

DRAYTON CHRONICLE



Chronicle Information



The next Drayton Chronicle will be the November issue, edited by Vicky Billingham, editor@draytonchronicle.net
Key dates for next Chronicles:

| Issue: | Deadline for Contributions: | | Printed Chronicles available on: |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Adverts | Editor | |
| November | 17 th October | 20 th October | 31 st October |
| December | 14 th November | 17 th November | 28 th November |

Notes for Contributors

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

Please send your contributions by email to: editor@draytonchronicle.net

Advertisement requests should be sent to: advertising@draytonchronicle.net

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

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

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

| Advertiser Category | 1 insert | 3 inserts | 6 inserts | 12 inserts |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Drayton Resident | £7 | £19 | £36 | £70 |
| Non-Drayton Resident | £8 | £22 | £43 | £83 |

Double-sized adverts (approx. 9cm X 9cm) are charged at twice the above rates. All advertising **MUST** be paid for in advance, either electronically, in cash or by 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 advertising manager (advertising@draytonchronicle.net), or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please phone Stephen on 01235 531347. Note: deadline for ads is the Friday before the deadline for contributions (see top of page).

DISCLAIMER: This Journal is published in good faith and great care is taken in its completion. The organisers of the DRAYTON CHRONICLE, and its Agents, therefore accept no responsibility for OPINIONS EXPRESSED, nor for the validity of any ADVERTISEMENT, nor for any EFFECTS ARISING WHATSOEVER.

BIBLE FOR BEGINNERS COURSE

For everyone - those who hardly know the Bible at all and those who would like to know it better

with

CLIPS FROM 'THE CHOSEN'

the award winning Biblical historical drama series based on the life of Jesus as seen through the eyes of those who knew him

6 fortnightly standalone sessions on the #1 best seller of all time

Session Dates

Wednesdays at 7.30-8.45pm

17th September (with repeat session on 24th)
1st, 15th & 29th October & 12th & 26th November

Plus Thursday mornings at 10.30am
25th September, 9th October & 13th November

St Peter's Church Room, Drayton

All are welcome to hear and see the life-changing words of Jesus.

Each session is stand-alone, so it doesn't matter if you miss some or can only come for one or two

Rev Ann Templeman
5 Newman Lane

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

Look out for the Baptist Café with tea, coffee, cake and a chat – Thursdays 11.00am – 1pm in the Caudwell Day Centre.

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton
Sunday Service: 10.30 am
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409



Get Planting Bulbs

October is a good time for planting bulbs such as daffodils, crocus, hyacinths, alliums, and fritillaries, as the soil is still warm enough for the bulbs to establish roots before the first hard frosts. Planting bulbs in autumn allows them to produce roots before winter, making them more resilient to cold and ensuring a burst of colour in the spring.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON



| | | |
|---------------|---------------------|--|
| Rector | Revd Helen Kendrick | rector@damascusparish.org.uk |
| Administrator | Alison Bampton | admin@damascusparish.org 01235 847179 |

The church is open daily, **Sun-Sat 10.00 am- 4.00 pm.**
From Sunday October 26th, Church will close at 3pm
(Nb all information is correct at time of going to press)

REGULAR SERVICES:

- Sunday 8.00 am** Holy Communion with Healing Prayer (BCP 3rd Sunday of the month only)
- Sunday 9.30 am** Regular Sunday Service:
 1st Sunday **Holy Communion**
 2nd Sunday **Family Service***
 3rd Sunday **Holy Communion with Healing Prayer**
 4th Sunday **Morning Praise**
- Thursday 9.45 am** Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Thursdays), or Celtic Morning Prayer (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Everyone is warmly invited to join us.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES:

Knit and Natter - all are welcome for our Knit and Natter on the **first Monday** of the month, 2 – 4 pm. No need to be a knitter if you'd just like a natter!

Bellringing Practice
 Every Monday evening 7:30pm

First Tuesday Connections - all welcome for a cuppa & chat, 2.30 - 4.00 pm

Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group
Wednesday mornings 10.00 am – 11.30 am (term-time only)
 If you have a baby or toddler, you would be so welcome to join us. We meet in Church. For more information, please contact Katy or Cheryl draytonpebbles@hotmail.com

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

24th August

Frankie Andrew Kinnaird

ST PETER'S LETTER

From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team...

