

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE



## CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next Chronicle will be the September issue. Editor: Maurice Puddick (Tel: 01235 538188). Key dates for subsequent Chronicles:

Issue	Deadline for contributions: 17.00 on Monday:	Printed Chronicles available on:
September	16th August	27th August
October	13th September	24th September

### Notes for Contributors

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are very welcome. Please send us your letters, reports from village clubs and societies, articles, tips and advice, photos, suggestions etc. Please be sure always to include your name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) your phone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all. The editor reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required.

*Please send your contribution by email to:*  
[editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net)

*Advertisement requests should be sent to:*  
[advertising@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:advertising@draytonchronicle.net)

If email is not possible, please place your contribution, either typed or handwritten, in the Chronicle box outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green, or post to Vickery's, 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if mailed or delivered directly to the Editor's house by the Wednesday following the deadline.

**Advertising Charges:** for single Block Advert (approx. 9cm x 4.5 cm) :-

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## BAPTIST CHURCH

**Church Secretary:** Mrs Jayne Henderson.....Tel. 522161



*Please refer to the Church Noticeboard for details of future services.*

**Geoff Caudle** will be conducting the service on

**Sunday 12th September at 6pm**

## LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton  
Sunday Service: 10.30 am

**Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409**

### Brollydays at St Peter's Church

#### Summer holiday services with a difference!

Many of us are unable to go abroad this summer, so we thought we would bring the 'abroad' to us!

#### All Welcome!

Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.45 St Peters goes Camping

Sept 19<sup>th</sup> St Peter's goes to the Caribbean

**We look forward to seeing you**



# ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON

## part of the DAMASCUS Parish



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

*The church is open daily for private, individual prayer  
Sunday – Saturday, 10 am-4pm*

### REGULAR SERVICES.

**Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion on 2nd Sunday of the month only.**

**Sunday 9.45 am Holy Communion (CW) , except 4th Sunday when a non-Eucharist Morning Praise is held**

**Thursday morning Holy Communion Service** We hope to be starting this again in August – please see Families in Drayton Facebook page for further details. ( Details not yet known when going to print)

### Coming to Church

For everyone's safety we are strongly recommending that everyone who is visiting Church wears a mask and sanitises their hands please. Thank you. We look forward to welcoming you.

### At Home

You can continue to listen to 'Sunday Worship' on Radio 4 at 8.10am. Also watch Songs of Praise,( usually BBC1 at 1.15pm, but 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 and need help of any kind, so that prayer and practical support can be offered in a safe way.

### **PARISH REGISTER**

**Wedding Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2.00pm Nick Brandham and Katie Jones**



# ST PETER'S LETTER

**From the Ministry Team...**

**St Peter's, Drayton  
St Peter & St Paul, Appleford  
St Blaise, Milton  
All Saints', Sutton Courtenay  
St Michael and All Angels, Steventon**

**From the Ministry Team.....**

### **'On Holiday with Jesus'**

August is the month when schools are off and many of us go on holiday seeking rest and relaxation and a change of scene. This year will be very different, with many opting for a 'staycation'! The good news is that Jesus offers us a true rest:

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.' (Matthew 11: 28-29). Are you feeling tired or burdened and in need of a holiday? Jesus invites you to spend it with Him!

**The Invitation:** Our holiday destination is Jesus Himself: 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened.' We can come just as we are, with all the burdens and sadness we carry from the last 18 months. Jesus doesn't offer a 'quick fix' to deal with our issues; He simply offers Himself!

**The Promise:** Jesus promises us the gift of refreshing, sustaining and everlasting rest. When we go on holiday, we usually look forward to doing very little and yet this is not the kind of rest Jesus offers. His rest involves taking up His yoke and learning from Him. A yoke was the wooden collar that ran across the shoulders of a pair of oxen to enable them to work the fields. Jesus says: 'My yokes fit well. They do not rub your neck and shoulders. Come to Me and get yoked to Me. Make an act of loyal obedience and trust in Me. And you will find a deep peace and satisfaction that you could never find anywhere else. I have come for you.'

What's so amazing about this holiday is that you can get rest by simply staying at home and dwelling in the peace of Jesus. So, whatever you maybe doing over the summer my prayer is that you will each find true rest and peace.

*The Reverend Helen Kendrick,*

*Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish*

### **YOU STAY WE PRAY**

1 <sup>st</sup> —7 <sup>th</sup> August	Steventon Rd; Kiln Lane
8 <sup>th</sup> —14 <sup>th</sup> August	Eastway; Eastway MHP
15 <sup>th</sup> —21 <sup>st</sup> August	Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane
22 <sup>nd</sup> —28 <sup>th</sup> August	Abingdon Rd; Oday Hill
29 <sup>th</sup> Aug.—4 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	Haywards Rd; Binning Close



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# LETTER FROM WESTMINSTER

David Johnston MP Member of Parliament for Wantage (inc. Didcot, Wallingford & Faringdon)



## Climate Change

I held a very productive pre-COP26 summit for Wantage and Didcot constituents this month. We had a great range of speakers, including the CEO of the independent Climate Change Committee. Interesting fact: the UK is currently 20 years ahead of the global average for cutting emissions, as well as cutting them faster than the other G20 countries. It won't surprise you that the way we build houses featured regularly.

I put the event on because tackling climate change is very important to me, very important to a significant number of constituents and we have a big opportunity to demonstrate leadership when the world's leaders come to Glasgow for the actual UN summit in November. It was also a great chance to showcase good local organisations like Greencore Construction, Westmill Wind and Solar and the Earth Trust. I am sending a summary of the concerns and ideas raised at the event to Alok Sharma, President of COP26, and will let everyone know how he responds.

## Royal Mail

As you might have seen, I held my debate in parliament on Royal Mail's performance recently, making clear again that I don't blame their workers for the problems. The following day I visited the Didcot Delivery Office. It's clear that Royal Mail HQ have taken the criticisms seriously and have worked to try and improve the service – many people have told me it has. But you should let me know if you continue to encounter problems.

