

DRAYTON CHRONICLE



COMING CHRONICLES

The **April Chronicle** will be available for distribution on or about **March 29th / 30th**.

The Editor will be **Margaret Inger (on 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 pm, Monday, March 18th**.

After this deadline **, items get **less precedence** for inclusion (No guarantees!), & need to reach us by the Wednesday.

NB - ADVERTISERS - PLEASE note that the ads deadline is **EARLIER, Friday March 15th**, due to their preparation time.

NB** :- **Can we politely remind** Contributors that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; in general, **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!)

for the next editor → 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 #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 2024, should be a way to type & send it?! (= fewer errors!).

ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

--- Number of Monthly Inserts ---

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

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

All requests must be accompanied by cash or a cheque made payable to 'Drayton Chronicle'.

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store, Drayton Green, in shopping hours. OR send your requirements :- advertising@draytonchronicle.net

This Month's Cover – the Sutton Wick memorial to those who sadly died in the 1957 (March 5th) crash, when a Beverley transport plane (RAF) came down soon after takeoff, having been intended to take personnel and service dogs to Cyprus. This year's ceremony is **Sunday March 10th**, at 10.45am.

DATES for FOLLOWING Chronicles

Issue for	Copy Deadlines :- to Editor by (& Ads on the Fri before these)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:-
May	Mon April 15th	April 26th
June	Mon May 20th	May 31st

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Local Groups & Clubs

Drayton Table Tennis Club

Following on from the February issue I am pleased to report our **Bidmead team** is now into the semi-final of this year's competition. The team defeated Abingdon TT Club team in a close match. The team has been drawn away to Moreton, to be played 19th March. We have our fingers crossed for another final appearance and of course to go one better than last year.



In the league our teams continue to do well. The **Artisans** in Division One are in a very comfortable third place albeit unlikely to challenge for the top honours. Our three division two teams are all doing OK; however, both the **Buzzards** and **Corinthians** are suffering slightly due to player injuries and unavailability. The **Dingos** have continued to recover from the bottom of the table recently having a very useful win against another of the teams near the bottom, we are confident they will avoid the bottom 2. In Division Three our two teams are competing at the very top of the table. Both **Eagles** and **Flamingos** are vying with Sandford Misfits. All three are currently within one point of each other so with a quarter of the season to go it's anyone's title.

We are still running our **Monday night practise and coaching sessions** at **Thameside school** from 7pm to 10pm. Beginners & experienced players are welcome whatever their age. We are a very **welcoming and inclusive** club so please give us a try you may well enjoy it.

John Gould



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Letters to the Editor

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

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Drayton Wives (Lisa Lammiman)

For our first meeting this year we welcomed back an old friend. **Mr Caldicot** has given us a few very interesting talks regarding his life over the past years but this one was a bit different and was about **Dartmoor prison!**

Mr Caldicot was on holiday in Devon and visited the prison museum which he found fascinating.

The prison dates back to the early 19th century. During Napoleonic Wars the British government used floating prisons known as "the Hulks" to accommodate prisoners of war. However due to poor sanitary conditions, a high death rate and other issues the government decided to build a prison on land. **Princetown on Dartmoor** was chosen and construction began in 1806 using local stone and built on the hill side. There was an inscription over the gate "Pity the Vanquished" which was the last thing the prisoners saw. The first prisoners arrived in 1809 and was full by the end of the year!!

After the war ended the prison was closed and reopened as a penal establishment for criminals in 1850. Cast iron cells were built back to back and constructed by the convicts. Then stone cells were built and then they were demolished and today's new ones were built.

Dartmoor has always been occupied by the worst criminals but the conditions were poor. Bad diets and hard labour were common for years.

Discipline was harsh with a flogging frame for the worst prisoners but later on corporal punishment was abolished.

There were of course some notorious inmates, some of which we still remember. **Ronnie Biggs** the great train robber went to Dartmoor in 1954 after many convictions

The mad axeman **Frank Mitchell** was sent to Dartmoor for life but escaped in 1966 while repairing a fence!!!

John George Haigh (the acid bath murderer) was convicted of killing six people in 1959 but pleaded insanity - was not believed and was hanged.

There were a lot more of these notorious people in Dartmoor as it was deemed 'category A', but now it has a softer side, better food, better cells and downgraded to Category C.

Mr Caldicot said it was very interesting but not for the squeamish, so I have left out some parts as being unsuitable!! BUT -- If you're on holiday in Devon do go along and see how much things improved over the years.

Lisa Lammiman (Chair - 07949 275641)

ST PETER'S CHURCH



(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)

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Pro-warden Mrs Linda Johnson
Administrator Alison Bampton 01235 847179

Email contacts:- rector@damascusparish.org.uk (or admin@) & for Linda:- lindajcw@gmail.com

The church remains open daily {Sun – Sat, **now 10 – 3pm****}

NB – **Please NOTE closing time becomes 4pm, from March 31st. And all information is correct at time of going to press.

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP – 3rd Sunday only);
	9.30 am	Regular Sunday service;
Thursday	9.45 am	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Thurs) – or . . . Celtic Morning Prayer (2nd & 4th Thurs).

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Mondays	2.00 pm	Knit & Natter (to 4pm – First Monday)
	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice (each Monday)
Tuesday	2.30 pm	*** Tuesday Connect – ALL welcome for a cuppa & chat (*** now the FIRST Tuesday of each month) and that runs to 4pm
Weds	10.00 am	Pebbles Baby & Toddler Group (term-time) For more information contact Katy or Cheryl Draytonpebbles@hotmail.com

Please let us know if you need help of any kind, so that prayer and practical support can be offered in a safe way.

Mothing Sunday Service March 10th at 9.30am
Please bring your families along to join us to celebrate our Mums and give thanks for them!



PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms	Jan 28th	Effie Andrews
	Feb 11th	Morgan McAnaw

YOU STAY WE PRAY (March)

Feb 25th – 2nd	Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close
3rd – 9th	Manor Close; The Green
10th – 16th	High St; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close
17th – 23rd	Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Drive; Abbot Crescent
24th – 30th	Chestnut Drive; Holly Lane; Walnut Way; Willow Way
31st Mar – April 7th	Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End; Lammas Land; Fallowfield Close

MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

If by any chance your Agent is unable to deliver your Chronicle one month (or you need an extra one) you can collect a copy from Vickery's shop, they very kindly keep a small stock for us.