Dear Friends,

In October we celebrate Harvest Festival. This is a wonderful time to give thanks to God for both the food that has been produced for us to eat and to those who have worked so hard to grow and gather it.

It is also a time to remember how blessed we are that we live in a place where food is plentiful, although it is not necessarily affordable for everyone. This is why at all our Harvest Festival services we are collecting items to donate to the local foodbank (see Harvest Festival poster for more details). If you would like to support this, please either join us for our Harvest Festival service or bring donations to the church at another time.

In the Gospel of John in the New Testament, Jesus says 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry'. This reminds us that while food is important, it is not all that we need to live a happy and healthy life. These words spoken by Jesus are so powerful because it is an offer like no other. It is giving us the opportunity to trust in the love God has for each of us so that as we go through life, we can be assured that God is with us no matter what we are dealing with. This is because life with Jesus provides us with a spiritual feast that will last for eternity. Sometimes this can be tricky to accept, but it is an offer that is available to everyone.

If you would like to explore this or any other questions of faith, please contact me or another member of the Ministry Team (see contact details on the church page) or come along to a service.

With prayers and best wishes,

Reverend Dov Whittle

 Follow us on Facebook for online updates about services and events!

Search:

St Peter's Church, Drayton, Abingdon
 or scan the QR code below:



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

YOU STAY, WE PRAY (OCTOBER 2025)

| | |
|---|--|
| 28 th Sept – 4 th Oct | Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Dr; Abbot Crescent |
| 5 th – 11 th October | Chestnut Dr; Holly Lane; Walnut Way; Willow Way |
| 12 th – 18 th October | Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End; Lamma Land; Virgate; Fallowfield Close |
| 19 th – 25 th October | Lockway |
| 26 th – 31 st October | Whitehorns Way |

HALLS GARAGE

Established 60 years – Servicing and repairs

- MOTs
 - Batteries
 - Diagnostic Facilities
 - Vehicle Collection Service
 - All Makes and Models
- (Milton Park, Drayton, Steventon, Culham,
Appleford, Sutton Courtenay)

mothallsgarage@gmail.com

Open 06:30 to 18:00 Mon-Fri

The High Street, Sutton Courtenay, ABINGDON, OX14 4AH
Tel: 01235 848236 • Mobile 07767165072

K. L. YATES BUILDERS

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING SERVICES

Extensions and Alterations

Property Maintenance

Kitchens and Bathrooms

Carpentry and Tiling



Call **RICHARD** for an estimate on

01235 531275 or mobile 07788 738248

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

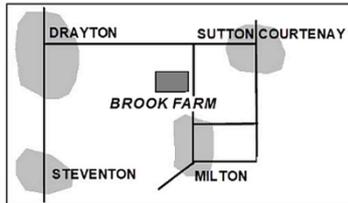


Brook
Farm

Brook Farm, Milton Road
OX14 4EZ

OPENING HOURS

Mon to Sat - 9.00am to 1.00pm Except Friday 9.00am to 6.00pm
FREE RANGE EGGS, & POTATOES (if available)



Local Dog Walking

I will walk and feed your dog
while you are out

DBS checked and fully insured
Instagram: pawsome_walkiesx

E: pawsomewalkies5@gmail.com

Phone: 07493830191



Electrical Problems? Call

ROBERTS ELECTRICAL



Domestic • Commercial • Industrial

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

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

Office: 01235 528800 Mobile: 07786 930463

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

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS

EVERLAST ROOFING SERVICES

New Roofs • All Flat Roofs • Tiling & Slating
Demossing Chimney • Repairs & Pointing
Facias & Guttering • All Repairs • 24/7 Call Out

No job too small

01235 612576 **Checkatrade** 07553 911258

quote@everlastroofingservices.co.uk

Martin Hudson Flooring

Hudsonmartin@hotmail.co.uk | 07590192298

Martin Hudson

Floor Layer

Carpet, Vinyl, Lino & Luxury Vinyl Tiles



Tonks Brothers Funeral Directors

Abingdon & Kennington

158 Ock Street, Abingdon. OX14 5DT

Tel:01235 539444

197 Kennington Road, Kennington. OX1 5PG

Tel 01865 736144

www.tonksbrothers.com

'Proud to be a family business'

GROUP AGAINST RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT (GARD)

News Update for October 2025



What can you do?