## AEAT Pension Campaign

My first '10 minute rule bill' will be on behalf of the AEAT Pension Campaign. This constituency has more of the AEAT Pensioners than any other constituency and they were all encouraged – via assurances that turned out to be false – to transfer to a pension scheme that has meant their pensions are now worth considerably less than they should be. It is a tale that sounds familiar, but a unique case in that it was advice from the Government's Actuary Department in the 1990s that was strengthened to encourage the transfer and, at the moment, the advice can't be investigated as the Ombudsman in question doesn't have the powers to. The Bill would enable the Ombudsman to investigate the advice given and was first introduced by Ed Vaizey not long before he stood down. It is a long and difficult route to pass a law this way, but I am full of admiration for the campaigners who have been dogged in seeking to right the wrong.

## Recess

Recess is fast approaching. I will be back home in Didcot for most of it, albeit working, contrary to the suggestion MPs are on holiday! In addition to regular meetings, surgery appointments and visits, I'll be holding some roundtables on issues constituents have raised repeatedly with me (including on GP appointments) and trying to attend as many of the events that couldn't take place last year as I can – let me know if you think there is a good one for me to attend near you.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do contact me via:

[david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk) ☎: 020 7219 6350

✉: Office of David Johnston MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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# DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

## Andy Cooke



Dear all,  
Coronavirus

I'm writing this article on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July (the day that the Government are releasing a bunch of restrictions) which means that by the time you read this, you'll know considerably more than me.

As at today, cases have been climbing again (mostly in the unvaccinated or single-vaxxed) and whilst the ratio between hospitalisations and deaths against cases has decreased considerably, the link still exists.

Covid levels in the Vale did not continue their decrease from a month ago; they started a rapid climb again around the 21<sup>st</sup> of June and now may be approaching the same level as their January peak (most recent data incomplete). However, the number of patients in hospital in Oxfordshire with covid is far lower than it was at a comparable time. It unsurprisingly skews far younger as well, as the older and more vulnerable are far better protected. Oxford City remains by far the worst-hit area in the county – but it *might* be subsiding there, maybe partly due to extra testing measures and pop-up vaccination clinics.

A word of caution at this point: whilst the vaccines work very well at protecting against serious illness, they are not a magic suit of armour (a decent analogy is Formula 1 race cars. They have had huge swathes of safety measures to protect against fatalities, and death rates have plummeted – but crashing can still be very painful and even, in rare cases, fatal. Should regulations permit far more frequent crashing, we would see more serious events on the race-track).

Following two doses and fourteen days to come up to speed, effectiveness seems to be:

- against symptomatic disease at all: 66%-90% (That is, your chances of developing symptoms are a third to a tenth of if you were unvaccinated. Transmission seems to be impaired by certainly over 60% but not quite 100% - so even double-vaxxed people *can* pass it on, albeit at a considerably lower chance of doing so due to the far lower viral loading)
- against severe disease (hospitalisation-level): 95-97% (Your chances of being so ill you're hospitalised are between a twentieth and a thirtieth of what they were when unvaccinated)
- against death: 97%+ (Your chances of being so ill that you die are decreased by a factor of over 30).

This does leaves a residual risk, albeit a lot lower than before being vaccinated. However, if you are considered vulnerable (or even if you'd like to avoid a potentially rather unpleasant illness, even if you're far less likely to have a bad outcome), it would be wise to be cautious until this peak subsides (it has to run out of susceptible hosts sooner or later).

Whilst cloth masks protect others rather than yourself (and they may become pretty rare after today), FFP3 masks (which are quite a bit more expensive, unfortunately) do give considerable protection to the wearer. In addition, keeping away from less ventilated indoor spaces and keeping some distance from others where possible, and reducing the average number of daily interactions would have a significant effect.

Schools closing this week will probably help bring R down (it seems to have had that effect in Scotland), but the relaxation of restrictions will cause an unknown boost to infections. Dropping all restrictions today is therefore very much a gamble by the Government. By the time you read this, we'll probably have a decent idea over whether or not the gamble has paid off. I would personally have liked the mask mandate to continue until the wave was complete and possibly an interim step between the restrictions we had in Step 3 and those for Step 4. I am hoping hard that I'm simply too cautious.

No matter what – if you're not double-jabbed, I would strongly encourage you to get the vaccination (both doses). I understand the gap between doses is decreasing from 12 weeks to 8 weeks. With the increased infectivity of Delta, it looks to becoming a simple choice: everyone will get antibodies. The choice is down to infection or injection.

The increase in 'self-isolation alerts' from the increased case loads means that more people may find themselves struggling financially. Some support is available here: <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/coronavirus-community-support/support-for-people-who-need-help/financial-support-available-for-those-on-benefits-who-are-told-to-self-isolate/>

Anyone who has been told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace, or who is a parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate, and who meets the relevant eligibility criteria, can submit a claim for an additional £500 in financial support. Eligibility criteria:

- you must be employed or self-employed;
- you must be unable to work from home;
- you will lose income as a result as a result of being self-isolated or caring for a child who must self-isolate;
- and, you must be currently receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit and / or Pension Credit.

Those applicants who are not in receipt of the listed benefits can still receive a grant if:-

- a single applicant has a gross income less than £21,500 per annum
- a couple or single parent has a gross income less than £32,250 per annum

### Outdoor Swimming Pool: Abbey Meadows

As an update to last month, the pool was reopened on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July. Just in time for the latest heatwave! Visits need to be booked in advance here: <https://www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/vale-of-white-horse/abbey-meadows-outdoor-pool>

## **Andy Cooke continued**

### **Garden Waste service reopens to new subscribers**

Due to staffing levels, the Brown Bin service was closed to new subscribers for a while. It's now reopening for optional paid-for garden waste removal. Sign up location here: <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/recycling-rubbish-and-waste/garden-waste/>

### **Waste Collection Disruption**

Ironically, given the above, there have been disruptions to bin collection over the past couple of weeks. This is due to an ongoing shortage of HGV drivers (which is occurring nationwide). This is, I am told, from a different set of staff to those administering the Brown Bins subscription service (administering rather than driving HGVs). Staff are working weekends to try to catch up. If bins are not collected, please leave them out for up to three days to give the staff a chance to catch up. If black bins are still uncollected, you can leave an extra three black sack's worth the next time.

