

# *Drayton Chronicle*

*Coronation of King Charles III*

*May 2023*

PHOTO: HUGO BURNAND-POOL/GETTY

*Editor: Maurice (Mo) Puddick*

*Volume: 46 Issue: 4*



## CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Drayton Chronicle** will be the **June 2023** issue edited by: **Tony Holmes**

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

### NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

email to [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net)

Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as plain text or attached as a rich-text or Microsoft Word document!

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

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

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

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

After the deadlines listed at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed directly to the editor by the Wednesday following the deadlines at the latest.

Editor

### Key dates for next Chronicles

Issue	Deadlines for contributions		Printed Chronicles available on:
	Adverts	Editor	
June	12th May 23	15th May 23	26th May 23
July	16th Jun 23	19th Jun 23	30th Jun 23

Charge for a single Block Advert (about 9cms x 4.5cms)

---- Number of Inserts ----

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

Double-size adverts are charged at twice the above rates.

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

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

## TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? If so, join us for our monthly tea and chat afternoons in the Church. The meetings take place on the second Tuesday of the month 2-30 to 4-00pm. and you can be sure of a warm welcome. The next two meetings will be 9th May and 13th June. If you would like a chat with a friendly, sympathetic voice, or to join us, please call **Beryl** on **513379** or **Ros** on **535589**.

## BAPTIST CHURCH

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



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

Baptist Coffee Shop: Please join us on Thursday mornings 11am-1pm at the **Caudwell Centre**, Gravel Lane for Tea or Coffee and a chat.

## LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP



High Street, Milton

Sunday Service: 10:30 am

Contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle. Tel: 531409



## The Coronation of King Charles III

Communities around the country are making preparations for Coronation Celebrations – whether in village wide gatherings or in smaller street parties or in large-scale concerts. Whether you are choosing to celebrate or not the Coronation on 6<sup>th</sup> May when His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside Camilla, The Queen Consort, in Westminster Abbey is still an opportunity to pray for him, as he approaches this important event in the life of our country and commonwealth.

In the Bible, St Paul says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

**For God's presence** to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has talked about *'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England - the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'*

**For God's wisdom** as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the wellbeing of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: *'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.'* (1 Kings 3:9).

**For God's love** to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family; for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.

**For God's purpose** to be fulfilled through the work of the King and Queen Consort and their family in the years to come. He has said: *'and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'*

### A Prayer for the new King:

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With love and prayers

The Reverend Helen Kendrick,  
Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish.

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a plant sale at St Peter's on

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 10.00 – 12.00.

Do come and join us!

Cards and books and refreshments available.

We look forward to seeing you.



## ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON part of the DAMASCUS Parish

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

**Rector** Revd Helen Kendrick rector@damascusparish.org.uk

**Pro-Warden** Mrs Linda Johnson or (admin@...)

**Administrator** Alison Bampton 01235 847179

**The church remains open daily, Sunday – Saturday 10– 4.**

### REGULAR SERVICES.

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month only.
Sunday	9.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) , except 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday non- Eucharist Morning Praise is held
Thursday	9.45 am	Holy Communion (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays) ,Celtic Morning Prayer (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays)

**Thursday 18th May Ascension Day Service at Sutton Courtenay at 7.30 p.m.**

**N.B Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May, DAMASCUS Parish Service at Sutton Courtenay at 11.00a.m celebrating Reverend Helen Kendrick's 20 years of Ministry. 8.00a.m service only at ST PETER'S ON THIS SUNDAY.**

### PARISH REGISTER

#### Baptism

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Harper Nellie Watts.

### REGULAR EVENTS

Wednesday mornings 10.00 – 11.30a.m **Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group.**

If you have a baby or toddler you would be so welcome to join us. We meet in Church.

Please email: [suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com](mailto:suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com) for more information or visit our Drayton Pebbles Facebook Page.