JOIN GARD and HELP with fundraising. With the latest developments (including reservoir costs spiralling to over **£7 billion**), GARD must campaign hard now, researching and planning to contest the Development Consent Order.

ACTION: Please assist us with money to do this. Just as one example, to commission a report from our consultant on Thames Water's submission to the **Regulators' Alliance for Pipeline and Infrastructure Development (RAPID)** (delivered August 15th, in which the cost increases were revealed) will cost us £10,000. Please go to our website to donate: Group Against Reservoir Development | GARD

ACTION: Write to your MP and your Councillors, and to the **new DEFRA Secretary of State Emma Reynolds** emma.reynolds.mp@parliament.uk The Leader of the Vale of White Horse District Council has issued a statement opposing the planned reservoir, shocked at the cost rise. Oxfordshire County Council is in supportive talks with GARD. Our District Councillor Sally Povolotsky has issued a statement. We are encouraging all Parish Councils to voice their opposition – or even better – to join forces to voice their collective opposition. Details and emails are on our website: Group Against Reservoir Development | GARD

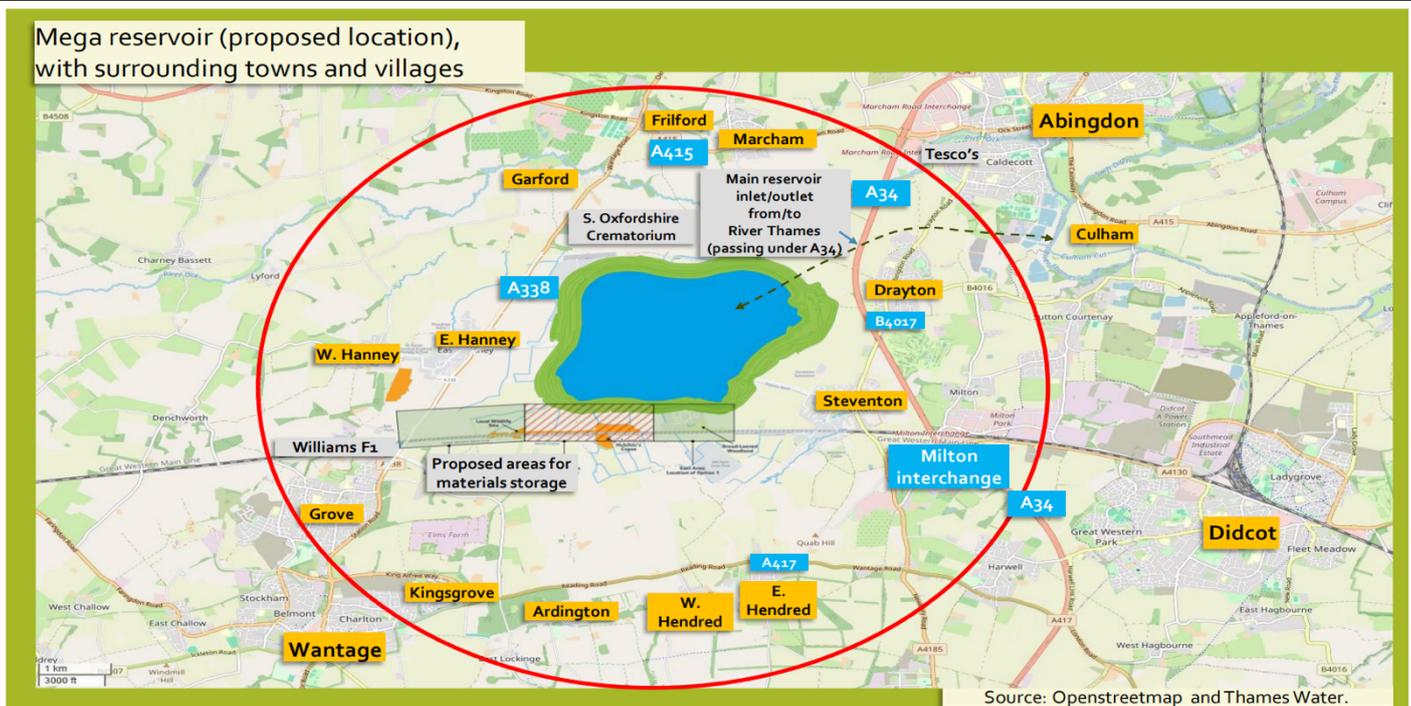
What is GARD doing?