### **Five Year Land Supply**

A few years ago, developers were able to all-but-ignore the Neighbourhood Plan due to the Vale not having a "Five Year Land Supply" (they could appeal negative planning decisions and almost automatically win an overrule from central government as the Vale did not have a 5-year land supply). This changed a while back and on the latest review, it was confirmed that we have maintained a five year land supply, reducing any opportunity for new speculative development.

### **Climate Change**

The need for a push towards a net zero carbon future has been underlined recently by extreme weather events around the world. Temperatures soaring to 49 degrees Celsius (over 120 Fahrenheit) in areas of British Columbia (which usually has a similar climate to ourselves) has killed hundreds there. Meanwhile, extreme flooding in Germany from record rainfall has caused at least 120 deaths there.

Whilst extreme weather events are not unknown, when once-in-a-century events (or considerably rarer ones, or unprecedented ones) are happening more and more often, things do start to look more extreme. We are pushing towards a net zero carbon future (in such things as house-building, transport, and land-use) as much as we can in our own powers. The flooding events do look (to me) to underline the need to resist the unnecessary Thames Water reservoir (linking instead through Severn Water to the plentiful reservoirs in the far wetter part of the country would solve any water issues – and the proposals had red risk statuses for potential to cause floods in Abingdon and the local area due to preventing an existing rain runoff into the floodplain). It seems to be in limbo somewhat at the moment; we need to ensure it does not leap back up.

That's it for this month.

Take care, and stay safe, Andy

# COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

## Richard Webber



Dear All

### **New Roads**

The new Lodge Hill slip roads are designed to alleviate traffic in Abingdon but also in the wider area. Traffic currently coming south around the inner ring road to access the A34 at Marcham Rd will be able to access the A34 going south at Lodge Hill. This should reduce queuing at the McDonald's roundabout so the traffic along Ock St and Drayton Road will be able to flow more freely.

If the new link relief Road between Didcot and the Thames is delivered on time, it is hoped this too will have a major benefit to the area's traffic issues. Much of the traffic arriving from the South, together with traffic from new Didcot housing developments, much of which currently uses village roads, will, it is expected, use the new, much faster road.

If it all works as the experts hope, these new roads will produce a major reduction in traffic in our area. The more alarming prediction is that it would take 10-20 years for traffic to build back up to current levels. Again, hopefully, self-drive cars, better public transport and far more people abandoning their cars in favour of "active travel" – cycling and walking – will prevent the need for more roads.

The Frilford crossroads is the other major traffic pinch point in our area. There is a study sponsored by OCC into possible solutions. All options from a Marcham by-pass downwards are being considered. The new Didcot Road is costing £0.5billion and, although a Frilford solution would be much less expensive, there is no obvious pot of money large enough to pay for it. It seems, therefore, that a solution is some way away.

### **Covid**

Like so many people, our planned large family holiday in the Channel Isles (originally booked in November 2019) has had to be postponed yet again. Not only the changing policies of our own government have complicated things, the Bailiwick of Guernsey has now joined the party. One added problem is the family and the children keep growing. Like so many others, I am reconciled to staying at home this summer, but like them, please, please government do not produce any more regulations to restrict our families coming to see us soon.

Meanwhile, enjoy the summer break and all the sunshine we can muster.

Richard Webber Cllr

01235 534091

[Richardwebber777@gmail.com](mailto:Richardwebber777@gmail.com)



# DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Graham Webb

### July 2021 Report

#### Traffic Calming

The Traffic Calming working group has drawn up a list of priorities based on the NDP and current needs, and were able to discuss them face to face with OCC. The emphasis is currently on safety (footpaths, pedestrian crossings etc). It is hoped there is funding for two new crossings. There has also been extensive discussion about the narrowness of roadside pavements, especially on the Abingdon Road.

#### Footpaths

The Rights of Way & Footpaths group has obtained a proposal and quotation for remediating BW29 (in Sutton Wick, past the scrapyard). Some drainage has already been carried out and the objective is to lay down a topping so that it is suitable for both horses and cyclists. The specification is from an experienced contractor, and as used by local racing stables. It is intended to complete this before the winter.

#### Walnut Meadow

The PC has continued chasing Miller Homes to correct land levels for the sports pitches, and some progress has been made. We have also continued lobbying OCC and our County Councillor to resolve the adoption of the roads at Walnut Meadow. This is becoming urgent as the issue is blocking progress on delivery of the rest of the project, and it is felt that OCC could be more co operative.

Bearing in mind that so much of this is time critical, an NDP working group has been re formed. Its first task will be to review progress on the MUGA and the pitches.

With this in mind, and for delivery of other NDP projects, we have been recruiting a Programme Manager. The variable workload anticipated has made it important to define the role, but after several interviews we think we may have a decision on this.

#### Church Lane/Henleys Lane

In Public Participation a resident, who had written to the Clerk, attended and asked the PC to take action over the volume of traffic using the lane as a rat run. The road is only about 3 metres wide at its narrowest, and it is felt that the speeding traffic presents a danger to elderly pedestrians, mothers with buggies, and horses, because parked cars often block the pavement. The PC discussed previous efforts of a local meeting to agree a solution, but suggestions of speed humps and one way traffic were felt by our County Councillor to be unacceptable to OCC Highways.