**Nativity and Christmas Party on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Bell ringing practice—every Monday 7:30 pm.**

**YOU STAY WE PRAY, DECEMBER 2022**

30<sup>th</sup> Apr – 6<sup>th</sup> May Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End; Lammas Land; Virgate; Fallowfield Close

7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May Lockway

14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May Whitehorns Way

21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> May Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close

28<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill

### WARM SPACES.

The Damascus Parish are offering all sorts of initiatives to provide warm spaces for our communities. Here in St Peter's, we are doing the same. Each week, starting in November there will be an opportunity for older members of our community to meet together in the Church room for a few hours over a cuppa! This is what it looks like at present

**1st Monday of the month *Knit and Natter*: 2pm – 4pm**

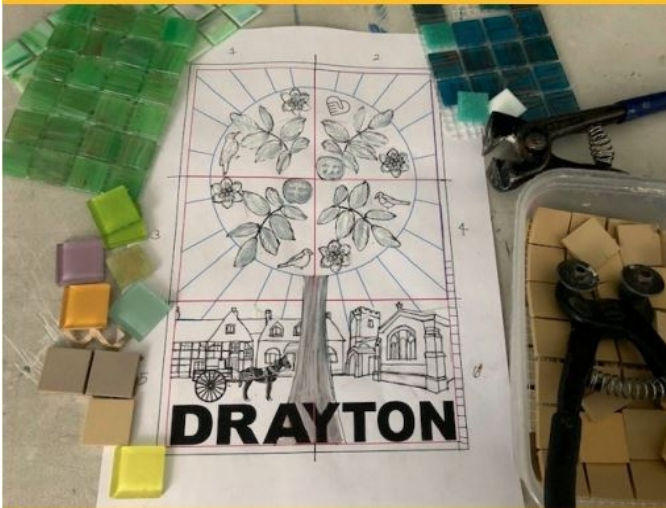
**2nd Tuesday of the month *Tuesday Connect*: 2:30 – 4pm**

**3rd & 4th Friday of the month *Come for a Cuppa Soup and a Roll*: 12 - 2pm**



# ART in DRAYTON

## Mosaic tableau for Drayton



This is just to flag up the Mosaic Workshop Event taking place on 8th May at the Millennium Green Coronation Celebration.

Do come along and help to create a beautiful image of our village. We need all hands on deck for our community project, and we hope that everyone will feel that they have taken ownership of the picture, as without you, it won't happen.

See you there!

Pervin, Drayton PC

OXFORDSHIRE

**art**  
WEEKS

**DRAYTON: Art weeks Venue**

29, The Gallery Upstairs, 28  
Lammas Land, Drayton, OX14  
4GG. (Free entry)

Carolyn Hawkes is looking forward to welcoming visitors to her open studio/gallery, venue 29. (From High Street turn into Furlongs and follow Lammas Land round to the end house, no.28)

I am exhibiting my own landscapes and abstract paintings, joined this year by landscape artist Andrea Whitehouse.

**May 7th, 8th & 11th - 14<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 6pm.**

(Other times welcome by arrangement.) Free festival guide from Vickery's, or Carolyn or see [www.artweeks.org](http://www.artweeks.org)  
Contact: [carolyn.hawkes@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.hawkes@gmail.com), 01235 521359/07773677737.

Website: [www.carolynhawkes.co.uk](http://www.carolynhawkes.co.uk)



# Letter (Almshouses)



Following on from the article about Drayton Almshouses (the former ones), I remembered this from when I was young. {NB – those pictured above are the NEW ones, which were opened in 1980}.

In 1949, aged 5, I was taken several times to the Almshouse nearest the High St. It was inhabited by Mr and Mrs Faulkner and Mrs Faulkner used to take my baby brother and me for walks in the afternoons, while my mother rested. It was a single downstairs room with a window (and window seat) looking out to the High St.

There was room for a small table and two chairs and, if I remember correctly, there wasn't room for my brother in his pram inside the small living room. The black metal range consisted of a central sort of basket for coal with an oven either side. Mr Faulkner, very old, took up most of the room between the table and the back wall. He was a veteran of World War 2 and my mother said he was ill due to his time in the war.

I don't think there was a toilet in the house – there was a communal block which included toilets instead? The stairs were covered in at the back, so you could not see them, and I think there was only room for one bedroom. I loathed those visits!