RAPID: GARD is replying to the latest Thames Water submission - the RAPID Gate 3 consultation - about the mega-reservoir. Thames Water revealed the huge rise in costs here. Councils are also replying to this. *The full 70-page document can be found here:* <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/media-library/mei3tda/gate-3-submission-for-south-east-strategic-reservoir-options.pdf>

DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER: the Consultation on Thames Water's application for a DCO will be published soon. Individuals can reply to this consultation and GARD will publish details once they are known (see website).

CAMPAIGNING: new directions for the campaign are emerging.

Derek Stork October 2025



- **A 150 billion litre (150 Million cubic metre) embanked ('bunded' reservoir)**
- **Water area 4 square miles (size of Gatwick Airport) – construction site 7 square miles.**

LETTER FROM WESTMINSTER



Dear all

After a short holiday at the end of summer, Parliament started sitting on 1st September with a very busy first few weeks for myself and my team.

At Prime Minister's Questions, I challenged Keir Starmer on the government's decisions to scrap the UK Space Agency - based at Harwell - as an executive body and make it part of a government department. With so many local businesses relying on the Space Sector, I will be keeping an eye on how this change impacts funding and governance.

In other debates at Westminster, I raised local concerns about vehicles parking on pavements, and spoke about car-sharing schemes in rural areas. I also had the pleasure of hosting local teenager, Mikayla, whose charity supports children being treated in hospitals across the UK. My first appearance on ITV's The Last Word gave me the opportunity to talk about the government's cabinet reshuffle and how that impacts on our constituency – for example, I had arranged for the Minister for Future of Roads to join a Bikeability session at a school in Wantage, but that Minister is no longer in post.



At a Palestine Solidarity Campaign lobby event, I met with constituents opposing the selling of arms to Israel. Engaging with my constituents on Palestine is vital, and I remain committed to ensuring that their voices are heard in Parliament. Alongside my Liberal Democrat colleagues, I will continue to urge the Government to take action to bring an end to this devastating situation.

Back in the constituency as well as holding regular surgeries for constituents, I visited the RWE Combined-cycle gas and steam turbine power plant at Milton Park, met with County Council officers to discuss poor broadband coverage in our villages, attended the Wilding and Andrew Service in Wallingford to remember the Canadian servicemen who gave their lives to save the town in 1944, and I met with Post Office staff in Didcot to discuss their challenges and changes to the services they provide.



Mikayla with Olly
Team Mikayla is a
Charity Gifting to
Children Fighting
Cancer

It has been a busy month. As always, if there is anything you feel I can help you with, please do not hesitate to contact me and my team at olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk, or by leaving a voice message on 0207 219 7657.

For more regular updates you can follow me on Bluesky: [@ollyglover.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/ollyglover.bsky.social) and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OllyGloverLD/>

Best wishes,
Olly
Olly Glover MP



Thames Valley Farmers' Markets

The Thames Valley Farmers' Market visits Abingdon Market Place on the third Friday of each month. This friendly market gives shoppers the opportunity to sample and buy fresh produce from the local area while meeting local farmers, growers and producers. TVFM is a co-operative, run for and by traders who feel passionately about bringing quality local produce to local markets. Shoppers enjoy the chance to speak to growers and producers at their stalls. All the traders are inspected and accredited (the 'FARMA' scheme), so are guaranteed to be genuine producers; ask them about their products and they will know exactly where and how the food on sale was produced.

The markets are open from 8.30am to 1.30pm, slightly shorter than the town's Monday market which also has fresh produce. Come and enjoy!