#### Parish Councillors

Due to the resignation of three councillors we have asked for volunteers to be elected and to serve. This is an interesting and important time for our growing village, and we are grateful to Claire Woollard, Garin and Irma Schoonoven for their enthusiasm and commitment.

### 2021 Drayton Parish Council Key Dates

Planning Committee Meetings start at **7.00pm** followed by Monthly Parish Council Meetings at **7.30pm** in the **Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane , Drayton**. It is Council policy to set aside a total of 15 minutes for the public to ask questions, raise issues or express views concerning Parish business, for consideration by the Council.

**All welcome.**

#### Dates for the remainder of 2021:

**10th August**

**14th September**

**12th October**

**9th November**

**14th December**

#### Any Questions for the PC?

To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the Parish Clerk, Lorraine Watling: **clerk@draytonpc.org** or **07909 176061**. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the Clerk's email list, to receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents.

All PC Minutes are archived on the village website **www.draytonvillage.co.uk**, which also has a link to back copies of The Chronicle, information on the latest activities of the Drayton 2020 Implementation Committee, and details of other events in the village.

### ABINGDON AIR AND COUNTRY SHOW



SATURDAY 11th SEPTEMBER  
10.00AM - 5.30PM

Abingdon Airfield, free and disabled parking available.

We are returning! and what better way for a great family day out than coming along to 'the show with something for all the family'.

There will be a 3-hour flying display including "Sally B" one displaying and one static, Eurofighter "Typhoon" the "Blades" amazing display team and more.

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# ART INSTALLATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE

PERVIN SHAHIN

## Resigned to the designs for the signs

It's high time we had an update about the entry signs for the village, and the news is not particularly good I'm afraid.

First things first: we had a vote if you remember, when the PC asked for your feedback on which features you would like to be included on the entry signs to the village. We had a number of suggestions, all of which were considered, from Berkshire pigs to the church, and the resounding majority favoured the walnut image, with no further embellishments. The PC agreed that this would be the best image to convey, as the signs would be less distracting to incoming motorists, if they weren't trying to decipher images of a river, kites and dray horses as well as the 30 mile limit sign and the word DRAYTON in the mix. So apart from the majority vote, this was considered to be the safest option. Thank you to those who voted, and sorry to those whose imaginative ideas didn't get the green light. Excuse the metaphor.

So now for the bad news: after the artists had produced a lovely image of their design, we heard from the police that Drayton is classified as an area of "special interest", meaning that they required crash tests to prove that the signs wouldn't damage any vehicle with "jagged edges" in the eventuality of a crash. As the signs would be well above the level of any car or motor bike, we found this very confusing and off putting, as the dimensions of the signs had been specially chosen to avoid this from happening.

In fact this was so off putting, that the artists **resigned** from the project in despair. I was also in despair, as we had put so much work into this, and invested so much creative energy and vision. After some cajoling, the artists have agreed to come back on board, as long as we, the council, can sort out the problems. I'm working on it, and believe me, it hasn't proved to be easy. The buck has been tossed around, but I will keep it in play.

So at the moment, our signage is on hold, but we will do our best to make it happen. More news when the police give the sign.

## Walnuts – we've cracked it!

Now for the good news! Our project is on schedule to be completed before the end of November. The art installation has been given the go-ahead both by the PC and also by OCC, with the funding in place. In fact, I have taken on board suggestions for planting the area on the green, and this will be an integral part of the artistic installation, also agreed by OCC.

The final installation will be thus: the soil that has been eroded due to cars parking on the grass will be reinstalled up to the edge, and grass replanted to restore the look of the area. Some walnuts will be placed on the edge of the green, at a distance of 50cms from the edge of the kerb, to deter cars from parking over the grass, and some will be placed in groups on the various

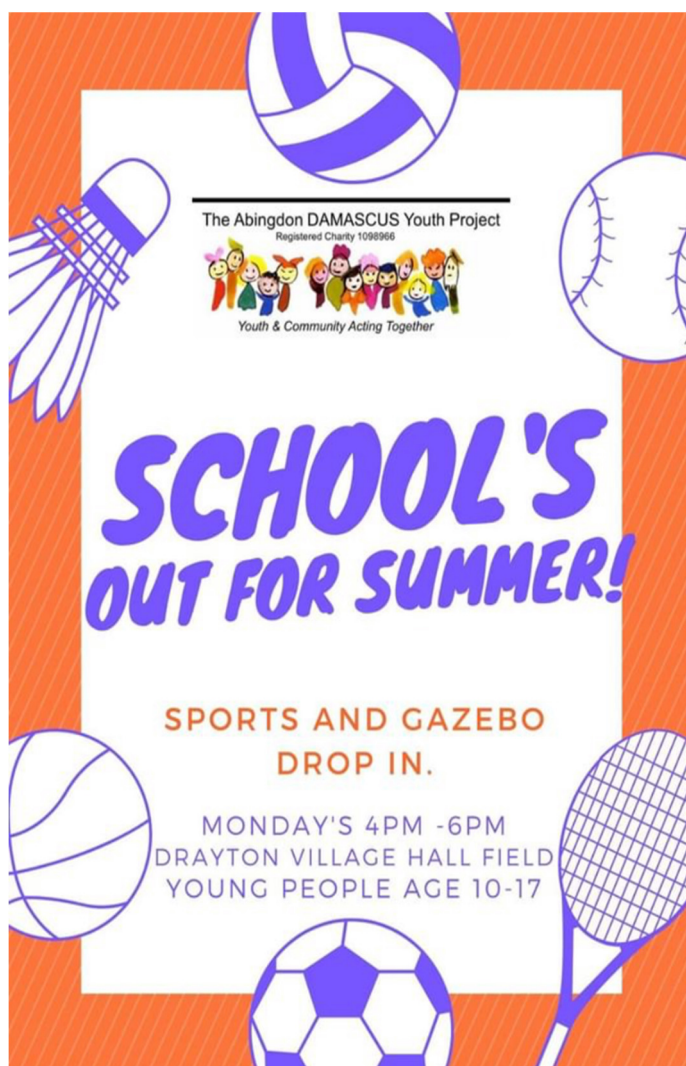
parts of the grassy areas, to achieve an artistic effect. It is agreed that small shrubs around the walnuts and abutting the kerbs will be planted to further deter parking on the grass, and to achieve a beautiful landscaped effect. The total amount of walnuts will be 17, so we will have plenty to play with.