Celia Haddon, MA, MSc, BSc

**THAMES VALLEY FARMERS MARKETS** (8.30 to 1.30) Fresh, Quality produce, Locally\* produced, Competitive prices – (\*'Locally' – Didcot mkt has a wonderful fishmonger, up from Sussex, always sells well – little sea for fishing round here?! AND – that Didcot mkt is NOW on the Broadway)

**MAY Dates** Ab'don (3rd Fri) 19th; Didcot (2nd Sat) 13th  
TVFM news - 01235 227266 see website - [Tvvm.org.uk](http://Tvvm.org.uk)

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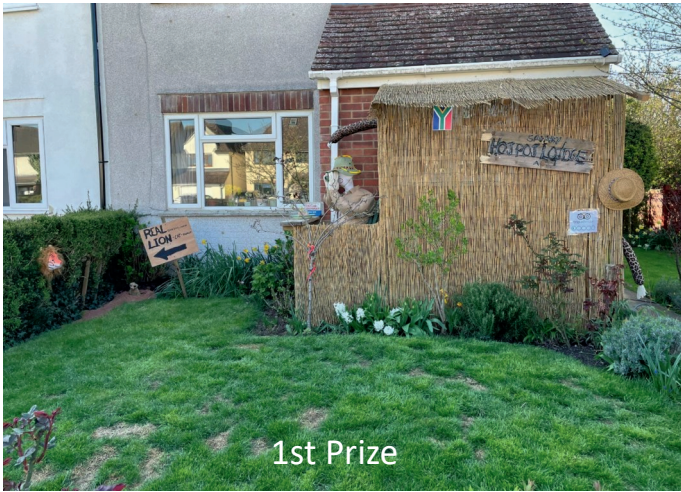
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2nd Prize



3rd Prize



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## Drayton Table Tennis Club

Great news to report that our Bidmead team has battled

through to the final where they will be up against Moreton Club. The team saw off Sandford 356 points to 339 in round one. The quarter final versus Letcombe was a really close match. The team won the nail-biting encounter 309-301. In the semi the team were up against Abingdon Club and they won through with a 20 points margin.

In the team Handicap Shield, 4 of our 5 teams got through to the last 16 knock out round. However only the Eagles progressed to the last 8 where they have an away draw to SOFEA A. Both teams are in Division 4 a close tie should ensue. At the time of writing the match has yet to be played so look for a report of their progress(fingers crossed) in the next report.

The league has now concluded. None of our teams made the honours board but by the same token none were at the bottom of their respective divisions. The Artisans fished 4<sup>th</sup> in Division 1. In Division 2 the Buzzards were also 4<sup>th</sup> and the Corinthians finished 6<sup>th</sup>. The Dingos matched this with a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish in Division 3. In Division 4 the Eagles came 3<sup>rd</sup> making them our best placed team for the season. Altogether it was a satisfactory season for all our teams.

John Gould



## 2021 Census - focus on transport

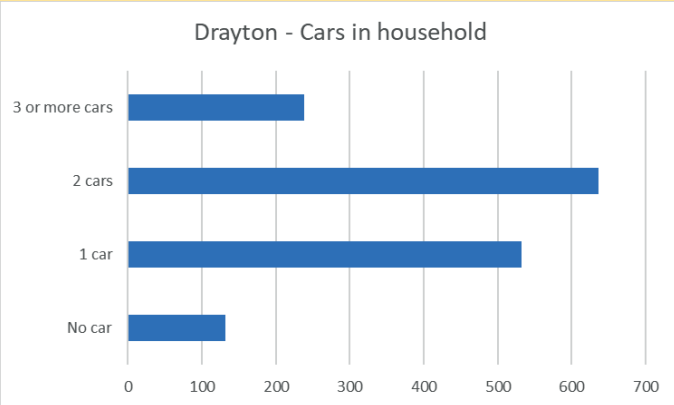
The Census asked how many cars (and vans) there were in each household. Fewer than 10% of households are without a car.

Interesting to compare cars (and vans) total with people aged 17 or more.

- Cars - at least 2,518
- People 17+ 2,972

Another comparison is with the flow of traffic through the village, roughly 11,000 per day on the B4017 likely making Drayton traffic a substantial slice of the total.