Abingdon Farmers' Market Dates for the rest of 2025:

17th October, 21st November, 19th December



COUNTY COUNCIL UPDATE REPORT



Dear all

Reservoir

Now that the weather has changed, and another record-breaking summer is over, it is with incredulity that I think some people and politicians are still denying climate change and actions to mitigate it. Locally, we have the new 'SESRO' mega-reservoir behind Drayton and Steventon, intended to meet rising water demand in the face of increasingly severe drought / flood annual cycles. Whilst I applaud the notion, I have deep reservations about the strategy as it stands, and along with some local experts and motivated councillors, have been pushing Thames Water for better outcomes. The latest plans out this summer have doubled the cost estimate to £5.5-7.5 billion. Mega-projects like HS2 often over-run massively and end up failing badly on their original business case supporting their construction. I fear the same may be true for SESRO. Based on earlier analysis, it would now be more cost-effective to build the 'STT' transfer pipe transferring water from the River Severn (and the rainier Wales and the West Country) to the Thames for the drier Southeast. Let's see. What I have said to Thames Water and our expert hydrologists and inspectors examining the plans, is that any reservoir must improve and not make worse flooding for our area. In full, Thames Water should:

1. reforecast water shortfall given latest data on efficiency improvements, population demand and climate
2. include commitments to latest environmental best practice on water recycling, grey water usage and other beneficial innovations in their plans
3. commit to improvements in holding back flood water and reducing flooding in their plans
4. include all local gravel pits and forecast new pits as a usable source of water in their plans
5. provide a cost/benefit comparison between a right-sized reservoir and other significant options including the Seven Thames transfer option
6. allow independent third-party experts to check and test the results
7. work with the Government to hold an open public review that enables full scrutiny of all the points above and guarantees any concluding decision will be made using clear criteria, that include least public cost, least public and environmental disruption, least carbon footprint, least operational cost, lowest water bills, least disaster risk, and greatest environmental resilience

Other big projects coming our way: roads, rail and cycle routes

The new road link between Culham, Didcot and Milton with the new bridge over the River Thames has been approved and is now in detailed planning. Construction is due to start next year. This should alleviate a lot of local congestion issues like at Sutton Courtenay bridge, which is great, but it is unwelcomely close to Appleford.

To help Appleford, I am working to get more trains and better access to the train station to allow quick access to Culham, Didcot and beyond, particularly while construction occurs, and hopefully with better ongoing services as a lasting legacy.

I am also working to improve the cycle routes from Appleford through to Sutton Courtenay, then linking Peep'o'Day Lane from Abingdon through to Milton Park and onto Steventon, working with local landowners on all these. FCC have already improved many paths this year and we have started a joint project to sort out Hobby Horse Lane at long last.

Inward investment

Our area has attracted a lot of inward investment attention which is positive. Derelict land will be revitalised with data centres fuelling our digital future. One battery storage farm has been approved and a second is in application, along with a big solar farm on old landfill in the wings and more likely to come to leverage the national grid connection at Didcot Power Station and eventually replace that fossil fuel plant with clean local energy. The county council have agreed to treat the area as a special case study for the new Local Area Energy Plan which should develop a cohesive strategy for the area rather than rag-tag me-too development. We are lucky enough to have both nuclear fusion and quantum computing research at Milton – putting us at the heart of the Science Vale – which should provide legacy benefits for our communities, including better connectivity.

I have asked the landowners along with the County to update their long-term restoration plans accordingly to ensure these brownfield hinterlands will be made attractive and include pleasant walks and leisure opportunities.

I have also asked Milton Park to identify some land for additional allotments to Milton – helping local people grow local food – and am hopeful this will come to fruition.

This autumn work will start on improving the road layout linking Milton Heights to Steventon and Milton. I hope this is the first of a series of improvements.

One ongoing bug-bear is the Steventon Bridge, and I am starting to pick up that gauntlet to restore two-way traffic and provide a better HGV solution.

Driving around after the summer, I have noticed that the majority of potholes have now been repaired, which is good, although many will re-appear over the winter unfortunately in this never-ending cycle – I know people are looking at technological improvements to make our roads more resilient to our weather and much heavier traffic loads, like those in France and elsewhere that we admire.

