

# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

October 2021



Volume 44

No. 9

Editor - Tony Holmes

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **November Chronicle** will be available for distribution on or about **Friday Oct 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, **DEADLINE = 5.15 pm, Monday, Oct 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 Oct 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 PLEASE, if over maybe a para.** This is 2021, should be a way to type & send it?! (= fewer errors!).

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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 by (& Ads on the Fri before these)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Fridays:-
<b>Dec</b>	Mon Nov 15th	Nov 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.

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**This Month's Cover** – celebrates our local **Red Kite** population, few villagers will not have seen them gliding almost effortlessly around, riding on the tiniest of thermals with hardly a wingbeat. It was mentioned on the local F'book that the Ploughing and Steam Engine fundraiser (more on page 10) had drawn a mass of these birds, most interested to see what food items might have been disturbed down below!

Hence the inspiration for the cover shots, showing their wonderful colouring, and that unique tail, a triangle with a bite taken out?! The picture with the identifying labels, (like a bunch of naughty children?) is a group of pre-release junior birds up in Scotland, their letters so that their humans could identify them more easily. [ & Pics courtesy of RSPB ]

The lower-right picture shows a Buzzard, for comparison, a bit smaller, very different tail. But also seen locally.

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## Local Groups & Clubs

### The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

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Youth & Community Acting Together

It's been a lovely start to our Autumnal sessions and after such a long time it felt great to be back indoors with our drop-in session! It's been great to meet a few new faces and see them in regular attendance at our sessions!

The team have been talking about **mental health and body image** with a few activities exploring ways of supporting each other when someone is in need. It has been a return to school for many with lots of our older young people heading off to college or sixth form and some of our younger members finding their feet in secondary school! We've been exploring our experiences and as mentioned before looking at how we can support others within school! We hope everybody's nerves and anxieties have settled down and people are in the swing of things now!

The **Mayor of Abingdon** has adopted us as one of her charities for 2021/22. The **annual ADYP Awards Ceremony** was held at the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon with the Mayor presenting many of our young people with **certificates of achievement** for youth leadership and community support of the elderly (see [pic below!](#)). The young people of Drayton made a great impression with the very important people in attendance! **A huge well done to those who won an award** and a big thank you for all those that showed up to support them too!

**Please note** we shall be in attendance at the **Mayor's Charities' Event** on **Sat Oct 23rd** (10am - 4pm) in Abingdon Market Square. If you are in town, **do stop by and say hello.**

**The ADYP Team** – Roxy Elford, Jake Fleetwood and James Quartermain, Emily Astley-Madge

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

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

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

## Drayton Wives (Lisa Lammiman)

Do you remember when you were young and you went on picnics with your sandwiches and flasks of tea, and it nearly always rained?!!

Well on the 1st September this was the hardy Drayton Wives **reliving their youth** in the recreation field at the village hall.

It was our first meeting since the start of Covid, and it was great!!!! We had the cooler weather and the drizzle, but we ENJOYED it.

Hopefully **it's a fresh start**, and if anyone is interested there is a **coffee morning** at 10.00am on Oct 11th (Monday) at the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane. And the **next 3 Hall meetings**:- (1.30pm) **Sept 29th, Oct 27th, Nov 24th.**

*All are welcome Lisa*



Jake Damascus, Roxy Damascus,  
James Damascus, Emily Damascus



Jake\_Damascus; James\_Damascus;  
Roxy\_Damascus, Emily\_Damascus

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The church remains open daily {Sunday – Saturday, 10-4}.

## REGULAR SERVICES

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

**NB:- Thursday morning service** >> will now start at 9.45, the same as the Sunday service. 1st & 3rd Thursdays will be Holy Communion, 2nd & 4th Thursdays will be Celtic Morning Prayer.

**For everyone's safety**, once in the building we will all be expected to wear masks (unless exempt) and sanitise our hands. We now have the joy of being able to sing! **Thank you.** We look forward to welcoming you.

**Why not try** 'Sunday Worship' on Radio 4 at 8.10am. Also 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.

## PARISH REGISTER

(No entries at time of going to press)



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## YOU STAY WE PRAY (October)

26th Sept – 2nd High St; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close;  
3rd – 9th Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Drive; Abbot Crescent  
10th – 16th Chestnut Drive; Holly Lane; Walnut Way; Willow Way  
17th – 23rd Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End; Lamas Land;  
Virgate; Fallowfield Close  
24th – 30th Lockway  
31st – Nov 6th Whitehorns Way

**Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group** >> we shall meet outdoors on a Wednesday morning, during term time, from 10.00 – 11.30am. You are so welcome to join us!

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

## From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team

Dear Friends

### ***Charitable Giving @ Harvest***

**"Charity begins at home"**. This I was taught by my Grandmother many, many years ago; which is fine, obviously, IF you have a home. At the time of writing this letter to you, we have seen this in action with an outpouring of donations and help to those fleeing from Afghanistan. As well as spontaneous and generous responses to one-off appeals, there are fundraising events all year round with a wide variety of ways to give charitably.

Traditionally, charitable giving was highlighted at **harvest time** - a time to share in the bountiful crops. This goes back at least 3,000 years and can be read about in the laws given for farming in the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy.

*"When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God". (Leviticus 19:9-10).* The three points are:-

- To leave the margins of grain fields un-harvested, the width of the margins are decided by the owner.
- Don't pick up anything that has fallen to the ground.
- Harvest vines only once, leaving the later ripening ones.

These three things are to be left for the poor, the orphans and widows, and also the resident foreigners, as they didn't own land and depended on their own labour for food. This is so that everyone then has the benefit from God's provision.

Times have changed, yes, but we still have the serious issues of food poverty, child poverty, also refugees and the homeless. Charitable giving has changed but the principle of "give because you can and not because you must" is still with us.