Martin Blogg



## theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

Last week at our meeting we were told the sad news the our secretary's husband had passed away that afternoon. We all sent our condolences to her, our thoughts were with her. Our speaker was Lynn Carter who spoke to us last year

about the critters in her garden from the field beyond. This time we heard about her life so far.

My word what a Lady! From a very poor family she rose through the pharmaceutical system from a chemist shop in Oxford to the old Radcliffe Infirmary, making medicines from scratch to overseeing modern medicine and also a short spell in the ambulance service to sitting among the top consultants on advisory boards. Most impressive for a girl with no GCEs or Degrees just hard work and a quick mind. Next month we have Noel Blatchford speaking on International speed walking, sadly I only do slow walking but will be very interested in what she has to say. Join us at The Day Centre on Thursday 11 th May at 7.30 pm.



## Tonks Brothers Funeral Directors

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LOCAL NEWS

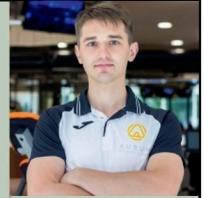
Residents are being warned to be wary of cold callers or leaflets offering to do garden clearances, tree cutting and work to roofs and gutters

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## Electric vehicle (EV) car club pilot A pilot of shared electric car club vehicles

We are working with City and District Councils and a number of commercial car club operators to run a pilot of shared electric vehicles across the county.

These fully battery electric vehicles (with a range of 150-250 miles) are available for residents to use on a pay-per-use basis for as little as an hour and up to a few days. Costs can start from just £5 per hour plus a per-mile charge.

The local pay-per-use electric vehicles available in the scheme are based at the following locations:

Abingdon - Cattle Market car park, OX14 3JT - book via [Co Wheels website](http://CoWheels.com)

Abingdon - West St Helens car park, OX14 5BU - book via [Co Wheels website](http://CoWheels.com)

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01235 531359





### Difficult Choices

The problem of potholes has been in the news all over the country in recent months. We have had potholes ever since we had roads and tracks, but I don't remember the being as hot a topic as they are now.

Everyone would like our roads to be in mint condition at all times, but the cost of road maintenance has been rapidly rising over recent years and the ability to maintain our roads in reasonable condition has been becoming an increasing challenge for all councils. To upgrade all of Oxfordshire's roads to an ideal standard would cost several hundred million pounds and there would then be the cost of regular maintenance to keep them at that standard. The cost is more than the County's Adult and Children's social care put together. Not much wonder then that hard pressed Councils have, over the last 20 years, steadily made cuts to their road budgets in order to protect their social care and other services. It is all about priorities. Priorities for Councils and priorities for Government. In present economic circumstances, it is hard to see taxation increasing anywhere near enough to cover the cost of covering the upgrade to all the nation's roads.

Councils have tried various initiatives to begin to address the problem. Prioritising main roads over others has been tried but it leads to the question – just how bad do our rural roads have to get before deprioritising their maintenance becomes unacceptable?

“Prudential borrowing” against assets over many years requires substantial assets which few councils possess and few finance officers will countenance. Borrowing against future income growth depends on the growth happening and is a risky business.

Are there any other alternatives? And if we want roads in good condition along with everything else we want, we have to find a way of paying for it. Persuading road users ( i.e. just about everyone) that they must pay through taxation presents a great political challenge – how could it be done? And how could it be done fairly? But then politics, we are told, is all about choices. We just need our politicians to be brave enough to make them while our road system is still usable.

And one final thought. Given the challenge of maintaining our present road system, does it really make sense to be building yet more roads?

Richard Webber Cllr

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

07546571521



## DRAYTON (ABINGDON) PARISH COUNCIL

### JOB VACANCY

Part time Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer  
(RFO)

Home-based other than attendance at monthly evening council meetings, finance and personnel committee meetings and other occasional visits to Drayton when required.

Hours: 20 hrs per week, flexible over 4/5 days per week.

NJC scale LC2: £31,099 – £34,723 pro rata.