Local Government Reform

Moving beyond our area, the local government reform is continuing with three options highlighted. Three options existing are: one council at county level, a new Ridgeway Council combined with West Berkshire, and a third hybrid model with Oxford City treated differently. Final plans will be submitted in November and I will keep you posted. The restructure should not impact public services, and probably won't impact local democracy much, as the direction seems to be more centralising than devolving, but they may save some costs.

Pension Investments

Lastly, as Chair of the Pension Committee, I have been lobbied extensively to divest funds from investments supporting the atrocities in Gaza and the West Bank. The law is unclear, but I am doing what I can to extricate ourselves from any involvement in that awful situation, and I am hopeful that today's genocide ruling by the UN will aid divestment from contentious activities into better locally beneficial areas. I have already managed to re-allocate £50m into funding local affordable and social housing – and our intention is to invest into all the great local Oxfordshire opportunities around us rather than dubious multi-nationals. We know our area and its opportunities, and many are great, so if we can make an investment case that meets our fiduciary responsibilities, then our plan is to do more.

Enjoy Autumn, and I will update further next month

All the best,
Peter

Councillor Peter Stevens, Sutton Courtenay & Marcham
Peter.Stevens@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Matthew Barber
Your voice in Thames Valley

Matthew Barber is Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, working with the police to help drive down crime locally.

JOIN THE WHATSAPP COMMUNITY



STAY IN TOUCH
matthewbarber.co.uk
@matthewbarberpcc
@matthew_barber

Promoted by Matthew Barber on his own behalf, of Waterloo House, 58-60 High Street, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX28 6HJ

It is promising to see that rural crime continues to fall across Thames Valley, demonstrating the work done by our Community Safety Partnerships, Thames Valley Police, the National Farmers' Union and farmers. In particular, we have seen a 36% decrease (in the first quarter of 2025 compared to last year) across West Oxfordshire, South Oxfordshire, and the Vale of White Horse.

You may have seen recent reports in the media around shoplifting, following my comments made at the Police and Crime Panel in June. As I said in my original comments, I am not expecting anyone to put themselves in harm's way, but this is about being aware and as a minimum reporting shoplifting to the police.

I have made tackling shoplifting a priority for Thames Valley Police which has resulted in more criminals being charged, more patrols being visible, easier sharing of evidence from stores, more support for retailers and a focus on the most prolific offenders.

I encourage retailers, shop workers and the shoppers to report crime so the police can act. It's their job to investigate and fight crime, including shoplifting. But we all play a part in building a safer community – at the very least reporting crime we see, rather than accepting it.

Matthew Barber
Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley
matthewbarber.co.uk



The Red Lion



NOW SERVING FOOD DAILY

Kitchen Hours
MON - FRI 12 - 2 & 5 - 8 SAT 12 - 8 SUN 2 - 4
CLOSED TUESDAYS

Deborah and her team welcome you to come down and enjoy the summer in the large garden enjoy delicious food from traditional pub meals to pizza or dirty fries.

Live music is on a regular basis. Please keep an eye on the socials for upcoming events.
Watch all the sky sports up to 3 different games at any one time.







ABINGDON FELT ROOFING

TEL: 01235 239631

flat roofing specialists. tile repairs. Fascias, moss removal, guttering, leadwork, felt roofs. 10,15,20, year guarantees supplied with all roofing works
GET IN CONTACT FOR YOUR FREE QUOTATION
TEL: 01235 239631
EMAIL: abingdonfeltroofing@outlook.com
Web: Abingdonfeltroofing.co.uk

Proud members of



Where reputation matters



LA FONTANA
Italian Restaurant & Accommodation

Authentic Italian restaurant with a covered garden terrace & licensed Wedding venue

Opening times

Friday and Saturday 5.30pm last orders 8.30pm
Private function on request
Wakes from 10 am Monday - Saturdays

Website www.La-Fontana.co.uk
Telephone 01235 868287



Local reliable compassionate care - Right at Home

- Choose Vine Living!
- Flexible care plans
- Support that's truly yours
- Short term help
- Long term care
- Hospital to Home Service
- Respect and Consistency
- Skilled Caring staff
- Hand picked, fully trained, friendly professionals
- Familiar faces and companionship
- Trusted by NHS teams and private families
- Reputation built on reliability and quality



Call our dedicated staff on

01235 512344



DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT



Local Government Reorganisation

As a member of the Joint Scrutiny Committee, I've been informed that we'll be scrutinising our proposal for a joint Vale of White Horse/South Oxfordshire/West Berkshire Unitary Authority, which implies that the proposal will be fairly detailed by then. I'm looking forward to going through it in depth with a cup of tea.