**We ought to consider ourselves fortunate that we are where we are, and so whatever you give, give gratefully.**

*Revd Rosie Bruce (DAMASCUS Parish ministry team)*

### **Letters to the Editor**

The Editors reserve the right to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear a legible name & address, and a phone number (please!) in case any text needs verification.

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



## Local Groups & Clubs

### Drayton Brownies

The new term has started and we have a full group of girls, **all very excited to get back to Brownies!**

This term we are working on the 'Communicate Skills' builder badge, and many of the girls have gained their Mindfulness badge over the holidays. There will also be **lots of crafts and games** as we all get to know each other.

**Brownies is open to girls aged 7-10 years.**

If your daughter is interested, please register her at [Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk) and she can be added to the waiting list. **Younger girls** can be added to the list for **Rainbows** at the same website.

**Laura Hughes**



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### Drayton W.I.

At our first proper meeting, we had an amazing talk by one of our own. We have followed Georgina over the last months as she started down the path to be an **air balloon pilot**. This month she brought her basket - on a trailer outside the centre - where the more agile among us got in, but getting out proved a little more difficult!

On their return inside the hall, Georgina put on a programme of what she had done and what the end result would be.

To say we were spellbound is an understatement. It was amazing, there wasn't a sound while she spoke, we were captivated. We stand in awe, you realise every balloon that glides silently over us will be you (whether or not it is, is immaterial). **Thank you Georgina** it truly was amazing.

Next month we shall be brought back to reality, by a talk on the magnificent work of The **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**, anyone who has seen those rows of identical, well maintained headstones (at the Somme, or in various Belgian locations perhaps), can't fail to be impressed by the scene in front of them.

It's **Thursday October 14th** in the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane (opposite Vickery's), at 7.30 pm.

**Visitors welcome**, come and see what we are about.

**Ann Webb**

### **OPEN STUDIO/ EXHIBITION** **of paintings by Carolyn Hawkes**



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### Councillor Vacancies!!

**There are still four vacancies** for Parish Councillors. If you have a little spare time this is a **worthwhile activity**, contributing to the future of the village. We usually meet the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month, and participation in various working groups is also welcomed. Please contact Lorraine Watling (see below).

#### NDP Working Group

A new working group has been set up to progress the Neighbourhood Development Plan and the Walnut Meadow sports pitch in particular. The objective is to establish a closer link with VWHDC & OCC, to achieve adoption of the roads, and a satisfactory resolution of the land levels in the sports pitch.

Completion of the pitch itself is the long term objective, but it is hoped to establish other facilities in the short to medium term.

#### Programme Manager

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jon Fowler, who joins us with a recent background in Benson. Jon will promote implementation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan projects, particularly the Walnut Meadow sports facilities. He has completed an assessment of all current projects, so we have plenty to keep him busy, and he is a member of the NDP Working Group.

#### Walnut Meadow Roads

The Chair has asked our County Councillor to encourage OCC Highways to respond to our request for the adoption of the roads. This is important for access to the sports facilities. The District Councillor was also asked to use his contacts to chase this up.

#### Traffic Calming

The working group has established a dialogue with OCC and we have agreement on the pedestrian crossing for the High Street and have been assured that a 20mph limit is under consideration for the villages. The issue of pavement parking is being considered by OCC.

#### Public Art

The parking bollards on The Green are expected to be in place this autumn, but the village signs are still ongoing, with OCC Highways and TVP still to confirm their approval.



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#### Manor Farm

It was agreed to engage a landscape consultant to finalise the green space at Manor Farm, particularly the grass and the planting at the margins. This was intended to be a "village green" for the benefit of all. It is worth getting this right as the PC will ultimately be responsible for its upkeep.

#### Footpaths

The working group have met contactors on site and obtained quotations for the remediation of Bridle Way 9 (runs off the B4016 up to the footpath off Church Lane) and BW29 (off Sutton Wick Lane). This will deal with localised flooding and provide a surface suitable for both horses and cyclists. It is hoped that work can start before winter sets in.

#### Garden Waste

The District Councillor confirmed that VWHDC are still looking for a solution to the driver shortage, and expect soon to resume fortnightly. The PC asked if there would be a refund of payments. And then a lower charge.

#### A34 Lay-By Improvements

For the last stage of the works there will be Northbound closures on the A34 for 7 nights from October 7 between 2100 and 0600. It is then expected that the project will be completed by Oct 16th.

#### Next PC Meeting

**All residents are welcome to attend.** Now Tuesday evenings (2nd of month) so it's Oct 12th, in the Caudwell Day Centre (Gravel Lane), 7.30pm (7pm for the Planning C'tee).

**Graham Webb**



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**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.



# Local Groups & Clubs

## Drayton Table Tennis Club

Table Tennis is up and running and the club is now able to confirm its new venue! After being given the surprising notice to quit the village school after 37 years, the search for a new location began in January this year.

Covid of course had a major impact on all the local clubs and we aren't the only one to have moved location. It's also meant a drop in membership but in some respects that makes our relocation easier to organise.

A number of sites were viewed and more than one offer was obtained. Village halls, church halls and schools were all considered. Sadly, currently there is nowhere in the village to accommodate us. Maybe the proposed new Pavilion will eventually be built?!

After 6 months of searching and researching we have set up in **Thameside Primary School**, Abingdon. It's only a couple of miles from the village so is still 'local'. The school has a large hall that enables us to continue with 4 tables for practice and play two league matches together. The Head Teacher expressed her delight we are there!



She explained that the hall was built for "Community use" and the school is happy to see a local community group moving in on a regular basis. From our point of view this gives us hope the partnership will be beneficial to both the club and the school, and clearly the staff at Thameside feel the same. Club practice nights will be each Monday with league matches every Wednesday.

It is pleasing that we now have a storeroom for the tables and equipment and the hall has minimal 'clutter' to be cleared before we can commence playing. No longer will we need to search behind school equipment and under chairs for straying balls! Whilst we would have preferred to stay in Drayton our initial impression is the move will work well and we are now looking forward to playing again. We started back with coaching and practice on Sept 6th, and League matches started the week of Sept 20th.