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From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team

One of my favourite books to dip into, every now and then, is “The English Year” a monthly guide to the nation’s customs and festivals by Steve Roud. Reading up on the month of March, I found out that the fourth Sunday of Lent, (Mid Lent) was known as **Braggot Sunday**, when a fermentation of honey and ale was drunk, apparently!

Today we know it as something else, which Steve Roud has traced back to a diary entry made in 1644 by Richard Symonds:- “Every mid-Lent Sunday...when all the children and god-children meet at the head of the family and have a feast. They call it the Mothering-day.” I continued to read on to discover that this regional custom spread from the West Country and Wales and was associated with various special foods for the feast, but the most common were simnel cakes (simnel is Latin for fine flour).

This feast day was then hijacked by Christian writers, making it a day when people went home to visit their “mother” church. Today’s church has kept with the term **Mothing Sunday**, but for non-church goers, this is now completely eclipsed by the imported Mother’s Day. This began in Philadelphia before WW1 and appeared in Britain soon after WW2, probably due to the influence of American military personnel. Roud suggests that the opportunity was taken to create a new market for cards and presents to be given to mothers and that if the wording on the cards is anything to go by, Mother’s Day wins hands down on Mothering Sunday.

Family and parental relationships may not be as straight forward, but more complex, possibly than in the 1650s. However, we still have people in our lives who care or have cared for us, and we too might be looking after and caring for someone. I read on further into the 5th Sunday of Lent which was once known as Care or Carling Sunday. The origins go back to food again, that was served during Lent. The meaning of “care” has changed over the years as has the nature of parenting; however, “Mothing” and “Care” Sunday might be **something for you to remember during March; about how we are cared for and how we can ourselves be caring.**

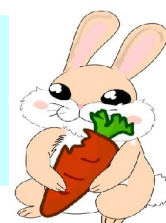
Take care,

(Rev’d) Rosie Bruce

(Associate Minister - DAMASCUS Parish ministry team)

EASTER SERVICES ??

Quite a substantial list, too big for this little space, so please EYES RIGHT over to page FIVE! ➔>>>>>>



Local Groups & Clubs

Drayton W.I.

At our February meeting we were instructed about the benefits of exercise for our health and mobility. I realised then why the chairs were carefully spaced out, it wasn't a case of stopping chatter it was because we were expected to wave our arms and legs about, hence the space between the chairs.

I must say everyone did very well, no falls, injuries or black eyes so a cup of tea and biscuit was welcomed after all that exercise.

Next month is the **Annual Meeting**, this is the end of our year and preparation for the coming year. Business done we will be moving on to **puddings sampling**, it's hard work but someone has to do it, such agony!

If you consider joining us, we start our new year of programme in April. Will give details of that, when it's confirmed, in the next Chronicle.

Our meetings are usually the 2nd Thursday each month, in the Caudwell Centre in Gravel Lane.

Ann Webb



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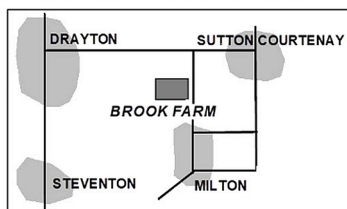


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MARCH Dates Ab'don (3rd Fri) 15th; Didcot (2nd Sat) 9th

TVFM news - ring 01235 227266 see website - Tvfm.org.uk



EVER WONDERED WHAT YOUR PARISH COUNCIL DOES?

THEN COME ALONG TO THE

Annual Parish Meeting

(Meeting of the Parish)

7:00pm Tuesday 26th March 2024

In the Caudwell Day Centre

ALL DRAYTON RESIDENTS WELCOME!

Easter Services at St. Peter's

Sunday March 24th – Palm Sunday



9.30am Holy Communion and Liturgy of the Passion.

Thursday March 28th – Maundy Thursday

9.45am – Holy Communion.

7.00pm - DAMASCUS Parish Holy Communion service (at Sutton Courtenay).

Followed by Maundy Thursday supper in the River Room.

Friday March 29th – Good Friday

10.00am - Walk of witness, starting at the Baptist Church and ending at St. Peter's for hot cross buns.

2.00pm - Hour at the Cross – prayer and meditation

Sunday March 31st – Easter Day

9.30am - Holy Communion

You are **warmly welcome** to join us at any of these services!

Wishing you a Blessed Holy Week and Happy Easter from all at St. Peter's

Rosie's Hair Lodge & *in Drayton*

I am open Monday to Friday 9.30 - 2.30.

Please ring or message me on **07842848784**

Or find me on Facebook

by searching for Rosie's Hair Lodge.

Next PC Meeting

Now **Tuesday** evenings (2nd of month) so next it's **March 12th**, in the Caudwell Day Centre (Gravel Lane), 7pm. **All residents are welcome to attend**, and raise issues within the public participation item early in the meeting. NB Parking IS a bit limited near the CDC, so if you attend, & can walk or bike there, please do?!



The **latest PC meeting** was held on Feb 13th:-

Walnut Meadows

The decision to **transfer the Walnut Meadows land from Miller Homes to the Parish Council** was approved at the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting on Feb 5th. This is the land designated for sports facilities. The PC can now action the archeological sample excavation which was a condition of the planning. We are hoping that this work will start on Feb 26th.

The PC has approved a quote for the design of the sports pitch area, including drainage.

A **drop in event** is to be held in the Village Hall (Small Hall) on **Saturday March 9th from 9-12.30**. This will enable residents to view the proposed plans for the pavilion, the sports pitch areas and the costs of the proposed facilities. The documents relating to this are available on the Parish Council website.

There has been no further progress with the road adoption as OCC still do not have an officer assigned to the work [Ed's note:- but plenty of resources swiftly available for 20mph signs?!].

