Alarms
- LED & Low Energy Lighting Installations
- Data & Telephone Wiring
- TV & Home Entertainment Installations
- Heating Controls and Wiring

We are able to Part P/Building Control our electrical works

Office: 01235 528800 Mobile: 07786 930463

Windy Ridge Court, Milton Road, Drayton, Abingdon OX14 4EZ

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS

## NOTICE BOARD

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.

### DRAYTON HALL (Lack Of!) NEWS

I was about to say that, at the time of writing, (3 weeks into Nov), it's just about impossible to predict what will happen even in the next month or two, let alone deeper into 2021.

BUT – I've just seen a **strong hint** that a "tougher tier system" will be coming in, after this Lockdown ends on Dec 2nd, with more areas in higher tiers, and "some tiers strengthened". However, I now see a further hint about "**Gyms & shops MAY reopen soon**" – and if so, some hope that the Hall could go back to where we were for some classes, before Lockdown2 arrived?! Well, if I had powers of clairvoyance, I'd win the Lottery, but fingers crossed!!

I **CAN thank REMLOC (plumbing)** for their services again, fixing a cistern that had started misbehaving just before Lockdown2 – from what I saw of the valve assembly, it may appear on Antiques Roadshow at some point, but equally if it was original to the Hall, that's 45 years it had lasted!



### **SP COURIER SERVICES**

'MOVING ASSISTANCE'

House – Flat – Apartments – Office  
FURNITURE MOVED / TRANSPORTED  
Ebay COLLECTIONS - DELIVERIES  
Tel 07721 679487 & 01235 524589

#### YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

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



We undertake projects of all shapes and sizes. We specialise in:

**R & R Landscaping** - Garden Maintenance  
Richard and Ryan Seamark - Garden Clearance  
[randrlandscaping12@outlook.com](mailto:randrlandscaping12@outlook.com) - Turf Laying  
07565 421637 / 07498 399521 - Patios  
Call or email us today! - Fencing  
42 Abingdon Road, Drayton - And much more

### 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**.

### LISTINGS

**Oxfordshire Craft Guild** would usually be running their **selling exhibition** this month, up at Woodstock Museum, but in these strange times, this is now a VIRTUAL show. So, go online at <https://gallery.ocg.co.uk> and check out what's on offer. Some **terrific items**, all **handcrafted**, local, **high quality and unusual gift options**, inc jewellery, ceramics, glass, textiles & more. It's a viewing gallery, not in itself a buying vehicle, but full details of the sellers and purchase processes are easily seen.

**Winter Woodland Nights:** the **Hawk Conservancy** (near Andover) are advertising a Covid-safe experience, a live Owl display set in illuminated woods and arena. Jan 15th to 31st, a fundraiser for their bird of prey conservation. Plus they've lots of Christmas Gift ideas. <https://www.hawk-conservancy.org>

**Panto & Theatre Online Offerings** - (Oh Yes There Are!) – **Lots of theatres are doing online shows** in the coming months, inc panto, but drama and music options too. One of them is the new Jack & The Beanstalk film, but for a BIG list, please see:- <https://www.whatsonstage.com/guide/christmas-pantomime>

Also on a **Theatrical note** the Alliance of Theatrical Seamsters (laid off for much of the year!), have turned their hands and machines to make some nice ranges of Christmas Gifts, support them via <https://www.alofts.co.uk/shop>

**Similarly** <https://www.notonthewestend.co.uk/featured> has products from a number of varied Theatre workers, from set designers to carpenters, and lots more, with an assortment of Christmas gifts, leather, prints, clever lighting, dog leads (!), have a look and support them if you can?

**IKEA** are willing to **buy back unwanted furniture** (needs to be theirs!) in a sustainability project, but it needs to be assembled, and you must take it to a designated store. And you CANNOT just turn up, go online at <https://www.ikea.com/gb> and search for 'buy back', quite a few conditions, and it's not all stores yet!

And the **V & A** have a terrific set of **Crafts tutorials** ('Make & Do' - free) at <https://www.vam.ac.uk/info/make-and-do> a massive variety, dressmaking, woodwork, embroidery, knitwear, make your own video game (!), bags, etc, perhaps a 'huipil'??!