The Didcot League has lost one club and about 10 teams since it last operated but will still run 4 divisions. **Drayton TT Club will have 4 teams playing**; a drop from the 7 we had in 2019-20 season. Look out for our progress reports in the next few months. John Gould

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# YOUR LETTERS

## Drayton Diners?

For the five years before the 2020 lockdown a bunch of Drayton residents had been meeting at the Wheatsheaf every month (on the third Thursday) for a friendly meal and drinks. Austin and Geraldine were originally our hosts (and offered a discount - as did their successors Jo and Jake). However the Diners were seen as an independent group that could seek refreshment where they wanted.

With the prospect of people meeting in this way again I had a chat with Marco who would be happy for the Wheatsheaf to be host were the group wanting to reconstitute. During lockdown we've moved to Abingdon, that I hope would not exclude us as ex-residents, but it suggests that a change of convenor might be sensible.

This update is a request to all Chronicle readers to see whether a village 'dining club' is still of interest and for any potential convenors to get in touch (**07949 159430** or email via [pause.forthought@gmail.com](mailto:pause.forthought@gmail.com) ).

The 19 current members have been asked whether they are still interested and, if so, for permission to forward their email addresses.

Daniel Scharf



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## Prize Delight!

Dear Editor,

Lyford Close

I would just like to say how delighted I was to win the ice-cream word-search game (August Chronicle). What a lovely prize it was. Here are some of the family enjoying it!!



Kind Regards

Mrs Ann Faulkner

{Ed's note:- the vouchers were from Q Gardens (grateful thanks!); the correct answers were 'Vanilla' (the most popular ice cream flavour) and Butterscotch was the missing flavour}.

# MORE LETTERS

## Nuts – Whole Tales of Nuts

Dear Editor, via email

**In answer** to Doreen Bourne's letter in last month's Chronicle, I feel that I need to put the record straight on a few things, especially as it is easy to get the wrong impression with a lack of information.

**Firstly**, the alleged "tripping hazard" - the walnuts will be perfectly visible, as they will be well lit after dark by the overhead street lights, which are very bright in that area. You would have to be drunk to fall over one, but in this eventuality, with the pubs just across the road, at least the grass will provide a soft landing.

**Secondly**, the whole point of the walnuts is to stop parking on the grass, not on the road, so if drivers follow this practice, those local businesses will not lose customers. There is plenty of room both for parked cars on the road, and for passing vehicles. The walnuts round the perimeter of the green will be well spaced, leaving enough room for parking between them, and any driver will see them clearly through their car window, before opening the door.

**Thirdly**, there will not be "a lot of shrubs dotted about". The planting will follow defined curved beds, designed by a landscape gardening company.

**Fourthly**, we cannot move the kerbstones, as although the Parish Council owns the green areas, the actual road is owned by Oxfordshire County Council, and we aren't allowed to interfere in any way with their property.

**Lastly**, what would be the point of putting the walnuts on the Millenium Green? The idea is that when people pass through the village, they will see the installations, which will tie in with the walnut design on the entry signs, creating a coherent, beautiful impression. We're talking about ART here, not just plonking things willy-nilly on the grass. Drayton will be the envy of people living in the county, seeing what we have done with the village's S106 (housing) money.

I sincerely hope that Doreen Bourne is satisfied with these answers, and that all her bones and teeth remain intact when enjoying the new scenic layout on the green.

Kind Regards Pervin Shahin (Cllr)



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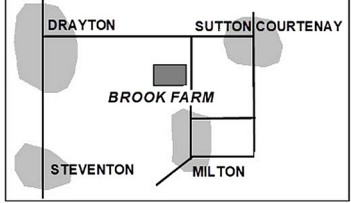
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## Great Day – Well Done!

Dear Editor, via email

To all those who organised, and played a part in the recent fundraiser event up Barrow Road (Sept 12th – ploughing, steam engines), great job, terrific day, and for a good cause. And I think it was over £900 raised for the Caudwell Day Centre, so that's an extra pat on the back!

Regards P. Sternbroke



{Ed:- Thanks to all those who sent pictures of the various engines from that day – this one getting close to Barrow Rd}

**PLANNING A HEATHROW (or Gatwick) trip?** If you're perhaps doing someone a favour, dropping them off or a pick-up, PLEASE NOTE that a £5 charge has been introduced for using the drop-off zones by the Terminals. Pay online, or by mobile, etc. [Blue badges excepted]



# Your District Councillor



## Brown Bin Suspension – & resumption!

You'll be unsurprised to learn that the Garden Waste saga has been front and centre for the Council this month. Latest News:-

- **The service should resume mid-October, initially on a four-weekly basis, as the driver situation is still very fragile indeed.**

- **Any residents who have been billed over this period should receive a refund.**

- **All residents will find their year subscription will run for an extra two months (that is for fourteen months) to ensure they're not out of pocket.**

To be honest, disgruntlement about this ran all the way up to the Council Cabinet – they were deeply unimpressed to have been told about it *on the day that it occurred*, and THEN, **to have NO way of directly contacting affected residents!** The Cabinet members did go on local radio, local BBC, run an article in the Oxford Mail, and try social media avenues, but these are no substitute for a proper Customer Relationship Management system, where you could fire off an email/SMS blast to all affected residents and phone calls to those without email or mobile phones.

Unfortunately it turns out that when the previous administration outsourced whole chunks to the 'Five Council Partnership', they omitted to cover such elements as being able to contact customers.

We did insource much of this as soon as we could after May 2019, but this took time, and it turns out that only 37% of customer contact details were available in a usable form. **A full CRM is being built** as we speak (work had begun before this happened, but it's not a fast process, especially with GDPR issues).