Manor Farm

The issue of the unsatisfactory repair to the southern section of the perimeter path has been escalated to the Vale. Their planning department has recommended **enforcement action** is taken against Cala Homes.

The Dovecote

Representatives from the PC attended a meeting with reps from Bloor Homes and from the Residents Association to discuss **biodiversity** on the site. Residents are to be offered **bird boxes** for their homes which we understand will be installed by Bloor Homes. These should have been affixed to the houses as they were built, but this did not happen. The Residents Association will liaise with residents regarding the offer of the boxes. The PC has requested that if there are any surplus bird boxes, they are offered to other parts of the village.

The PC took the opportunity to raise the issue of dead vegetation in the planted hedgerow to the northern side of the estate and alongside the new Halls Close development. We are hoping that work will take place to replace the dead planting.

Traffic calming

A meeting was held with Milestone (OCC's Highways Contractor) in early January to review a master plan showing proposed traffic calming measures. Milestone has now produced a document detailing designs and costings. This will be reviewed and discussed at a future PC meeting.

The PC is aware of the dangerous situation on the **High Street**, where large numbers of vehicles are parked alongside the road, making the exit from Church Lane extremely hazardous. This has been escalated to the District Council for consideration of enforcement as the vehicles relate to the **Halls Close development**. Andy Cooke will have discussed matters with the site manager, (when this report appears), and the PC is to write to the Police about the issue.

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Football Clubhouse

The repairs for the clubhouse roof, for which the PC provided funding, are planned to be completed at the end of February.

Litter

There has been an increase in the amount of litter in the village. Particular areas of concern are Henleys Lane and the alleyway from Abingdon Road to Manor Close (many bottles of spirits found). **Please, if this is you, use the litter bins provided**. It goes without saying that littering is damaging to the environment and does nothing to lift the spirits of Drayton residents.

Meeting dates

Annual Parish Council meeting will be held on March 26th, Caudwell Day Centre at 7pm

Walnut Meadows Consultation will be held on March 9th, Village Hall (Small Hall), 9-12.30

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on March 12th, Caudwell Day Centre at 7pm – please note that the agenda is published on the PC website prior to meetings.

To contact any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the **Parish Clerk**, and messages will be 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. **Clerk@draytonpc.org**

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**, and details of other events in the village.

Elaine Wade

We've another **JEWELLERY VALUATION** day, Tuesday March 5th, 1pm to about 4pm. Last time he had a steady stream of customers, and I'm told **offers very fair prices**. That's all sorts of items, brooches, watches, (working or not!), rings, etc etc, he does a leaflet drop round the village a couple of days before the event, with far more details about items of interest.

We've another **ANTIQUES Fair**, Sunday March 3rd, that's with Kathy Head running her excellent value cafe for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarniel!).

Early notice of an **ABBA Tribute evening**, May 31st (Friday) – see the advert on page 10 for more info.

Our **Bowls Club and Sequence Dancers** are always on the lookout for new members, the Bowlers are on Mon & Thursday afternoons, and Weds evenings if that suits you better. The Sequence Dancers are a friendly crowd, Thursday evenings, they also have a few Sat'day social events through the year (one this month).

Oh, and we also have two **BADMINTON** groups on a similar quest, one on Weds afternoons, the other one is Monday evenings, the latter has traditionally been for Ladies (but does accept Gents, come on lads, don't be shy!) and they say they're to a "reasonable standard" – to me just hitting that feathered thing was 'reasonable'!

Plus -- **PARENTS** -- if your children might like to try **Irish Dancing** (think 'Riverdance' perhaps?) **Ashleigh** has her class on Tuesday (early) evening waiting for you? And Sabrina's **Karate class** ('DojangX' variety) has now expanded for more sessions, she has some just for kids, but ALSO a 'Family' class. Free trials I gather, for both. Ads on page 10 for both of those.

And another **NEW CLASS** :- **Beginner's YOGA**, had its first session as we go to print, **TUESDAY** evenings, just after that evening's Karate class (so about 8pm), and it's also run by Sabrina.

Plus we've now had the first few sessions of **KEEP FIT with FAYE**, (Fridays at 11am), they're aimed at the 'more mature' customer, so seated if you prefer, they're **just £6** per class and get great reviews (she runs them at several other local halls).

Sadly **Angela Godfrey** has had to step back from her role as one of our 'Distributor' team (takes the boxes from the printer, splits them out and delivers the agent 'packets' round the village).

GRATEFUL THANKS Angela for your time and efforts with the team. **AND WELCOME** to **Jenny Williams**, who swiftly volunteered (with family to help I gather!) to take over that role.

Now, anyone remembers that tricky **Xmas Quiz**? Margaret, the editor of that issue, tells me she had a pleasing number of entries, and that **Linda Semmens** got drawn out of the hat for a prize. Oh, and the answer was **2,495** apparently. Well done to anyone who got remotely close to that?!

I say 'tricky', as that thing crashed my abacus, something about trying to count up all the hens, rings, lords and all the rest through all the verses of that Xmas song. I got on to Microsoft, who said they didn't support that version these days, so I tried a 'reboot', and may have kicked it too hard?

Oxfordshire Youth Music Theatre
presents

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The Chronicle is printed on FSC certified paper, like many magazines. 'FSC' = 'Forest Stewardship Council', (<https://fsc.org/en> for more info), and they are aiming to maintain healthy resilient forests.

As this issue goes to print, the **Lime Close** 'open garden' has just had their first date of the year, part of the massive National Gardens Scheme (NGS) concept, which has run since 1928 (Sir Winston Churchill was one of the early participants).

See the website <https://ngs.org.uk> for more info, on there it details the almost £3.5 million raised for assorted good causes in 2023, with the lion's share going to a variety of as they put it "the UK's best-loved nursing & health charities".

People all round the country donate their time and efforts, plus gardens of course, into raising this impressive sum via entry fees, plus the essential tea & cakes!

Lime Close is next open on **April 21st**, (2pm to 5pm) it is a five acre garden with rare trees, shrubs, roses and bulbs, also mixed borders, raised beds, pergola, topiary and shade borders. The C16th house isn't open.