SESRO (Southeast Strategic Reservoir Option)

Digging into the SESRO details (or lack of them) for their "Gate 3" submission (which, as we recall, had that sudden tripling of the price tag overnight), we learn that there are huge swathes of fuzziness still in there. Among these:

- The embankment itself – which is rather fundamental – lacks most details in description (such as the construction of the core and the inner slope, which are rather fundamental).
- Details over the emergency draw-down level (which can lead to algal blooms, such as recently seen at Coate Water in Swindon, where the lake has turned a rather alien green colour) remain stubbornly blank.
- The rather crucial groundwater flood design alleviation (which they initially insisted wouldn't be needed, before a sudden acceptance of the need with an airy "we'll design some sort of trench to deal with that") still remains unprogressed beyond that level.

There's a lot that still needs to be developed and explained, which makes even the much-huger projected cost look likely to skyrocket still further, if they even can solve the fundamental problems without just brushing them under the carpet. A really big carpet.

It's also been noticed that the "Gate 3" for the alternative, the Severn-Thames-Transfer, for some reason, is dated after the decision for SESRO to be made following DCO (Development Consent Order). We will be asking for this to be brought forward so that it could be considered properly as an alternative to the blank cheque for SESRO (as well as bearing in mind the fact that STT could provide drought resilience far sooner and with greater reliability than SESRO).

New Waste Contact Number

VoWHDC now have a new contact number for waste-related queries – from now on, residents who cannot find or report waste information online, should call 01235 422 123. The old 03000 waste number will soon be turned off.

This new number is for all district council household waste, recycling, food, garden waste (collections only; for queries about garden waste permits, residents should continue to call 01235 422 422), bulky waste collections, clinical waste collections and street cleaning services. It is also the number to call to report fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles.

For enquiries relating to Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRC's), people should continue to contact the county council on 0345 310 1111.

Wantage Community Hospital Refurbishment

Following a successful bid to Vale's Community Infrastructure Levy fund for £950,000, work is now ready to start on refurbishing the ground floor of Wantage Community Hospital. This will offer improved access and functionality of the ground floor of the hospital to accommodate a wider range of health and care services with a corresponding increase in clinic space by eight rooms.

It's good to finally see more in the way of the needed infrastructure promised to accompany the new homes built (along with the MUGA here in Drayton).

Abingdon Flood Barrier Test

The Environment Agency was in Abingdon on the 10 September to carry out a test of its temporary flood barrier at Chaunterell Way. I think we need more, but at least it's a start.

Wantage Literary Festival at The Beacon

On a lighter side, the Wantage Literary Festival returns to The Beacon from Saturday 25 October to 1 November, bringing over 40 events for the whole family.

Take a look at the Beacon's website for more details: <https://www.beaconwantage.co.uk>

Community Hub – support

As always, you can contact the Community Hub here for support if you need it:

Tel: 01235 422600

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Website: whitehorsecdc.gov.uk/costofliving

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

All the best,

Andy

if OXFORD SCIENCE
+ IDEAS FESTIVAL

17 October – 2 November 2025

if-oxford.com

browse the universe
at events for everyone across Oxford and beyond



The well-loved Duck House is in need of a refurbishment - is there anyone willing to take this on? Maybe 2 or 3 volunteers would be interested in this as a group project? Please email editor@draytonchronicle.net and we will pass your details on to the Parish Council. With many thanks in advance from us, and the ducks.