There will have been (when you read this) a full council meeting on Sept 21st to discuss this in detail - there was a danger for a while that other bin collection services could have been placed in jeopardy (as they have been in at least one council around the country), but it looks as though we're past that point for now.


The **shortage of drivers** is unlikely to improve much for a while yet (loss of overseas drivers, including being part of the EEA-wide logistics chains due to Brexit, reduced HGV licence tests due to Covid, drivers self-isolating, and fewer drivers due to the recent Off-Payroll legislation from the Govt all affect this problem).

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## Coronavirus

**Covid levels** have been broadly stable for the last month as I write - cases in the Vale have been around the 50-60 per day level over that period, the number of admissions to hospital with Covid in Oxford has averaged 6-7 per day consistently over this time.

The number of ICU patients had been rising, but since the start of Sept, they've been falling again (on 7th, down to 3 ICU patients).

In mid-Sept, 87% of all over-16s have had their first dose jab, and 81% of over-16s their second.

I understand that the Govt have been looking at **contingency plans for the winter**. SAGE's modelling paper actually says that the most likely projection is for 1,000 to 2,000 hospitalisations per day. But that this could be avoided by very light-touch measures such as encouraging working from home over the next few months, warning people to be cautious, and more mask-wearing.

There was a **far less likely scenario**:- if we saw growth like the worst level that happened in Scotland recently, and it was sustained with no changes (something that looks less and less likely since the recent falls in infections), we could see 5,500 to 7,000 hospitalisations per day. To my total lack of surprise, the highest possible (but improbable!) figure has got the media headlines!

## Planning Rules

It does look as though the new planning rules proposed by the Government are going to be either **scrapped or heavily diluted**, which is a relief. **We should retain the right to comment on and affect planning proposed in our areas.**

## Grove Station

As we've had an unusually positive set of responses to the calls on Govt we've made to date (getting the planning rules heavily revisited, and the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway punted into the long grass . . . I wonder if certain by-election results have influenced this?!) we're re-iterating our call for **Grove Station to be reopened**. It'd be very useful to provide increased accessibility to rail services for areas in the Vale and this would help with the Climate Emergency. It's worth a shot.

## Leisure Centres

GLL, which runs our 11 Leisure facilities across the districts, has accepted our Covid-19 Leisure Support Package, which takes into account the impact of Covid-19 on the leisure provider. This allowed **Didcot Leisure Centre to reopen**. **Abbey Sports Centre** was able to reopen earlier this year, but as part of the agreement for the Covid-19 Leisure Support Package, work to prepare the pool has now started so that it will be available from Sept 27th. Therefore swimming lessons will resume, as will school access.

## Cornerstone & the Beacon now open

Cornerstone (Didcot) and the Beacon (Wantage) have fully reopened their doors, including Beacon's coffee shop.

That's all for this month. **Take care, and stay safe,**  
**Andy Cooke**

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# BIG IDEAS?

## Reimagining libraries, museums and history services

Should your library be more of a social hub, or somewhere you and your family can learn and grow? Could it help provide a space for start-ups and support local business, or give opportunities for communities to let their creative juices flow. How can we bring Oxfordshire's past into the future for you and your family?

**We'd love to hear all your ideas**, and the bigger they are, the better. They'll help shape and inform our strategy for Oxfordshire's libraries, museums and the history service going forward. Every community is different, so be ambitious and let's design the future together.

Should museums open-up more for community events and initiatives?? Etc Etc.

Now, this survey comes from OCC, and sadly they've chosen a big website name for you to share those ideas!

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/reimagining-libraries-museums-and-history-services>

[NB If you need a more accessible format, call at a Library, or call 01865 792422]

## Oxfordshire Community Services

### Improving Community Health and Care Services - Getting the best health and wellbeing outcomes for Oxfordshire and increasing independence for older people

Oxfordshire's health organisations and councils are working together with voluntary and community sector groups to modernise our community services. We want to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for everyone in Oxfordshire and increase independence for older people.

Our current services have developed over time and do not always reflect what we now know about how health and care services are best delivered. We want to do more to prevent people getting ill or losing their independence and respond more rapidly when they do. To do this, we are moving many multi-agency services into local areas to work alongside GPs and introducing new services that can respond more quickly.

With modern advances in healthcare, it is possible to provide more care than ever before in people's own homes. This is better for the individual and their families and frequently leads to improved health outcomes. Advances in digital technology can also help people remain independent at home and receive more services in their local area.

**GET INVOLVED (Please!).** We will be developing this work with the full engagement of local people including those that currently use services, those that are carers of someone who uses services, the staff who work in these services, the people who work and volunteer in community and voluntary organisations and the general public and their representatives. We understand that this is a complex project and many people will have an interest.

The first stage is to ensure we have agreed principles that will help to steer the work. These are not finalised and we are keen to hear what people think.

**Have YOUR Say** via :-

<https://www.oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/have-your-say.htm>

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# Odds & Ends!

## Neighbourhood News

Some village newcomers apparently don't know that the Chronicle used to run a fundraiser game, a Lottery, when our small army of Agents, as well as delivering the copies, used to sell some tickets door-to-door.

This gave us a steady trickle of local news, about people that had newly moved in, or sometimes moved away (and some of those are now on our 'remote readers' list, even in far-off Australia!). These days we hear fewer such items, but THIS month we have several (and if you have that info – and the people don't mind! – drop us a line, as on page 2) :-

**HUGE welcome** to new residents **Tim, Kate and their three children Isla, Jude and Quinn**, who moved into Drayton over the summer.

They've moved from Abingdon to the Steventon Road. [With much love from the Woodwards]

**A very warm welcome** to **Caroline & Stuart** (and their fluffy ginger cat!!) who have moved into Church Lane from Maidenhead.



And last but not least (just the last item to arrive), a big HELLO to **Pratibha & Krishna Achaiya and their children Drida & Deetya** who have moved into 7 Abingdon Rd from Didcot . . NB they'll **still be doing accommodation** but not breakfast.