There's a cottage garden, planted for colour, an iris garden with 100 varieties, and an arboretum with rare exotic trees and shrubs from Asia and America.



County budget agreed

A budget for 2024/25 was set this week (Feb) at the annual budget setting meeting of all county councillors. Feedback from people across the county on the proposed budgets provided invaluable insight on priorities, which was used to inform decision making.

The new budget commits to more investment in social care, special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and highways, especially gully maintenance. In addition, reductions in air pollution and congestion, and support for bus use and active travel remain important parts of the plan.

Oxfordshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) survey - phase 1

Tell us your ambitions, priorities, and actions for Oxfordshire's wildlife and nature.

Within this **survey** you can tell us about your priorities for nature and biodiversity in Oxfordshire and any nature recovery actions that you are taking or that you think are urgent for people and organisations to take. See the website >>> <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/lnrs-phase1> or if you need the survey in an alternative format, or perhaps you have no internet, call the council's customer services team on **01865 816000** and we will work with you to meet your needs.

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An Accident Awaits?

Dear Editor, via email

Once again it would appear the residents of Drayton have been given secondary consideration by Building Firms regarding yet another Village Building Project. We have seen their 'cocking of the snoot' regarding Walnut Meadow and Dovecote and now we have the same where **Halls Close** is concerned.

Goodness only knows how the residents of that Close are coping with the daily upheaval that comes with new buildings going up in a confined environment (Halls Close is so narrow) but we now have the consequences of that confinement spilling out into High Street causing **massive chaos** at certain times of the day.

High Street in and around the Halls Close area has become a car park for all manner of builders vans, flat backs, cars and other assorted means of transport. Visibility, for those trying to get in or out of their driveway, is **badly impaired** and the lack of view both left and right at the junction with Church Lane is so bad it has become a **serious accident waiting to happen**.

The local Police have been informed on several occasions about this hazard but so far nothing seems to have been done to alleviate it.

Let us hope it doesn't have to take the unthinkable to get something done about the problem.

Concerned Village Residents
(Ed:- names & address supplied)

Neighbourhood News – we rarely hear now, since the Chronicle Agents don't need to sell tickets for the former Lottery game, of any folk moving in or out of the village. **But if you hear such news** (& the people are OK with it publicised of course!) then do please let us know!



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Philip and the Witch?!

Dear Editor, via email

I have fond memories of Mrs **Judy Henman** and her **puppets** regaling my classmates and I with stories of **Philip and the Witch** at Berinsfield school. This will have been in the late 90s/early 00s.

I would love to find somewhere that I can purchase these books to read to my own child. At the very least I would like to pass on my sincere thanks to Mrs Henman for providing me with such a lovely and lasting childhood memory. I believe that she lived in Drayton for a while so I am hoping this is the right place to search!

Thank you, Hayley Charles

[Ed's note:- we know that the Henmans are in the village – recently thanked by the football club for being such keen fans. BUT :- **can any readers help** with that request re the books??]

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Thames Water - Hidden Agenda?

Dear Editor, via email

Readers may have seen via 'local' TV news shows the reports of a concerted campaign by South Coast residents to refuse to pay **Southern Water's** bills, due to ongoing dumping of sewage into the sea (so, badly affecting any of the masochists down there who want to swim in it, or maybe surf - ?? – fish, etc).

We've heard that the odious Thames Water ('odious' near their chalk-stream and river dumping areas?!) have been struggling to find a buyer for the water that would be stored in the local reservoir, **should it ever get built**.

The last news was that any such water was destined for the Portsmouth area. SO – could it be so that Southern Water are intending to dilute their sewage outfall offerings to be a lighter shade of brown, with H2O from up here?!

Regards, P. Sternbroke

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Flooding and SESRO

Following on from last month's notes on just this topic, we've had yet more rain and more floods. Hopefully the floodwaters should have receded by the time you read this, **residents affected by flooding** can apply for government support directly:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-payments-for-communities-affected-by-flooding>

People can also call the Environment Agency's flooding hotline for advice and support **at any time, seven days a week, on 0345 988 1188.**

We've set up a route for distributing financial support for residents and businesses affected by the flooding from Storm Henk between 2 & 12 January this year (as there's now specific support made available for that event). Anyone who's already reported flooding to us or OCC (via the flood toolkit here:- www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/emergency/report-flood -- although if you did go via the flood toolkit, please email the Vale:- communityconnectors@southandvale.gov.uk as the OCC toolkit doesn't record contact details) will be contacted to let them know how to access available funds.

Further details:- <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/community-support/emergency-situations/flood-advice/flooding-financial-support/>.

Households will be eligible for a £500 **Community Recovery Grant** if their residence was deemed to have been impacted by Storm Henk between 2-12 January 2024 (i.e. the residence was flooded internally or was unliveable for a more than 48 hours). Further, you may get a 100% Council Tax discount for a minimum of 3 months if the criteria are met.

Businesses affected can get a **Business Recovery Grant** of up to £2,500 and 100% relief from business rates similarly – please check the website as above.

DEFRA will be administering a **Farming Recovery Fund**; details yet to be made available.

SESRO

This leads on, again, to the SESRO issue. I attended a briefing by Thames Water on their new flood modelling that, for the first time in 25 years, allegedly shows that the previous indications of significant flooding caused by the mega-reservoir could actually be mitigated.

The presentation kept emphasising that it was still very early and needed to be properly calibrated and more work was needed – **and admitted that actually groundwater flooding could be elevated by about 1 metre around the south and east of the reservoir**, but they'd "try to dig a channel for that".

There were a number of areas that looked eyebrow-raising:- very limited number of past "events", only one-point calibration, and a total disregard of Dam Break Analysis, a very serious issue, as it would be impossible to safely and rapidly empty the reservoir in case of a serious issue.

New Vale wards

As mentioned last month, the Local Government Boundary Commission are reviewing ward boundaries for the Vale. Last time, I forgot to mention that **our ward has no change proposed.**

They're holding a consultation until March 18th, and **YOU can have your say** at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/vale-white-horse>

Cost of Living

As the Cost of Living crisis hasn't gone away, I'm once again putting 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:-

01235 422600 or communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Website: whitehorsedc.gov.uk/costofliving

Office hours are 8.30am - 5pm Monday to Thursday, but 8.30am to 4.30pm on Fridays.