The artist will give the school an online workshop to introduce the concept of the design and what we hope to achieve. After the walnuts have been installed, over one day, the PC has agreed that we should have a community planting day, during which volunteers from the village will come and help to plant the plants around the walnuts. This will achieve three results: people will take a personal interest in the installation, will have fun in contributing to a communal resource, and their help will save money! Better than **shelling** out needlessly for extra labour! November is an ideal time for planting new shrubs, as they will receive a good watering over the winter. The trouble is that the weather can be a bit inclement at that time of year, so fingers crossed for no downpours while we are planting. Otherwise it could turn out to be a **nutty** idea.

More on dates when we know for sure from the artist when he is ready to install. I think I've covered everything, and if not we can always have another crack at it.

## 'Nutting ventured, nutting gained'

Pervin Shahin Councillor



## LOCAL GROUPS AND CLUBS

### DRAYTON FOOTBALL CLUB

Drayton Wasps' pre-season is currently underway as the First and Reserves squads aim to find their feet with a few good performances under their belt before the season kicks off again in September. Drayton FC's 2021/22 season will be taken charge again by First Team manager Lewis Allen, and the Reserves team managers Kyle De Freitas, Lewis Parry and Luke Meehan. Former Reserves manager Matt Woods left his position at the end of last season.

We train every Tuesday night down at Drayton Recreational Pitch by the village hall from 6:30pm, and we are always looking for more players. If you are interested in joining us, please message our Facebook page "Drayton Wasps Football Club" or email us at draytonwasps@gmail.com.

In relation to our clubhouse renovation, we were in the process of completing painting, putting new flooring down and sorting out various other parts, when unfortunately we became the victims of vandalism due to a young adult smashing and shoving over our dugouts. This meant we had to pause our renovations and fix a problem that shouldn't have happened. We are truly appalled by the behaviour of the individual that did this, but we don't let things like this affect us. We must also say thank you to those members of the community that have helped us with this incident, it highlights what our village can do for others when in need.

Hopefully now that the end of lockdown is here or thereabouts, we aim to push through with our renovation and have our clubhouse looking brilliant so we can open it up to those who wish to watch us as well as begin to start enjoying our football again.

Bradley Cox

### DRAYTON WIVES

Hello everyone,

We are getting closer to starting our meetings again!!! So, here is a review of current plans, fingers and toes crossed!!

The first coffee morning will be the 2nd August at 10.00am at the Caudwell Centre. This is followed by our Summer Picnic on the 1st September at the recreation field.

In September the coffee morning will be on the 13th September and the first Wednesday meeting will be on the 29th September when Josie Midwinter will be entertaining us with a talk on corner shops. For those wondering about craft classes this will be discussed at the coffee morning.

#### Walks

There will be a local walk around Steventon on the 16th July, starting at 10.30pm and parking at the Village hall. lunch venue has yet to be decided.

Liz Kidd is organising a walk from Thrupp to Hampton Gay and return along the Oxford canal towpath with lunch at the Jolly Boatman. Please let Liz know if you are interested in this walk and also Josie if you would like to come to Steventon. This is so we can book the pubs for lunch.

So things are progressing along quite nicely now and feeling more positive.

Lisa Lammiman

Ps We always welcome new members—if you are interested, please call me on 07949 275641

### DRAYTON BROWNIES

By the time this is published, Brownies will be enjoying a summer break after a very busy half term back together! We have had a lot to celebrate despite all the challenges sent our way.

We are so proud of Tess who gained her Gold Award this term! Tess moved to the village not long before the first lockdown having been a Brownie before, and so it was a fun challenge for us all to make sure the required parts were completed between the two different Brownie groups. Very well done Tess, you worked so hard! Good luck on the next step of your Guiding adventure.

We also celebrated Silver Awards for Kaira and Olivia B, and Bronze Awards for Abby, Lily, Ella and Kiera. With so much enthusiasm I know more Golds will be along in the new term!

At the time of writing Brownies will be full from September. We operate a waiting list which you are welcome to join at [Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk). Brownies welcomes girls aged 7-10 and younger girls can also join the waiting list. We meet on a Wednesday evening during term time, for more information please email Laura at [drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk](mailto:drayton1stbrownies@live.co.uk)

We are also looking for adult volunteers to support the girls, so if you have an interest in working with children and are over 18, it would be great to hear from you! Training and DBS costs all covered, you might want to consider your own earplugs though!

Laura Hughes.



## LETTERS

### BOWLS CLUB LOSS

*It is with great sadness I have to report that Tony Mullins of Steventon Road, Drayton has passed away. He was a founder member of Drayton Bowls Club and until lockdown he was a regular player, and was very much looking forward to returning.*

*He and his deceased wife Jean played in the league, and also for the County, both won many trophies. He was very mischievous, very kind and very generous, and will be greatly missed by all at the club.*

*Our thoughts go to his family at this very sad time.*

### NOTICE

It is with extreme sadness that we note the passing of Tony Mullins of 246 Steventon Road, aged 92.

Tony had lived there with his wife Jean (who sadly passed in 2013) since 1957 and was greatly loved by all his neighbours past and present.

He died on 26 June 2021 following a short illness.

A wonderful man, dad, granddad and great granddad he was very active right to the end. A footballer, fisherman, and founding member of the Drayton bowls club, which over recent years had been a huge part of his life.

The family would like to say a big thank you to all of his friends and neighbours in the village with whom he has had so much fun, over so many years.