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If you prefer to **join from home**, we have a wide range of digital events including cooking, coding and craft workshops, talks & discussions, and even whisky tasting!

Get the latest updates {use #IFox2021} >>>  
on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and please don't forget to tell your friends.

{Ed's Note >> The Events List for this Festival is absolutely massive - sadly far too big to list here! – but includes things like Fusion Energy, Gene Therapy for various diseases, WHY do Curries taste hot, Poetry, Walk with the Animals, and local Whisky Distilling (etc)

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## The THINGS THEY SAID

(Mariah Carey) "Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that, but not with all those flies and death and stuff."

(former Washington DC Mayor, Marion Barry) "Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country"

(Keppel Enderberry, former Australian Minister for Industry) "Traditionally, most of Australia's imports come from overseas"

(Al Gore, former US Vice-President, famous for environmental concerns) "It isn't pollution that's harming the environment. It's the impurities in our air and water that are doing it"

(Dan Quayle, former US Vice-President, famous for being several cards short of a full pack) "I love California; I practically grew up in Phoenix" (>> Phoenix is the biggest city in Arizona)

(a Texas Congressional candidate – another politician, so it's hardly fair . . .) "That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it"

(Dept of Soc Services, South Carolina – but could have been here?!) "Your food stamps will be stopped effective March 1st because we received notice that you passed away. May God bless you. You may reapply if there is a change in your circumstances"

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**Richard Webber - Oxon CC**

**County Council Report**

**No Easy Answers!**

I believe we have all noticed the **increasing amounts of traffic** on our local roads since lockdown ended. This together with increasing numbers of reports on speeding – particularly those coming to our villages from elsewhere, has made me want to focus on **roads and speeding** this month. Some of the things I have learned over the last 16 years on these issues include the following:-

**The majority of excess speeding is carried out by locals and the residents themselves.** This may well be that they know their roads best and believe they

know where they can safely put their foot down.

The regular hold-ups themselves lead to frustration and the temptation to speed to make up time.

The police, in my view, rightly deem that their major focus should be on keeping down crime.

The available police resource for enforcing minor driving offences (the sort that many of us have committed) is therefore limited. It may be that minor infringements being taken over by local councils, as with roadside parking, is where we shall be in a few years.

There is an increasing dependence on voluntary support for trying to encourage us all to drive slower and with more care. "Speed watch", Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGS) and other initiatives do make a difference. For those who would like to get involved, details are in all Parish magazines and newsletters.

There are **various speed reduction measures** that have been tried over the years. These include: 1) **speed bumps** – expensive to install, noisy and can damage vehicle suspensions. 2) **Vehicle Activated Signs** – smiley faces etc – cheaper, but plenty of evidence of a reducing impact as time goes on. 3) **Speed Cameras** – again expensive to man and maintain – many taken down after a few months as a result of public anger and only have an effect over a short distance. 4) **Raised tables** as per Drayton - but these need to have adequate warning signs and colouration for best impact. 5) **Chicanes & 'build outs'** - Reasonably affordable and increasingly used. Some evidence of excess speeding being caused by the chicane itself. 6) **Improved road design** taking into account visibility and driver perception.

**There are no easy answers** and each area probably needs its own specific solution. ➔➔



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**So what can be done?**

Speeding and traffic behaviour on the **B4106 between Drayton and Sutton Courtenay** is an issue all down its length. Noise and building damage issues exist in both villages. Congestion at busy times of the day causes much aggravation not just to the through traffic, but also to vehicles exiting on to the road. The road has a known poor safety and accident record. The proposed build out/chicane at the edge of Sutton Courtenay – if agreed after the full, public consultation will, it is hoped, reduce the average speed – hopefully to well below 30mph.

We are told the **new HIF Road** between Didcot and the Thames will reduce the overall volume of traffic on all the roads between our villages – certainly for 10 years.

The **A415 between Abingdon and Marcham** is also experiencing increasing traffic volumes. The reduction to 50mph has helped, but there must be a question of the road becoming more suitable for a 40mph limit. Work has also been commissioned to find options for **a redesign of the Frilford crossroads** – possibly with dedicated bus and cycle lanes and even, yes, **the long promised bypass**.

But, ultimately, the **only long term solutions** are to **encourage people out of cars, and to walk and cycle wherever possible**, and provide **regular, reliable public transport** where that is not feasible. At present cycling on our local roads is a risky business whilst walking on many roads is even worse. Buses are too infrequent, many villages have no service. HGV traffic is another whole problem.

It may be that, in the future, computers will be able to drive more safely than humans – **but not yet**.

With the police, Local Councils and Central Government all under budgetary restraint, there is no alternative but to be inventive where possible, and as **patient as possible – particularly behind the wheel**.

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

(OCC Cllr, Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division)

{Ed's Note:- Richard's analysis on various traffic calming measures is quite correct, little has changed for some years (all methods have issues!), except perhaps that mobile warning type speed cameras have become more feasible, and popular.

BUT – that hope re cycling and public transport looks a tad optimistic, given masses of evidence here in the UK about the popularity of cars? Lots of European locations have excellent integrated tram & bus networks, very efficient, low cost to the public, therefore very popular. But tough to do here now?!}



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## WESTMINSTER VIEW



**Our MP (Wantage/Didcot) is David Johnston (OBE, awarded for services to Social Mobility and Education).**

I am writing this after the first full week of Parliament's return, with all MPs now present. Some MPs have not been physically in the Commons for nearly 18 months. All of us who were attending physically had been subject to a socially distanced chamber with only a fraction of MPs allowed in, and all committee meetings were on Zoom.

The place is now transformed, much more atmosphere; proper debates where people can 'intervene on' (interrupt to politely make a counterpoint), and I for one felt our first Education Committee meeting was much more focussed and better for being able to put ministers and their officials under scrutiny. Virtual parliament is better than no parliament, but a lot is lost.