Recycling

The scores came in for how well the various Local Authorities around the country have done in recycling rates. Out of hundreds of Local Authorities, we had the third best recycling rate of all (my smug satisfaction was a little dented by the fact that our neighbours in South Oxfordshire came first of all, by a small fraction of a percentage point). **This is largely down to you, the residents**, so the **congratulations** should go to you.

Renewal of Waste Contract

Together with South Oxfordshire, we've just renewed our waste contract with Biffa for two years. It's a bit short-term, unfortunately, as we'd wanted to pursue a clear and new waste strategy over a ten year horizon, but Central Govt have dragged their heels on outlining the forthcoming changes in the waste industry stemming from the Environment Act 2021. A touch annoying, especially as that Act was passed over two years ago, but we play the cards we're dealt. The current (and now extended) contract has ended up with the two councils consistently near the top of the recycling tables, after all.

Proposed planning changes

Central Government have circulated some proposed upcoming changes to planning legislation (which is one of my long-term bugbears). Some of them look intriguing; I'll be interested to see if they actually follow through on them, or, as usually happens, dilute them to insignificance.

All the best,

Andy Cooke



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NB LOOK OUT for the BAPTIST CAFÉ with tea, coffee, cake & a chat! **Thursdays** 11.00 to 13.00, BUT – please NOTE it’s been relocated, to the Caudwell Day Centre, Gravel Lane.



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

He is presently Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing at the Department for Education

One of the most common questions I'm asked is :- **what is an MP's life like?**

In general **my week** is split Monday-Thursday in Parliament and Friday-Sunday back home in Didcot.

At the time of writing this, the last week kicked off with a team meeting at the Department for Education, followed by my weekly meeting with the team delivering our huge expansion of childcare, with the **first 15 hours of free childcare becoming available** for working parents from April. Alongside various other meetings, **Chilton County Primary School** came for a visit to Westminster, and it was great to meet them and take their questions.

Tuesday included meeting with **GARD** to discuss the next steps following me echoing their call for a public inquiry of the reservoir proposal in December; attending a networking event of charities and businesses involved in our **Disability Action Plan**; and responding for the Govt in a debate about **nursery provision** in the South West.

Just as MPs like myself have regular surgeries with constituents, so Ministers have regular sessions with MPs to discuss problems they're having locally in areas the Minister covers, and Wednesday kicked off with one of these. After attending PMQs, **I presented to Parliament my petition to reopen Grove Station**, which I'm grateful to the 2127 of you for signing. I met my Parliamentary team before taking another debate - this time on **special educational needs** - and several other meetings.

Last week was **National Apprenticeship Week** and on Thursday I visited **childcare apprentices** and then another **nursery**. To and from the visits I had calls with 10 local authorities and did some paperwork.

Then on Friday I began with a Q&A at **Didcot Sixth Form**, then met with Liane and Mark from **Active Future South Oxfordshire** and visited apprentices at **Williams Racing** in Grove. I had several surgery appointments, including meeting a local subpostmaster who contacted me after seeing the ITV '**Horizon scandal**' drama, having recognised that she'd suffered the same.

I met with **Niamh Dernie** from Wantage to discuss the next steps in her campaign against sexual harassment, and then had the pleasure of presenting Mikayla Beames from **Team Mikayla**, of which I am a proud patron, with her **Points of Light** award from the PM. Then I rounded off the day with my weekly visit to **Merv**, as part of my volunteering with the Didcot Good Neighbours Scheme.

Weekends are always a combination of door knocking, emails and paperwork for both MP and Minister roles and - when time permits - Liverpool games! I love the ability to make a difference in the job and the variety - as I always say to people, it's better to be very busy than bored.

As ever, PLEASE see the website for all the latest info, that's at >>>> www.david-johnston.org.uk

If you need to get in touch with our MP >>
email david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

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GARD

Thames Water finally **admit** that **building the Reservoir will cause groundwater levels to rise by 1 Metre without serious mitigation!** After more than 25 years of denying any effect of the Reservoir on the local groundwater, Thames Water have only just got round to performing preliminary calculations on the actual effect. As local people have long claimed, this shows a major **adverse impact** on the groundwater of the area. They have no proven solution to this effect of raising the water level by 1 metre, which as residents know, will leave large areas of villages like Hanney, Steventon, Drayton, and the surrounding area underwater for months every year, even without heavy rain!

At the time of writing (February 18th) the Secretary of State for DEFRA (Steve Barclay) has not made any decision on Thames Water's reservoir plans, or on GARD's call for a Public Inquiry (which we had made on December 20th). **So, there is still time** for you and our MPs to influence his decision.

If you sent your complaints to Thames Water in the consultation, and you feel that they have not answered your points, or you want to write against the new, larger, project, then **we urge you** to follow GARD's example and write to the Secretary of State and demand a **Public Inquiry**.

If you email **water.resources@defra.gov.uk**, label your email 'Public Inquiry into Thames Water's Water Resource Management Plan', and address your comments in the Email to Rt Hon Steve Barclay, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, then your comments will get through to Mr Barclay. You will be in good company (see below). **Don't forget** to copy to your MP. ➔➔



Walnut Meadows Sports Facilities Drop-In Event

Having recently taken ownership of the land, the Parish Council will be holding a drop-in event on **Saturday 9th March from 09:00 to 12:30 in the Village Hall** to share the proposed plans for the sports facilities at Walnut Meadows.

We will be sharing proposed plans for the Pavilion / MUGA and the estimated costs of the work. Come along and find out what is being proposed and ask questions of your Council representatives. This is your chance to give us your feedback on the proposals.

If you are unable to attend the event on 9th March, the documents are on the Parish Council website – use the QR code to access the page.