Debbie Millard (Daughter)

### Invitation to PEBBLES at St Peter's Church

If you have a baby or toddler, you would be so welcome to join 'Pebbles'. We will meet again, on a Wednesday morning from 10.00- 11.30a.m. starting in September. Please email [suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com](mailto:suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com) for more information. Look forward to seeing you!

### WI News

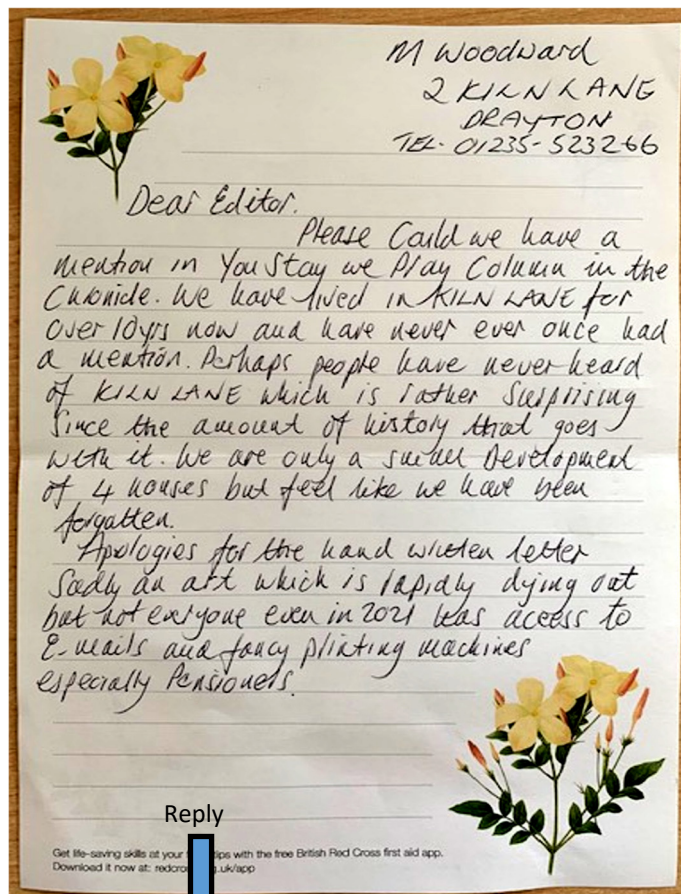
Now we have our freedom (?!), we have decided to have an informal meeting to reminisce, and eat pudding & cake!

What could be nicer than meeting old friends and catching up with all their news over a nice slice of cake (or 2 . . .).

Members - old and new – DO come and join us:- **Thursday August 12th, 7.30pm**, Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane (off the little Green, opposite the Post Office).

See you there!

Ann Webb



Dear Residents of Kiln Lane,

We're so sorry to have missed you off our 'You stay, we pray' list for such a long time. Thank you so much for letting us know via The Chronicle. We think that the original list of streets was taken from a local street map atlas as Kiln Lane isn't mentioned in it, despite its history. We look forward to praying for you and asking God to bless you and make His love known to you in all the ups and downs of life at this time. Again, many thanks for letting us know.

Meg Heywood, Associate Minister at St Peter's Church.

*Ed note: Kiln Lane is now mentioned - see page 3*

Dear Editor

Following the interesting article in the July Chronicle 'A Poisonous Topic', I thought I would share my tips for identifying plants and insects.

Using my Android phone, I take a photo, open it in the Photos App, click on the Lens button, and use the Magnifying Glass to select the particular plant/insect. The App correctly identified Hemlock on Barrow Road footpath. It then also identified a Bee Orchid in Wantage, and a Scarlet Tiger Moth.

I hope I may have introduced some of you to a way of playing with your phone in a useful way. Enjoy.

Stephen Fearnley

Ps Of course there are many Apps available for iPhone users too, e.g. Picture This.

*Ed note: see back cover for the Bee Orchid and Scarlet Tiger Moth*

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## OX-CAM ARC

People across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse are being urged to have their say on the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, a government led project which will have an impact on the district in the future.

The Oxford-Cambridge Arc includes the area between Oxford, Milton Keynes and Cambridge and aims to make significant economic, social and environmental improvements across the region by 2050 and beyond. The government is currently developing a vision for the Spatial Framework – a long-term strategic plan for growth across the area – which will help support planning for the future with the aim of helping to create jobs, drive investment, protect and enhance the environment, and provide infrastructure to make the Arc a better place to work and live. A 12-week public consultation on the future of the Ox-Cam Arc has been announced and people are being encouraged to help to create the Spatial Framework's vision for the area to 2050 under the following themes:

- The Environment
- The Economy
- Connectivity and Infrastructure
- Place-making

Once agreed, the shared vision will help to determine which new policies are developed and ultimately will shape government plans for the Oxford to Cambridge Arc region.

The consultation also seeks views on **the work the Government has done to set the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal**, and the Government has also **announced a new expert panel** to advise on sustainable economic and housing growth in the Arc.

Cllr Sue Cooper, Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council, said: "The Ox-Cam Arc will have an impact on our residents in South Oxfordshire for many generations to come, especially if the high population growth forecasted materialises. It is therefore vital that development is properly managed and planned and that the project's vision really focusses on protecting and enhancing our natural environment, while also providing green focussed improvements to our local infrastructure and employment opportunities which will have genuine benefits for people living and working here.

"We as a council we will do what we can to influence the direction of this project, however it's very important that people understand what this project means and that they are able to have their say at each stage of the process. I therefore urge everyone who lives and works in South Oxfordshire to have their say in this consultation, particularly our younger residents who will be most impacted by the longer-term effects of any Arc projects."

### How to have your say

This public consultation is the first of three that will guide a new Spatial Framework over the next two years. To find out more and to have your say visit [placebuilder.io/futureofthearc](https://placebuilder.io/futureofthearc). The consultation is open until 12 October 2021.