I spent most of recess at home in Didcot. There were some great events just before we returned. One was the Longworth Fete, a good turnout and good weather, a very competitive dog show and classics like a tombola and coconut shy. Another was a tea party at the Almshouse of Robert Stiles in Wantage, to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the **Almshouse Association**. Almshouses have existed in the UK for more than 1000 years and provide low-cost housing to the local community. They have something in common with fetes in that both are run by volunteers. And, as with the return of parliament, they give a taste of what's been missed through Covid.

I know that the pressure on **GP services** continues to be a bugbear. Over the summer, I met with both the Wantage surgeries and chaired a larger meeting of the Didcot surgeries, Clinical Commissioning Group, Patient Participation Group reps and the District Council. The long-overdue expansion of Wantage Health Centre has just had a step forward after a meeting of the CCG: the business case has been approved and the planning application has been submitted. In Didcot, there is both the particular short-term need presented by the many new houses, and a longer-term need given the expected population growth. In broad terms there's agreement about what we need. My job is to do all I can to try and ensure we get it.

Other recent meetings of note were with some residents of Appleford and some residents of Sutton Courtenay. The former was specifically about the location of the relief road, I have contacted the County Council with the points the group wanted raised. The **Sutton Courtenay meeting** was a broader one about **the development that has taken place and promised improvements that have still not arrived** – at my request, they're giving me a task list of things they'd like me to do!

A final mention for a couple of charities. Adrian is an ambassador for the Stroke Association and runs a group in Grove. He can deliver free of charge presentations to groups of any age about the risk factors for having a stroke. The other is Root and Branch, near Shrivenham, which runs outdoor activities for those with mental health difficulties. They need **volunteer blacksmiths /metal workers** to help run classes for those that use the service. Do get in touch if you can help – or indeed, as ever, if you'd like to contact me about anything else.

**If you need to get in touch with our MP >>**  
**email [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)**



# BLAST *PAST* from the

So, for this occasional venture back into the Pop Chart annals, who was charting this time of year, going back through time? Remember these? >>

**20 years ago** – doesn't seem that long, but **Kylie** had just been #1 with 'Can't get you out of my Head', and **Steps** were nearly there with 'Chain Reaction' (a #1 hit years before for the far superior **Diana Ross!**).

Back **30 years** and that month was only notable for the **Monty Python** team with their novelty hit 'Always Look on the Bright Side of Life' (much played ever since!).

**40 years ago** (is it REALLY so long?!). **Adam & the Ants** had just been #1 ('Prince Charming'), followed this month by **John Church** (Julio Iglesias if you prefer!) and 'Begin the Beguine', and **Police** with 'Every Little Thing she does is Magic'. Moving up were **Dollar** ('Mirror Mirror') and **Diana Ross** with 'Why do Fools fall in Love', but soon to be #1 were **Queen & David Bowie**, with the wonderful 'Under Pressure', & **Bucks Fizz** ('Land of Make Believe').

**FIFTY years ago** (for real old-timers) and we'd just had **CCS & Redbone** in the top 5 ('Tap Turns on the Water' & 'Witch Queen of New Orleans' respectively), but **Slade** would be #1 this month with 'Coz I Luv You' (they didn't just have Xmas hits!). Moving up were **Cher** (born Cherilyn Sarkisian, and now a youthful looking 75 – no jokes!!) with the terrific 'Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves', also the fantastic **T-Rex** ('Jeepster'), but soon to be #1 (and over Xmas) was **Benny Hill** and (can you do the lyrics?!). 'Ernie, the Fastest Milkman in the West'. Hill had actually BEEN a milkman – but it's not clear who had been the widowed Sue, who lived alone at number 22?!

Can anyone recall all of **60 years back?! Helen Shapiro** (Walkin' Back to Happiness) had just been #1, and **Acker Bilk** had the massively selling instrumental 'Stranger on the Shore' (later covered by many acts when lyrics were added). His version was on a cassette tape (remember them?!) taken into space by the crew of Apollo 10 on their mission to the Moon. Not many songs have that distinction – that mission was the 'dress rehearsal' for the actual moon landing by Armstrong & Aldrin on Apollo 11. It was a big month for instrumentals, as also a hit then was the iconic 'Take Five', for **Dave Brubeck's** jazz quartet.

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## LAST MONTH'S WORD-SEARCH Puzzle?!

Oxfordshire Locations (14) were:- Garford, Drayton, Milton, Burcot, Farmoor, Goosey, Eaton, Roke, Hinksey, Islip, Cowley, Denton, Benson, Tubney



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This month TWENTY years ago we were of course all still reeling from the evil of 9/11, and coincidentally we've just seen USA & the West's forces in that shambolic exit from Afghanistan. I recall the conspiracy theories back then, "USA had organised the Twin Towers attack to give them an excuse to take over Afghanistan". Odd that the same theorists seem reluctant to now explain why after a mere 20 years they've got fed up and left? In other activities, the first **Harry Potter** film (Philosopher's Stone) was about to get its first viewing in London. Didn't they do well?! Oh, and Apple brought out something called 'iPod'.

In **Oct 1991**, **President Gorbachev** was overseeing the unravelling of the Soviet Union, and the Khmer Rouge signed a treaty to end the **Cambodian** civil war. Sadly we'd just lost legendary jazz musician **Miles Davis**, and **Star Trek** fans would be mourning the loss of its creator, **Gene Roddenberry** (also a former WW2 combat pilot).

In **1981**, the **General Synod** (C of E) were just about to admit **WOMEN** to 'Holy Orders', and viewers were just getting used to a new TV show called **Postman Pat** (how did that one get on?). And after 139 years, British Telecom announced that we could no longer send **TELEGRAMS**, a quaint way to send urgent messages, often via motorbike (younger readers, ask someone very old?!).

Back in **1971** **Walt Disney World** was opening in Florida, **Greenpeace** was founded, and the Commons voted to join the **EEC**. **Winona Ryder** was born (happy birthday!), but sadly we lost **William 'Billy' Costello** – not a famous name, but he was the original voice of Popeye!