Deadline for applications 3rd May 2023

**Suzy Willis & Associates**  
MCSP HCPC AACP  
**CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPISTS**  
Old Lodge, Henleys Lane, Drayton,  
OX14 4HU  
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*Please call for a face to face or remote consultation*

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## Walk of Witness

Photos of our 'walk of witness' (Good Friday) starting at Baptist Church, then on to the Village Green, along Abingdon Road into Edwards Park and onto their Green for a short stop of reflection.



Out into Henleys Lane, Church Lane and then the Parish Graveyard for a short stop, and into St Peters for end of service. St Peters provided wonderful hot cross buns for all – thank you!



It was a treat to have the Abingdon Band with us this year, it made such a difference, so thank you very much you were wonderful. We had 50 or so people in our procession.

Thank you to Patrick and Will for carrying the Cross in front of us. Not just any old Friday but the day our dear Lord gave all of Himself for everyone!

Mrs Janet Strong



  
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**Drayton Village Fete Bake off Competition**

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
Drayton Village Hall,  
Lockway



Adult Categories Judge  
Christine Wallace - 2013  
Great British Bake-Off Finalist



Children's Judge  
Mr Knight  
Drayton CPS Headteacher

**Adult Category:** Victoria Sponge, Traybake and Showstopper  
**Children's Categories:**  
**Under 8s** Cupcakes and **Over 8s** Cupcakes  
Entries should be taken to the cake tent by 2pm ready for judging and prizegiving at 3pm

All entries should be in a named tin with a full list of ingredients



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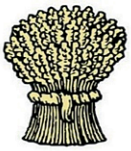
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Dear all,

**Planning – Walnut Meadows**

The latest application to resolve the land levels at Walnut Meadows is being approved, and an amendment to the developer’s contractual obligations has been agreed with them.

It’s not as much as I’d have liked to see, but given how tilted the system is in favour of the developer, and the archaeological issues at the site, it’s probably the best we’re going to see.

The Parish Council has been unwavering in pushing this, and the Officers have worked extremely hard.

Miller Homes will have three months to start and six months to complete the work. It will involve removing the buried spoil and releveling the land to levels agreed by the planning permission, and bringing in fresh topsoil that meets the specific British Standard. After resisting it for some time, they have also agreed to carry out the Phase 1 landscaping works and to agree that the much-delayed financial contributions will be updated by index-linking them.

I would have liked to see greater quantities of topsoil to those agreed, and the various archaeological issues (although they did wake up Miller Homes and get them finally moving as they realised legal action could be considerably worse than they probably expected thanks to this) have meant there will be fewer sports pitches than originally planned. However, given where we are, this will be a big step forwards and very probably the best we could hope to get.

Possibly because I’ve been burned before, though, I’m really only going to believe it when I see it, but from everything I’ve seen, it looks like this is actually going ahead at last. Fingers firmly crossed.

**Planning – Housing Numbers update**

I mentioned last month that the Planning Inspector has endorsed our new housing targets and underlined that we definitely have more than five years land supply in reserve. This means that we have considerably more power to assess applications and reject those we feel will violate Neighbourhood Development Plans or damage the character of our villages. We have already got ample sites approved to provide the housing we’re assessed as needed, so overturning our decisions at appeal is now far harder for developers.

In addition, we and South Oxfordshire have informed Oxford City Council that we will not accept Oxford City exporting their housing need to us any more. In the past, this has damaged the Vale’s five year land supply (we’ve had enough for ourselves, but adding their exported need has damaged that). They have also decided to use a calculation of housing need considerably larger than the government’s standard formula and tried to insist that we do the same – effectively running up a big bill and expecting us to meet it for them.

We’ve told them we won’t do that. Forcing development outside of their borders like this is unwarranted and, when they successfully did this in the past, not only damaged the Vale’s own control over planning, but further gridlocked the roads into and out of Oxford as more and more people were forced to commute in and out.

There is an obligation for councils to work with their neighbours, but this goes both ways.

**Reservoir**

After the latest campaigns, I’ve noticed that the Severn-Thames Transfer has started to get what appears to be organised pushback in the media. On the one hand, this is annoying. On the other hand, after years of being ignored, it is starting to look like the same alternative may be now seen as a genuine threat to the unneeded, damaging, and expensive super-reservoir plan.