## OCK STREET BAND - MAKE MUSIC DAY 21ST JUNE

A big thank you to Ock Street Band who joined in the Make Music Day on Monday 21 June .

The gig took place in the evening on the driveway of no. 6 Church Lane. The music was very enjoyable with great harmonies. A welcome treat on such a wet evening. Make Music Day UK is always held on the 21st June so couldn't be moved , despite the inclement weather. Kay & Gareth erected an awning outside their driveway providing protection from the rain and it certainly was needed. It rained continuously throughout the evening, but it didn't dampen the atmosphere. They performed cover versions of folk & pop hits and compositions of their own. Well done to all involved.

The band's website is: <http://www.ockstreetband.wixsite.com/ockstreetband> - they can also be found on facebook@ockstreetband

Make Music Day first came to the UK in 2012 and the number of gigs taking place has been growing year on year. 2017 was the first UK wide coordinated event with support and funding from national organisations resulting in 147 performances. In 2020 there were 1,739 performances live and online.

Susan Brooks



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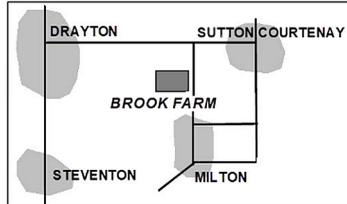
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## COFFEE BREAK QUIZ



Q Gardens Farmshop at Milton Hill, Steventon have kindly donated Ice-Cream Vouchers for the lucky winner of the August Coffee-Break Quiz. To enter, simply solve the anagrams to find 13 ice-cream flavours. 12 of these flavours will appear in the Wordsearch. All we need is **the name of the flavour which does not appear in the Wordsearch, plus we need the answer to the following question: Which is the most popular flavour of ice-cream at Q Gardens (and in the world)?**

Write down the name of the missing ice-cream flavour and the name of the most popular flavour (not the same!), with your name, address and phone number and place in an envelope marked Q Gardens Competition in the Chronicle Box outside Vickery's Hardware Shop. The first correct entry drawn on August 16th will win the prize.

COOL CHEAT	CUTE TORCH TBS
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DUG COKE OHIO	TRY ARR WEBS
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## OUTDOOR GYMS

Steventon village has an Outdoor Gym! It is supplied by Fresh Air Fitness ([www.freshairfitness.co.uk](http://www.freshairfitness.co.uk)) and claims to be affordable, sustainable and accessible, and perfect for parks and green spaces. Could this be a good option for Drayton? Please write/email in with your thoughts.



From their website:  
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## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Due to COVID, the (old) USUAL monthly tea and chat afternoons had to be suspended, but MIGHT be able to be restarted in September (more next time!). For **THIS MONTH** 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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## DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Tony Holmes

As 'Freedom Day' has sort of limped past, it's relevant to say that most of our regular groups (well, they were 18 months ago!) have been in contact, and have either restarted, or suggested when they intend to.

As we go to print, one of our major users (Short-mat Bowling) has just had their first session – coincided with a blisteringly hot evening, so probably not ideal?! But they should get into the swing of things through August. The U3A Craft Group had managed a (carefully distanced!) session for real (as Zoom has its limitations), and they should be back to normal this month (2nd Thursday – afternoon). We've gained a new exercise group (Tuesday lunchtime), some ladies who play what I think is called 'Short Tennis'; the Hall's badminton court markings are fine for this, and it's played with a special ball, not too damaging for fittings, people or the eyesight.

One of our long-term exercise groups has said they'll be back at the start of Sept, that's 'Clubercise' (Tuesday evenings), they also do 'Rockbox' the same evening (some keen types do both sessions I gather!) but I await news of that one. Given the Govt's new Covid policy of "assess the risks yourselves" (is that a fair summary?) I should add that all groups have done just that, some via a National Association.

I had a funny call the other day, someone asking about a kid's party. I explained that we usually do a 4-hour slot for those, and they said "oh, we might need a bit longer". I said we could do that too, some brave souls do a 5-hour party, and they replied that they might need all day . . .and a few adults too. This then morphed into the adults needing a drink or 3, and that's rather a different booking. I then thought to check where they were, and the answer was "Acton". There are quite a few Draytons round the country (Chronicle has mentioned a few), and the Hall they thought they were talking to is at WEST Drayton (not far from Heathrow). And it has a London number – I get a few calls wanting that one, it seems that a Google list (Halls pretty much in random order) is especially hard to work out for people down that way?!

The first Antiques Fair went very well it seems, next one is Aug 1st, later ones are the first Sundays in Sept, Nov and December.

One more point, those groups who need to open or close our STAGE CURTAINS should by now all know that the winding mechanism was damaged recently, which we think wasn't normal 'wear & tear' as the control wire had been replaced not that long ago. The mechanism is just about usable, with care, most have been told what to do, but just in case, here's another reminder :- whichever way the reel is turned, the wire is pulled down onto one side – in either direction, just add a bit more tension to the wire, hold the wire onto the reel so that it winds onto the next groove on the winder. And do it slowly! We're researching any possible new mechanisms, none seem very cheap (!), but a new one may appear soon.

GOING STIR CRAZY? WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. HERE'S SOMETHING TO REALLY CHEER YOU UP!  
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## Some special days in August and September

5th August - Cycle to Work day

7th September - Youth Mental Health  
Day

Second week in September - Zero Waste Week

Third week in September - Great British Spring Clean and Big  
Green Week

Sept/Oct - Yom Kippur (varies each year)

22 September - World Car Free Day



# Drayton's Almshouses

*Drayton's beautiful Almshouses are situated between the High Street and Churchyard. The Churchyard can be viewed through the arch from the High Street.*

## Almshouse Trustees needed

If you enjoy meeting, chatting to and helping people, then you might be just the person we're looking for.