## NOTICE BOARD

### DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Well, most of our 'regulars' are back now, the column on the back page should have most of them listed. We've lost the 'seniors' exercise class, and the martial arts class (Friday) may take a little while (that close combat stuff is tricky to do with Covid considerations). And the Tuesday evening classes, **Clubercise & RockBox**, should have started in Sept but the organiser (Gemma) apparently lost her instructor with hardly any notice, so she's trying to find a replacement.

**WELCOME BACK to our Bowlers** (Short Mat), who've had a few sessions now, and will be starting a reduced set of League matches this month (Tuesdays). They tell me **they could do with a bit of new blood these days**, so why not give it a try? It's not a difficult game, the group is very friendly, nominal fees, and the tea & bikkies are in generous supply!

We've gained a group called '**Short Tennis**', Tuesday lunchtimes, played with a special ball as it's indoors! They could also maybe use a new player or two, they're all ladies of, um, careful now, a certain age (?).

We have very few weekend dates now until Xmas, it's a busy time anyway, not helped by several events being postponed from a year or so ago, but now on again.

Our new **Antiques Fairs** are very popular apparently, there isn't one this month (no dates were left!) and they're next in on Nov 7th and Dec 5th.

And ADVANCE WARNING of a December date, a **Craft Fair** for the very popular 'Porch' charity (homeless), that one is Sunday Dec 12th.

I had a note from our cleaner, we've gained a mystery chair from somewhere, it's a garden furniture type armchair. We're not sure if we have a benefactor, or someone didn't want to risk being charged at the tip?! Oh, and also on that note, it seems that some of our windows had been left open. Whilst all the Covid guidance says that fresh air is GOOD, would all **Group Leaders and Hirers please MAKE SURE that any opened windows get SHUT AGAIN** as you leave?!

The stage curtain winder has been repaired, an an eye-watering cost, so PLEASE, those who need to open & close the curtain (just a few groups) only use it with the proper care. We don't need those big dents in the wallet!

We've a new heating thermostat, works like the old one, but if it gets colder and the heat doesn't appear, let us know – it means we forget your session on setting the master timer!

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**Letters to the Editor** – Editors **reserve the right** to shorten, clarify or reject any letter. Each letter must bear a legible name & address, and phone number in case any text needs verification.

**Extracted from the VoWH & South Oxon Councils' Diversity and Social Campaigns Calendar >> the relevant festivals & events which we might observe these days (given that we're all trying to do more on that 'inclusivity' thing?) :-**

**Oct is Black History Month**

**First week in Oct - Mental Health Awareness Week**

**Oct 8th - Clean Air Day**

**Oct 10th - World Homeless Day**

**Oct 18th - Anti-Slavery Day**

[Mind you, I see that Sept 22nd was 'World Car Free Day' and when I cycled over to the A34 bridge, it looked like quite a few people hadn't got that memo?]

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

**OCT Dates** Ab'don (3rd Fri) 15th; Didcot (2nd Sat) 9th  
TVFM news - ring 01235 227266 see website - [Tvfm.org.uk](http://Tvfm.org.uk)



# NOTICE BOARD

## VALE of WH District Council

If you need any help, or feel you may need it, even post-lockdown, PLEASE don't hesitate to contact our Community Hub on the telephone number, website, or email address :- (it's always staffed regardless of the major incident):

Telephone: 01235 422600

Website: [www.southoxon.gov.uk/communityhub](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/communityhub)

Email: [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk)

## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

**Could you foster?** The demand hasn't gone away with Lockdown! We need short term and long term foster carers as well as carers who can just help out for weekends and school holidays for children of all ages from babies to teenagers.

Foster carers receive a comprehensive training and support package along with financial support. **We need a diverse range of people** with different skills and qualities so that more children are placed in the right home, first time.

The package includes:- a fostering fee, recently increased, so **up to** £569 per week paid in addition to fostering allowances; local training and unlimited support from a dedicated fostering team; relief care; 24/7 telephone help line; regular support groups; birthday and holiday payments; free membership of Fostering Network. Their website has comprehensive info:-

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering) or please call **0800 783 5724**. Types of placements are both short & long term and include sibling groups. And you can check for updates on their Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshireOCC/](https://www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshireOCC/)

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



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## FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

**Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company?** Now, in these (still) 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 (and it is HOPED to resume in person in December).

If you'd like a chat, with a friendly sympathetic voice, please call either **Ros** on **535589** or **Beryl** on **531379**

## LISTINGS

**Foreign Holidays?** – Now the Govt has re-fiddled with that famous 'traffic light' business (red lights, green ones, maybe amber will make a comeback?!), lots more folk are whizzing off for some belated holidays. So DO check THIS:- The free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is being phased out following the Brexit deal in favour of a new, also free, **Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC)** which launched at the beginning of this year.

You can still use an EHIC for now, but if you've not got one, you'll need to apply for a GHIC. Both cards get free or discounted medical care in all EU countries. For full info see :- [www.moneysavingexpert.com/travel/free-ehic-card/](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/travel/free-ehic-card/)

The **Hawk Conservancy** (near Andover) are open again, and besides their usual offerings, they have a number of evening events. See <https://www.hawk-conservancy.org> & then add on **/2021/03/02/training-with-irwin/** for a terrific description of rearing a young bird (a 'black kite'), right through its training to join the flying display birds!

**SOBELL HOUSE FUNDRAISER** – Blenheim 7K fun-run, Oct 10th. It's family friendly, choose from 3 events, a 7Km walk, jog or run, 4 mile buggy & wheelchair race, or a 1 mile race for younger ones. And all in those lovely grounds. Your entry gets you car parking, admittance to the Palace grounds for you AND your supporters (!), oh, and a finisher's medal. Check out :- <https://sobellhouse.org/event/blenheim-7K-fun-run/> for the full info.