GARD contacted me a couple of weeks ago to come to a meeting with a national journalist who was looking into the lengthy process for planning for major infrastructure projects in the country. He was asking the question: was the planning process unnecessarily long, or were some of these projects actually bad ideas or do with major problems that would otherwise be glossed over?

He went to the National Infrastructure Commission, logically reasoning that they’d have a decent independent viewpoint on this. He asked them if they could cite any major proposed projects that would look reasonable to the layperson but were actually bad ideas for one reason or another.

They told him to look at the SESRO reservoir project(!). We shouldn’t be surprised; the NIC have continually pushed for inter-regional water transfers and creating a National Grid for water as the first and most important area for water infrastructure. He spoke to the chair of GARD, who suggested coming down to Steventon and Drayton, looking at the site suggested, and having a discussion with a bunch of interested local groups and representatives. The meeting happened three weeks ago (as I write) and all those involved made excellent points and the journalist went away impressed (I believe). I’ll update you when I know when the article will appear.

**Cost of Living**

As the Cost of Living crisis is still ongoing for so many, I’m once again going to put in the contact details for support for individuals and families from the Community Hub.

If you need help because you are struggling financially or if you are just finding life difficult, the Vale can help. Whether it’s for practical support or just advice, get in touch:

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**David Johnston MP**

Depending on when you read this, you may still have time to complete my Health Services Survey. It's 8 short questions about your experience of accessing services like GP and Dentist appointments and should take 5-10 minutes. You can complete it here: <https://www.david-johnston.org.uk/health>

Although I live in Didcot, I saw it and many other places in the constituency in a different light last month: from the back of a police car! No, I hadn't done anything wrong, I'd asked to go on a 'Ride Along' with the local force to get a better insight into the demands on the police as they respond to the calls they receive at the station.

It turned out to be a relatively quiet 4 or so hours, but it was nonetheless fascinating to talk to PCs David and Alex about their experience in the force, the things they've had to respond to, how they're treated by the public and the things they'd like to see change. They perform a very difficult and vital role and I'm very grateful to them for letting me accompany them.

I continue to be on the case regarding the experience of parents and schools with Oxfordshire's service for children with Special Educational Needs. I spoke in a debate in parliament about some of the problems and then met the Government minister responsible for SEND nationally. Oxfordshire has just been given a further £1 million by the Government to deliver outreach services from SEND specialists to support children with a variety of conditions including autism and moderate learning difficulties. But this won't solve the problems people complain to me about regarding calls and emails not being answered and so I will continue to work on this.

On the subject of government funding, the extension to the Energy Price Guarantee for a further 3 months is welcome and will have saved the average household £1100 since it began, while Oxfordshire County Council has just been given a further £3 million to fix the potholes so many of you rightly complain to me about!

The Public Accounts Committee have held their hearing into the local AEAT Pension case I've been campaigning on behalf of and now we have to wait for their report in the coming weeks. I must give credit to OX10 Community Centre, Wild About Wallingford, the Town Council and Incredible Edible for keeping their Public Living Room going at the Bull Croft through a miserable afternoon of rain. It was designed to bring the community together and it did – at least some of them, and a great ukulele band. I had a good catch up with GWR about where next to take my campaign for reopening Grove Station – watch this space. Straight after my Apprenticeship Fair on 24<sup>th</sup> April at 12pm at Didcot Civic Hall, I will start planning this year's Wantage and Didcot Climate Summit – the date will be the 13<sup>th</sup> June.

As ever, if I can help with anything then please email me via [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk)

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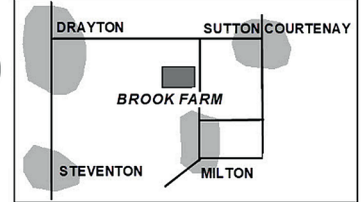
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# Drayton Diaries

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### Hall News

First off, one last REMINDER, Thursday **May 4th** is a local election day, so the Hall will be in use as a **Polling Station**.

At the time of writing (2 thirds through April) the Hall's revamp of the Main Hall wooden floor looks to be going well, new white lines for Badminton have just been applied, so it's looking hopeful to be open again on 24th (famous last words?!).