Drayton has six Almshouses (small bungalows) near to the church which are run as a charity by trustees. Trustees have overall responsibility to maintain the bungalows and to oversee the welfare of the residents who are usually elderly with a connection to Drayton.

Some of our trustees are retiring so we are looking for new volunteers with fresh ideas and lots of enthusiasm! You don't need any particular skills to be a trustee. Just be reliable and compassionate. People with treasury or clerical skills would be most welcome. Your commitments would be to attend four official meetings a year, to set aside some time once a fortnight to visit or phone a resident and to enjoy the fun of a Christmas party/meal with the residents

To find out more pick up the phone or email Camilla King on **01235 531253** or **kingaandb@gmail.com**



Inscriptions read as follows:

1. *These Houses were erected with Part of the Charitable Contributions Raised for the Relief of the unhappy Sufferers hurt by the dreadful Fire on the 16th of April 1780*

2. *The Almshouses were Demolished and Rebuilt in 1980*



# VALE NEWS

Your regular update from Vale of White Horse District Council

## Everyone is invited to our Garden Party

Looking for something to do over the holidays? Come on down to Cornerstone for our brand-new summer-long Didcot Garden Party. The summer fun starts from 24 July with something different for everyone each weekend throughout the school holidays.

Each weekend from 11am – 4pm, the town square area outside Cornerstone will be transformed to a garden party and will be packed with a range of fun activities, shows and entertainment including street theatre, Parkour, circus, dance and much, much more! We launched the full programme on Friday 16 July on the Cornerstone website.

## Self-isolation support is available

With Covid case numbers increasing, more people are finding themselves having to self-isolate as a result of a positive diagnosis or close contact with someone who has tested positive.

It's so important to self-isolate in either scenario to help stop the spread, but we know this is difficult for people and it's tempting to just pop out to get the shopping or run an errand. That's where the community hub comes in – we're continuing to help link residents up to food support, either by signposting to help organising shopping, arranging for a click and collect shopping order to be collected or getting an emergency food parcel out.

Residents may even be eligible for financial assistance if they risk losing earnings because they've had to self-isolate; more information is available on our website.

## New air quality website for the county - they want your views

We have been working with the other councils in Oxfordshire on a countywide air quality community website to help raise awareness and inform the public about air pollution in their area. We'd like to know what you what kinds of things you would like the website to tell you.

Please fill in the survey that Oxford City Council is kindly hosting to give us your thoughts and ideas. The deadline to submit your comments is 5 September.

## Thames River Clean Up

Communities are encouraged to organise a river clean up on Sunday 26 September, to coincide with World Rivers Day.

The event aims to clean up the River Thames and raise awareness of the climate and ecological emergencies.

Events taking place on the day will help to restore river health, cut down on pollution, and protect and enhance the cleanliness, biodiversity and natural setting of the River Thames.

As well as carrying out a clean-up, groups are also encouraged to have information stalls and talks to raise awareness about water quality and sewage discharge, create community cohesion around caring for the river Thames, and enhance the wellbeing of the community.

If you'd like to organise a local event there are a number of organisations that can offer advice and support:

Clean Access Clear Waters; World Rivers Day; Wandle Trust; Thames 21. More info to follow.

Printed by Solopress

Every effort has been made to try to ensure that this Chronicle is as up to date as possible at time of going to print 26/7/2021

## Cool down in the pool or at the splash pads

Fantastic news for swimmers and sunshine lovers alike – Abbey Meadow outdoor pool has reopened in time for the sunny weather and the school holidays! Come on down to enjoy the pool down by the river in Abingdon this summer. You'll need to book your visit in advance via the Better UK smartphone app or on the Better website. The splash pads reopened today.

## Good news for gardeners

If you're a keen gardener but you aren't yet a customer of our garden waste service, we have some good news. You can now sign up to get a brown bin for your grass, trimmings, clippings, cuttings, weeds, branches, brambles and much more that we'll empty fortnightly.

We've now reopened the service to new subscribers after a short pause while we updated our systems. If you'd like to sign up to our optional paid-for garden waste service, head on over to our website.

## Pathways to a zero carbon Oxfordshire

An interesting new report has just been published offering several choices for the county to achieve a zero-carbon economy by 2050.

Along with a number of other Oxfordshire partners, we've supported the development of The ECI Report, which was created by the University of Oxford and sustainability organisation Bio-Regional.

The report highlights the challenges in transforming the county's energy and transport systems, as well as the need to upgrade Oxfordshire's building stock. It predicts that the rapid uptake of electric vehicles in the next decade will help reduce carbon emissions but it also identifies areas where behaviour change and investment is urgently needed.

Vale of White Horse District Council

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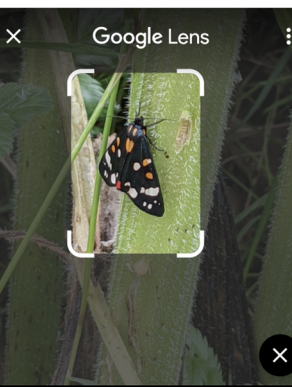
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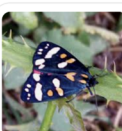
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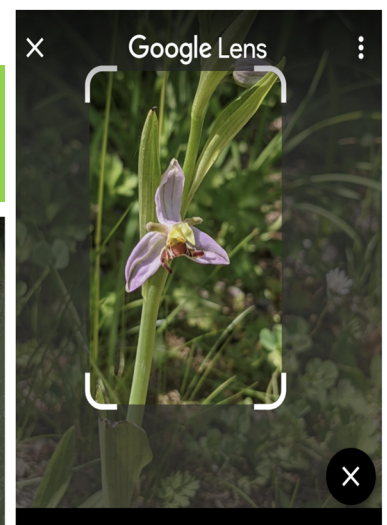
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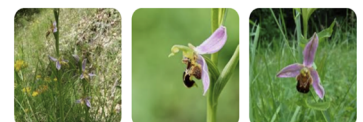
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