**Dog Thefts/Security** Dog owners will all know about the massive increase in these disgraceful thefts round the country, fuelled by gullible nitwits who don't know, or don't care, if the vendor of a dog is credible. The Police Commissioner supports a campaign for dogs to be **Secure, In Sight, and Checkable**, see <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/protectyourpooch>

**Local History Exhibition** – of Steventon, they say told in 77 objects? It's Oct 10th (Sunday, 10am to 4pm) and it's in Steventon Village Hall. And free, though they'll have some books on sale apparently, proceeds to their Church.

**Watermill Theatre Autumn Shows** They have a new version of **Brief Encounter**, Oct 14th to Nov 13th, and **The Jungle Book**, Nov 18th to Dec 31st. For those unaware, the Watermill is down near Newbury, so if you include parking, as easy to get there than into Oxford. Of special interest for those **hard-of-hearing**, Brief Encounter has an '**audio described**' performance, and Jungle Book has some **BSL integrated performances**, an '**audio described**' show, AND a '**relaxed performance**' (you can take in children under 3).

But you'd doubtless need to book EARLY for the special ones.

See [www.watermill.org.uk](http://www.watermill.org.uk) or call 01635 46044

# DRAYTONDIARIES

## (Mostly) Hall Diary for OCTOBER

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

To book the Hall :- bookings@draytonvh.co.uk or call Tony Holmes on (01235) 531180; see the website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk

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

Sat	2	10.00am	Private Function (all day)
Sun	3	9.30am	Dog Show (private group)
Tues	5	2.00pm	Bowls League match
Sat	9	10.00am	Bees & Honey show
Sun	10	9.30am	Dog Show (private group)
Tues	12	7.30pm	<b>Parish Council Meeting</b> Caudwell DC (Planning C'tee – 7pm)
Sat	16	9.30am	Dog Show (private group)
Sun	17		Private Functions (all day)
<b>Mon</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>CHRONICLE DEADLINE (see p2)</b> (NB Adverts by Friday 15th please!)
Tues	19	2.00pm	Bowls League match
Sat	23	11.00am	Private Function (all day)
Sun	24	9.30am	Dog Show (private group)
Sat	30	9.00am	Private Function (Wedding – all day)
Sun	31	1.00pm	Private Function (child's party)

## Drayton Green – An Invitation

That's the one opposite Vickery's and the Post Office, not the Millennium one. Just as we were going to press, ultra-late news came in, about the work to be done there, 'walnuts' and extra planting, see the letter on page 10 for some extra info.

The **installation** is planned for Mon/Tues Oct 18/19th, with also a 'workshop' by the artist at the School on that Monday.

On Friday 22nd, we hear there's planned a '**Community Gardening**' day, with the contracted Landscape Gardeners, aided by the local Wildlife group, to help with extra planting. Music, dance and fun they say too. **So anyone who'd like to, please DO come along.** But bring your own trowel, and kneepads?! Kick-off (dig off?) should be at 10.30.

### YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS:-

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



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It seems about the right time to resurrect the 'Regular Events' diary, as per those dim & distant pre-Covid times. Many of the regular Village Hall groups & classes have restarted, just a couple left and their return seems imminent.

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB **PLEASE** – if an entry is wrong – **DO tell an editor** (page 2)

### MONDAYS [## = Small Hall in Village Hall]

- 2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session
- 6.00 pm 'Bounce Fit' (1hr - Sophie 07791 778388) >> NB If you're new to this class, PLEASE CHECK before attending.
- 6.00 pm Damascus Youth (see page 3) ##
- 7.15 pm Badminton (Private Group)
- 7.45 pm Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) *St Peter's*

### TUESDAYS

- 9.30 am Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925)
- 1.00 pm 'Short Tennis' (adapted for indoors!)
- 1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) *Caudwell Day Centre*
- 2.30 pm First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) *Church Room*  
NB Hoping to restart December (see page 19)
- 7.00 pm 'RockBox' (to book, see Clubbercise)
- 8.00 pm Clubbercise (run by Gemma Pearce, see her F'book)  
NB Rockbox & Clubbercise have NOT restarted yet, post-Covid (await new instructor). CHECK w. Gemma!

### WEDNESDAYS

- 10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) *Church Room*
- 2.00 pm Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month) ##
- 2.15 pm Badminton
- 6.00 pm Brownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435) ##
- 7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session

### THURSDAYS

- 9.15 am Holy Communion (\*\*) *St Peter's Lady Chapel*
- 9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (NB Term-time ONLY)
- 11.00 am Baptist Café (to 1pm – from Nov 11th) *Baptist Church*  
NB For any Baptist Church activities --- DO PLEASE check with them before attending (see page 16)
- 2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session
- 2.00 pm Crafts Group (2nd Thursday – run by U3A, but it's simple to join. Call Kate for info 01235 550486) ##
- 5.30 pm Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs) ##
- 7.30 pm Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)
- 7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) *Caudwell DC*

### FRIDAYS

- 11.00 am The Friday Club (monthly) 202466 *Caudwell Day Centre*  
NB This is hoped to be restarted AFTER Xmas, and as a monthly event (had used to be fortnightly)
- 6.00 pm Dance Fitness (with Laura – 07443 630939)
- 7.15 pm ShikiDojo Martial Arts (check w Paul - 07479 824887)  
NB This Class HOPES to resume in October!  
But DO PLEASE check before attending! ##

### SUNDAYS

- (\*\*) For all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), **PLEASE see our St Peter's Church page**
- 6.00 pm Evening Service (see p 16) *Baptist Church*

NB Pre-covid, this listing used to have several other groups or events at Caudwell Day Centre, (a couple ARE on this list, confirmed), usually weekly, at least one Bingo session, a Foot Clinic, and a Whist Drive. But, at time of going to press, it hasn't been possible to check if they've restarted, have a planned date, or maybe never will.

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