**Volunteer Please**?! The recent Hall C'tee meeting heard, sadly, that our **Treasurer** (Tamsin) intends to give up the role in due course, due to increased work & family commitments. Tamsin has been a Parish Councillor, has been Hall Treasurer for some years, and is a valued Chronicle agent, so certainly 'does her bit' for the village! SO, if there's anyone out there who can volunteer to take over that role, we'd love to hear from you, means keeping track of Hall hirer payments in, and paying those naughty bills going out, and keeping relevant records. Once in a while, some Hall accounts need to be produced. It MIGHT suit someone getting **more book-keeping experience** as they study for Accountancy Exams?

**GRATEFUL thanks** to Tamsin for all her efforts for us, though hopefully we've got her for a little while yet?!

Our **Bowls Club** (indoor – obviously!) have a few spaces for NEW MEMBERS (or returning ones?), it's a skilful game, but easy to learn the basics, just nominal fees, plus they're **very big on the essential tea & bikkies!** They're a friendly bunch, why not give it a try?!

AND – another group with a space or two to fill is our **Badminton group**, (Monday nights), a decent standard I gather, mostly a Ladies group but in recent times they've welcomed a couple of guys in to help swat that irritating little feathered thing round the court!

We've another **ANTIQUES Fair**, Sunday May 7th, that's with Kathy Head running her **excellent value cafe** for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarnie!). The same Kathy is running a **CRAFT FAIR**, for more good causes, on May 20th. She may yet have space for a stall or two, so find her on the local F'book?

I hear the class for **Irish Dancing**, intended for 4-y-olds and upwards, has been doing well as word has spread round children and parents. That's **Tuesdays**, early evenings (5.30 for an hour), their leader Ashleigh is on **07375 878445**, please ask **her** for all queries on what they do, as I can't dance a step!

Now, anyone walking with a new limp, or do you know someone that is? Or perhaps keeps falling over? All possible consequences, as we've gained a **walking stick** that someone seems to have mislaid?!

**Electric Organ**?? The Hall has one, been there for ages it seems, but sadly not used for a very long time (likely a bit dusty inside by now?!). So, we think it could go to a **new home** where it might be appreciated (& used!) a bit more. If you think you could use it, let us know, come and check it over?

**One more thing**, anyone know a decent ODD JOB MAN (or Woman of course!!) as we have a couple of repairs or revamps that are getting overdue, all external. One of them would need some scaffolding, so it's rather more than putting up a shelf or two!

See [www.draytonvh.co.uk](http://www.draytonvh.co.uk) for contact info.

### 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 Damascus Youth ##
- 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)
- 1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4pm) *Caudwell Day Centre*
- 2.30 pm Tuesday Connect (now 2nd Tues) *Church*
- 5.30 pm Irish Dancing (via Ashleigh - 07375 878445)

#### WEDNESDAYS

- 10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) *Church*
- 1.30 pm Whist Drive *Caudwell DC*
- 1.45 pm U3A Science/Tech, 1st Weds (07890 385931) ##
- 2.00 pm Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday, most months) ##
- 2.15 pm Badminton
- 6.30 pm Brownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435) ##
- 7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session

#### THURSDAYS

- 9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (Now back on Thursdays!)
- 9.45 am Holy Communion (\*\*) *St Peter's Lady Chapel*
- 11.00 am Baptist Café (to 1pm) NOW IN >> *Caudwell DC*
- 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*
- 7.30 pm 'Community Choir' (2nd/4th Thurs) *Church Room*

#### FRIDAYS

- 7.15 pm ShikiDojo Martial Arts (Paul - 07479 824887)
- NB DO PLEASE check with Paul 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 *Baptist Church*

### (Mostly) Hall Diary for May

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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

Thur	4	Local Elections (polling station)
Sat	6	Private function
Sun	7 9.00am	ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm)
Mon	8	Coronation Lunch (Mill'm Green)
Tues	9 7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting ??Caudwell DC
Sat	13 10.00am	Private Functions (& evening)
Sun	14 12.30pm	Private Function (child's party)
Mon	15 5.00pm	CHRONICLE DEADLINE (p2)
Sat	20 9.00am	CRAFT FAIR

### DISCLAIMER

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*An eye for detail*