Alternatively, navigate to <https://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/drayton-parish-council/walnut-meadows>





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Support from MPs, Councils and other organisations for a Public Inquiry

The support for a Public Inquiry is growing. David Johnston MP (Wantage), Layla Moran MP (Oxford West and Abingdon), local County and District Councillor, Sally Povolotsky, the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council (Cllr Liz Leffman) and CPRE, the Countryside Charity, have all **followed GARD's lead** and written to Steve Barclay requesting him to call a **Public Inquiry** into Thames Water's plans.

Amongst the Parish Councils, Steventon have joined in the call. Oxfordshire Liberal Democrats, representing all LD Prospective Parliamentary Candidates and local councillors, have issued a Press Release calling for a Public Inquiry. All cite **unresolved issues** from Thames Water's consultation.

Of course, both the County Council and the Vale of White Horse have passed **unanimous council motions** re-affirming opposition to the Reservoir.

Layla Moran MP called a Westminster debate on Thames Water's terrible record in Oxfordshire, at which she cited all the problems with Thames Water's dumping of sewage into Oxfordshire streams and rivers, and spoke against the Reservoir proposal.

Details for contacting your MP

If your MP is David Johnston, Wantage (covering Grove, Steventon, East & West Hanney, East & West Hendred, Ardington, Drayton, Garford, Milton, & Sutton Courtenay) his email :- david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

If you live in **Abingdon**, you can support your MP Layla Moran's opposition :- layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk

Please copy:- gard.secretary@gmail.com into any correspondence, and see the website for developments <https://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk/>

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Reminder -- **The FODSA 2024 Drayton Village SCARECROW TRAIL** will run from April 1st to 12th, and this year has an 'Under the Sea' theme.

Please email draytonscarecrow@outlook.com by Friday **March 22nd** to register. It's FREE to enter.

Cod YOU enter? Clam your plaice. Come on, the (undersea) world's your oyster, and you'll have a whale of a time. Maybe an image of Salmon Cowell, Tuna Thurman or Mishell Pfeiffer would net the prize? Or a Harry Potter 'Squiditch' board?

19th Century? > **Martin Lewis** (Money Saving Expert) recently **had to apologise**, after describing a journey on East Midlands trains as "19th century". The train was jam-packed, people sitting and/or standing in the aisles, and just one working loo at one end. It was **pointed out to him** that trains of THAT era ran on time, had reasonable prices you could simply understand, passengers were **not** treated like livestock, and customer complaints **were** acted upon!



Richard Webber - Oxon CC

Housing

Apparently, the latest acronym for an extreme 'NIMBY' (Not in my back yard) is 'BANANA' (= Build absolutely nothing anywhere near anything).

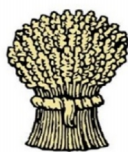
Wherever we are in the argument – everyone agrees we have a large and growing problem. **Since 2010, no less than 16 housing ministers have tried to address the problem with little success.**

The national shortage of housing has been a major issue for the UK for the past 50 + years. Of all post war governments, it was the MacMillan government (1957 – 1963) that managed to build the most houses. Since then, we are told we have been falling ever further behind. This has helped to push house prices to levels far beyond the reach of most young people. A few lucky ones have been able to rely on “the bank of Mum and Dad” or “help to buy” schemes; another minority have made use of “affordable” homes schemes; but most have been thrown on the mercy of a shrinking number of homes for social rent caused, at least in part, by “right to buy” schemes

In our part of “leafy, rural” Oxfordshire, the issue is most acute - and don't most of us know it? All political parties now accept that we must face and address the problem before it produces social unrest.

The uncomfortable and conflicting facts are that 1. There is growing concern that many of our villages are now separated by a single field. 2. As a major contributor to the national exchequer, there is enormous pressure for us to grow our local economy as rapidly as possible. 3. VWHDC has already taken more houses in the last 10 years than any other District in the UK. 4. We have a number of Brownfield sites which are often sited as suitable places for future housing. 4. Our road system is already suffering from congestion, and, at present, more road building seems to be the only solution on offer. 5. Leafy and rural we may be, but much of the space we do have is Area of Natural Beauty, Green Belt and Flood Plain.

It is hard to see a way out of this dilemma but there is one unavoidable conclusion. Any solution is going to involve some pain for all of us. It is vital that that pain is fairly shared between us all. Local Councils and Govt are going to have to work together in a way they have failed to do for many years.



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Flooding

Living in Drayton, it is easy to forget that **Oday Hill**, in all its 30ft majesty **protects the village** from the worst of the recent local flooding. Given the dire forecasts of ever more frequent and extreme flooding events, this protection may not last for long. However, at present, it seems that only a small number of Drayton homes built centuries ago are affected.

Spare a thought for our neighbours in Steventon, Milton and Sutton Courtenay. Milton village (with many older homes) was particularly badly affected by the recent flooding. Some of the roads in Milton were like rivers.

Solutions fall into two categories – first, immediate actions by councils, the EA and local residents* and secondly longer term solutions (most of which involve more money from central government) and changes in planning policy.**

* Some drivers determined to challenge the floods and driving too fast resulted in abandoned cars and more water entering already part-flooded homes.

** The almost complete Sutton Courtenay Neighbourhood Plan has been told by an Inspector that **it cannot restrict the road between Drayton and Sutton Courtenay from further development** because there is already much development on the South side of the road. By implication, development on the North side of the road might happen in the future. For those that know that road, it was up to four feet under water in the recent flood.

I don't believe I am behaving as a NIMBY – still less a BANANA – when I say this seems like Planning gone mad.

Richard Webber

If you have feelings on any County issues you would like me to hear, please contact me:- 07546 571521 or email richardwebber777@gmail.com

Richard Webber

(OCC Cllr, Sutton Courtenay & Marcham Division)



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Light-Hearted Moment

Some readers may have seen the news report (Jan) which described how a maintenance car had crashed into a jet at Sydney Airport (could have happened anywhere, this isn't attacking Aussie drivers!).

I wondered what the **Claim Form** might have said, or the report perhaps for management ("well, this plane just came out of nowhere, though it wasn't actually moving")?

And then I remembered the stand-up routines of **Jasper Carrott**, back in the day, which often partly featured **real-life insurance claims** ('more mature' readers may well recall them). Here are a few samples:-

An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished. As I approached a junction a sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before.

Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I haven't got.

Going to work at 7am this morning I drove out of my drive straight into a bus. The bus was 5 minutes early.

I am responsible for the accident as I was miles away at the time. I am sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.

I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way

I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.

I had one eye on a parked car, another on approaching lorries, and another on the woman behind.

I knew the dog was possessive about the car but I would not have asked her to drive it if I had thought there was any risk.

I knocked over a man. He admitted it was his fault as he had been run over before.

I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.

I pulled into a lay-by with smoke coming from under the bonnet, I realised the car was on fire so took my dog & smothered it with a blanket.

I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced old gentleman as he bounced off the roof of my car.

I started to slow down but the traffic was more stationary than I thought. I thought the side window was down but it was up, as I found when I put my head through it.

I was going at about 70 or 80 mph when my girlfriend on the pillion reached over and grabbed my testicles so I lost control.

I was on the way to the doctor with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.

I was sure the old fellow would never make it to the other side of the road when I struck him.

If the other driver had stopped a few yards behind himself the accident would not have happened.

In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.

Q: Could either driver have done anything to avoid the accident? A: Travelled by bus?

The accident occurred when I was attempting to bring my car out of a skid by steering it into the other vehicle.

The accident was caused by me waving to the man I hit last week. The bloke was all over the road, I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.

The car in front hit the pedestrian but he got up so I hit him again.

The car in front of me stopped for a yellow light, so I had no choice but to hit him (She pushed him through the crossroads).

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→> The gentleman behind me struck me on the backside. He then went to rest in a bush with just his rear end showing.

The pedestrian had no idea which way to run so I ran over him; (and) The pedestrian ran for the pavement, but I got him.

The claimant had collided with a cow. The questions and answers on the claim form were:-

Q: What warning was given by you? A: Horn.

Q: What warning was given by the other party? A: Moo.

[SO >> [Be CAREFUL](#) out there?!]

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Down the Years



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

In **2014**, **Pharrell Williams** was at #1 for quite some time with 'Happy' – the first for over 50 years to return to #1 more than once! LATER that year, **Meghan Trainor's** 'All About That Bass' became the first to reach the top-40 on 'streaming' sales alone.

Go back **20 years** & **Peter Andre** was at #1 with 'Mysterious Girl' (presumably not Katie Price?!), and **Britney Spears** followed him with 'Toxic', which could perhaps apply to Katie or as we now know a premonition of the 'conservator' case with her dad ?

Back to **1994** – **Mariah Carey** had just been 'Without You', and **Take That** were soon to be #1 ('Everything Changes').

40 years ago (is it REALLY so long?!) and we'd seen **Van Halen** ('Jump') & **Queen** ('Radio Gaga') just off the #1 spot, also **Bananarama** (their slightly goofy 'Robert De Niro's Waiting'). But #1 this month was **Lionel Richie** and the evocative 'Hello'.

FIFTY years ago (for real old-timers), we'd just had **Suzi Quattro's** bouncy 'Devil Gate Drive' at #1, holding off **Charlie Rich's** so-smooth 'The Most Beautiful Girl' – but this month had **Terry Jacks** at #1 with 'Seasons in the Sun', edging out **Mud's** 'The Cat Crept In!'

AND – down at the Brighton Dome, rehearsals were in full swing for **Eurovision**, which would shortly see the musical tidal wave of **ABBA** launch themselves into the public's knowledge with '**Waterloo**', surely high on the list of the most memorable contest winners?!

Anyone recall **1964**?! Let me help:- this was a terrific few months, we'd just had both the wonderful **Cilla Black** ('Anyone Who Had a Heart') and **Billy J Kramer** (plus the **Dakotas!**) with 'Little Children' at #1. In March itself, **Peter & Gordon** hit #1 ('World Without Love'), followed by **The Beatles** and 'Can't Buy Me Love' (the first hit to be #1 here and in the USA at the same time).

They pushed down to #2 both **Millie** ('My Boy Lollipop'), and the **Bachelors** ('I Believe'), with soon to be #1 both the **Searchers** (another great group of that era - 'Don't Throw Your Love Away'), and **Roy Orbison** ('It's Over').

Just a very few people may remember **1954** from the mists of time?! Just about to be #1 were **Doris Day** and her 'Secret Love', also **Johnnie Ray** with 'Such A Night'.

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This month in 2014 Sadly, **Malaysia Airlines flight 370** disappeared over the Gulf of Thailand, and Russia annexed the **Crimea**, with a muted response from the West. Future EU President Ursula von der Leyen had said "we can talk with Putin" (THAT aged well?!).

Sadly, we lost **James Ellis** (Z Cars fame), also **Tony Wedgwood Benn**, and actress **Kate O'Mara**.

TWENTY years ago a chap called Mark Zuckerberg had just launched '**The Facebook**' – did he realise what he was starting?! **Bradley Walsh** was joining **Corrie** (whatever happened to him then?!) and **Christopher Eccleston** was announced as the next Doctor Who. Sadly, we lost the incredible, multi-talented **Sir Peter Ustinov**, and **Alistair Cooke** (who'd broadcast BBC Radio's Letter from America since 1946).

This month in 1994 the **Church of England** first ordained female priests, and **Nelson Mandela** was busy campaigning for the South African Presidency, becoming their first democratically elected President. And the finishing touches were being applied to the **Channel Tunnel**, which would open for HGV 'shuttles' in May.

Justin Bieber was born, also **Katie Archibald**, hopefully she can win some more cycling medals at the Paris Olympics! And sadly we lost actor **John Candy**, much-loved TV presenter **Jack Hargreaves**, entertainer **Donald Swann** (half of Flanders & Swann), and actress **Mai Zetterling**.

FORTY years ago the **Miners' Strike** began, as a protest against the Thatcher reforms of nationalised industries (closing most mines on the way), and **Chatham Dockyard** closed – after 400 years of service (since Henry 8th). We lost **Arnold Ridley** (Dad's Army), and were very soon to lose comedy icon **Tommy Cooper**, on stage in a live TV show (apparently his famous Fez was borrowed from an Egyptian waiter in a wartime show for troops!).