How about a **Virtual Tour** of 10 of the world's **top Museums & Galleries?** Beautifully photographed, should help keep you going through more Lockdown? Locations in London, Paris, Amsterdam, & several in USA (yes, they've plenty culture, despite Chump!). <https://www.thehandbook.com/10-of-the-worlds-best-virtual-museum-tours>

**Just room for one more, Oxford Playhouse** just announced a 'Mini Christmas Selection Box', an array of **family shows** to **enjoy online** over the Christmas break. What they didn't say yet is what's in it! I'd suggest you register for their newsletter [<https://www.oxfordplayhouse.com>] but by the time this issue hits doormats, the info should be there.

## Love Food? – Child of the 60s?

Then you should remember most of this:-

**Pasta** had not been invented. "Kebab" wasn't even a word, never mind a food. Curry was an unknown entity (& Indian restaurants were only found in India!). The only **vegetables** were spuds, peas, carrots, turnip, cauliflower and cabbage.

**Chilli** was in South America, Scotch Bonnets were worn by old ladies in Aberdeen. A **take-away** was a mathematical problem, and a **pizza** was something to do with a leaning tower. A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining. **Oil** was for lubricating your bike chain, not for cooking.

**Olive oil** was kept in the medicine cabinet (for earache!). Spice went in Christmas cakes. Herbs were used to make medicine, we think. All crisps were plain. All soft drinks were called "pop". Coke was something that we put on the fire, we never drank it and we certainly didn't sniff it.

**Rice** was a milk pudding, never, ever part of our dinner. **Tea** was made in a teapot using tea leaves. The tea-cosy was the forerunner of all energy saving devices. And tea had only one flavour, it was . . . tea flavoured. A microwave was science fiction. None of us had ever heard of "yoghurt".

**Figs & dates** appeared every Christmas, but no one ever ate them. Coconuts only appeared when the fair came to town. Mayonnaise was called Salad Cream, "Hors d'oeuvre" was a spelling mistake. Dinner consisted of what we were given, and not negotiable. Only Heinz made baked beans.

**Leftovers** went in the dog. Sauce was either brown or red. Eating raw fish was called madness, not sushi. The only ready meals came from the fish & chip shop. Frozen food was called ice cream. Nothing ever went off in the fridge - because we never had one. Brunch was not a meal. Cheese only ever came in a hard lump.

If we had asked for **bacon, lettuce and tomato** in the same sandwich we would have been certified insane. Eating outside was called a picnic, not "Al Fresco". Seaweed was not a recognised food. Eggs were not called 'free range', they just were, and the shells were white. Pancakes were only eaten on Pancake Tuesday - it was compulsory.

The phrase "**boil in the bag**" would have been beyond our realms of comprehension, and "oven chips" would not have made any sense at all. We bought **milk and cream** at the same time, in the same bottle, before you gave it a shake. Prunes were purely medicinal. **Pineapples** only came in chunks in a tin. We didn't eat Croissants because we couldn't pronounce them, we couldn't spell them, and we didn't know what they were (and for Baguettes, see Croissants!). Garlic was used to ward off vampires in films, not eaten. **Water** came out of the tap; if someone had suggested bottling it and charging for it - they would have been locked up.



**LATE NEWS** – The new Sutton Wick Pond Duck House!!

Printed (locally) by **Oxuniprint Ltd**  
01865 844918 or [www.oxuniprint.co.uk](http://www.oxuniprint.co.uk)

**THESE were the winning entries in the Halloween Competition (FODSA), as in the PC report (p16). WELL DONE to all the entries, & especially the winners!**



## The Oxford Window Repair Company

The wooden window repair specialists

- Flaking paint and cracked putty on your wooden windows and cills?
- We specialise in repair and renovation to give your windows a new lease of life!
- We replace rotting and failing wood, use high performance treatments combined with modern & traditional paint solutions to give an excellent finish. Maintenance contracts & references are also available for your peace of mind
- All work guaranteed
  - We use social distancing practices and PPE as per government guidelines

Call us for your free estimate 07880 560 403

[www.oxfordwindowrepair.com](http://www.oxfordwindowrepair.com)