This month in 1974 – a number of **Richard Nixon's** former aides were indicted by a Washington Grand Jury, (re the 'Watergate' scandal) leading to his resignation later that year. In China, the **Terracotta Army** was discovered. And in London, there was a failed kidnap attempt on **Princess Anne** and then-husband (Capt) Mark Phillips.

More Notices & Other Local Churches

Catholic Churches – Didcot (English Martyrs)
- Abingdon (Our Lady & St Edmund)

Bridge Players?? Alternate Fridays (1st & 3rd) at All Saints (Sutton Courtenay) from 2pm to 5pm, £5 (includes tea & cake!)
All Welcome.

Abingdon LIBRARY has masses more events than you might expect from a mere library!
See their full list at <https://www.facebook.com/AbingdonLibrary>
But **DO SEE** their ex-stock **Book Sales**, last Friday & Saturday of each month

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Contact Deborah for any further information on 07939023983



Milton Methodist Church News

Services start at 10.30am, and last about an hour.

We are always pleased to welcome visitors.

(for those unaware, the Church is on Milton High St, a few doors down from School Lane, parking on site)

Knit and Natter, 4th Tuesday of the month:-

Sessions run from 10am - 12 noon cost £2 including refreshments (& wool as available). Come and join us if you enjoy knitting and/or nattering! **(01235 763321)**

Lunch Club (First Tuesday), 12.30pm

Art Group 2 to 4pm, Fridays

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VALE of WH District Council

If you feel you need any help, PLEASE don't hesitate to contact our Community Hub -- details are on [page 11](#).

YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

Parish (Clerk) Dianne Rickaby (clerk@draytonpc.org)
District (VofWH) Andy Cooke (07507 602911)
& Oxfordshire County richardwebber777@gmail.com

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LISTINGS

Jewellery Valuation Drayton Village Hall, Tuesday **March 5th** (1pm to about 4pm). Lee is back again after successful recent visits, look out for house leaflets and F'book ads.

MATRIX Arts Centre (Sutton Courtenay) Music taster lessons & parent info sessions, for 2 to 7 year olds on **Sunday March 10th**. For more info, and to **BOOK your places** see >> www.matrixartscentre.org.uk

The Abbey Cinema (Abingdon) has lots of forthcoming films, **Wicked Little Letters**, **Oppenheimer**, & **Dune: Part Two**, & for art lovers 'Painting the Modern Gardern, Monet to Matisse'. See <https://theabbey.ac/> or call **01235 616000** for more info re dates and times. Maybe add on a Panini, an ice cream sundae, or one of their indulgent milkshakes for an extra treat?!

Antiques Fair - In the Village Hall - **Sunday March 3rd** (& April 14th too) from 9am (to about 3pm). Varied stalls, just £1 entry, and the chance of an ace bacon sarnie, toasties, etc!

The Oxford Vaccine Group, and the Jenner Institute, are frequently looking for volunteers to test new vaccines, you need to be 18 to 55, and they usually pay for your time (sometimes very well, as at present!). <https://trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/trials/>

The ART of British War Comics A new exhibition showing the history of such comics (goes back 130 years!) with some rare & original artwork. In partnership with REBELLION Publishing (Oxford) a major publisher of such titles (& Roy of the Rovers!). **Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum**, Park Street, Woodstock, it runs to **April 30th**. Open Tues to Sat, 11am to 5pm, Sundays 2 to 5pm, see www.sofa.org.uk

Unicorn Theatre - Farce! The Magistrate, a Victorian play by Arthur Wing Pinero, **March 20th to 23rd**. Tickets £12 from the excellent Abingdon Bookshop, or online. It's a show that's been revived many times in the West End, filmed too.

And the FoDSA SCARECROW TRAIL is back at the start of April, 'Under the Sea' theme, FREE to enter, but register by **March 22nd** PLEASE. More clues on page 14.

ABBEY QUILTERS - for your diary, this one in **April**, weekend of **20th & 21st** - In **Drayton Village Hall** - the very popular occasional **Quilting exhibitions** are transferring from their previous Ab'don venue. More info in the April issue!

Amey Theatre - Abingdon School >> **ANYTHING GOES**, a rip-roaring musical show by Oxfordshire Youth Music Theatre (originally Cole Porter), **March 28th to 30th** (plus matinee on Sat 30th). See their notice in this issue.

Air-crash Memorial Ceremony - Sutton Wick Lane - **Sunday March 10th** approx 10.45am.

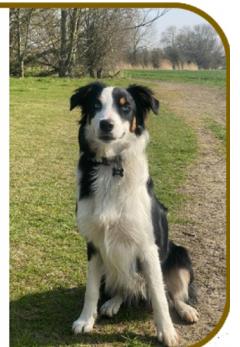
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(Mostly) Hall Diary for March

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 >>>)

Sun	3	9.00am	ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm)
Tues	5	1.00pm	Jewellery VALUATION
Sat	9	10.00am	Private Function (Main Hall)
		9.00am	Walnut Meadows 'drop-in' - Small Hall
		6.00pm	Private Function (Main Hall)
Sun	10	10.45am	Air-crash Memorial Service (S-Wick)
Tues	12	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting (Caudwell DC)
Sat	16	9.00am	Private Function (all day)
Mon	18	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline
Sat	23	9.00am	Private Function (dog show)
Tues	26	7.00pm	Annual PARISH Meeting (Caudwell DC)



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'Regular Events' - IF an error, DO PLEASE tell us!

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 4 pm) *Caudwell Day Centre*
- 2.30 pm Tuesday Connect (back to 1st Tuesday!) *Church*
- 5.30 pm Irish Dancing (Ashleigh - 07375 878445)
- 7.00 pm Karate/'Dojang X' session (Sabrina 07938 537310)
- 8.00 pm Beginner's YOGA (ditto)

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

- 11.00 am (NEW) Keep Fit with FAYE (07815 583591)
- 4.15 pm Karate/'Dojang X' sessions, see ad (07938 537310)

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*

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