MOSSINATOR[®]
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS

Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning
Render & Brickwork Cleaning
Patio & Driveway Cleaning
Gutter Clearing
Installation of Bird Protection
Chimney Cowl Installation

Enhance the appearance of your property
with our quality assured friendly service
info@mossinator.co.uk - 01235 376034

MICKEY'S PHOTOGRAPHY

SAVING YOUR YESTERDAYS FOR YOUR TOMORROWS

Looking for a wedding photographer in Oxfordshire?
Hi, I'm Mickey, an award-winning wedding photographer based in Drayton Oxfordshire.
Wedding photography is my passion. As an Oxford photographer, I get to photograph at some amazing wedding venues across the south of England. I love nothing more than providing images that bring happy memories flooding back of your special day, year after year.

Documentary-style wedding photographer
My style is documentary wedding photography (also called, reportage wedding photography). What does that mean for you? For the most part, I'll be unobtrusive, capturing candid moments as the day unfolds. Photographing those spontaneous laughs, joyful tears, and stolen kisses. Your photos are going to be uniquely yours, not a carbon copy of previous weddings
Find me on Instagram or Facebook by searching **Mickey's Photography** or visit my Website at:

www.mickeysphotography.uk Mobile - 07799720183

The Back Pain Centre

Dr Natalie Nickowski MScDc
Dr Emily White DC MChiro LRCC
Paul Marshall BSC MSc DC

Chiropractic relief from:

- Back pain & sciatica
- Frozen shoulder
- Neck, shoulder & arm pain
- Tennis/golfer's elbow
- Headaches & migraines
- Knee & ankle pain
- Arthritis & postural problems
- Chronic pain



**FREE
SPINAL
ASSESSMENT**

Free Parking
Sports Therapist
Spinal Analysis Machine

Recognised by all health insurance Companies: BUPA - PPP - AXA
4C Deanes Close Steventon OX13 6SZ
info@steventonbackpaincentre.co.uk

www.steventonbackpaincentre.co.uk 01235 848008

griffin interiors

...soft furnishing solutions...

Interiors and soft furnishings workroom located in Appleford making quality handmade curtains, pelmets, blinds, cushions. Alterations. Headboards, loose covers and upholstery.

Poles, tracks and fitting service.

Design studio with extensive library of fabrics and trimmings.

Interiors mentoring to make your house a home.

Over 30 years' experience.

Off street parking.

Flexible opening hours by appointment

01235 847135/07808 762626

email: griffin.interiors.oxford@gmail.com

www.griffininteriorsoxford.com

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



The Parish Council last met on September 8th

The role of volunteers

Your Parish Council runs because of the work of 4 part-time paid staff, Anita James- Clerk, Chris Price- Deputy Clerk, Jon Fowler- Programme Manager and Chris Wilmott Brown-Village Caretaker, and Parish Councillors

The Councillors are all volunteers, as are those residents who run the Millennium Green Trust, The Village Hall, the Chronicle, and all the other charities and initiatives in the village. Although, according to Facebook, we don't always get things completely right, we all have, at our heart, a real desire to make the village the best place we can with the resources we have.

Despite a welcome recent addition of 3 new Councillors, we still have 3 vacancies. Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a Councillor.

Walnut Meadows

This is finally starting to look like something we can all be proud of. The Multi-use Games Areas are almost finished and look magnificent (see picture). The site is not yet ready to receive visitors but the ducting for the electricity supply has been put in, and the lights will soon be operational. Work to complete the perimeter path will be underway by the time this report comes out. This will be used for walking, running and cycling.



We are now working on finalising the design and costs for the pavilion.

We will let you know as soon as the MUGAs can be used and let you know of booking processes etc.

Manor Farm

The area designated for the public open space remains a work in progress. The Heras fencing is now down and sowing of wildflowers is imminent (again!). It will be at least another year before the Parish Council can take over this area.

Sutton Wick Pond

We are planning to get the pond, drained, cleaned and refilled before Winter. I am informed that there are fish in the pond, and we will take steps to protect any we find. We will not be restocking with any new fish but are hoping to introduce some oxygenating planting. More information to follow.

Footpaths

As reported in the last report, we have resources to refurbish some parts of our footpaths network. We have received a couple of suggestions but please let us know of any areas that are likely to be particularly bad as we may be able to resurface short stretches of the worst areas.

Traffic calming

The PC has told our County Councillor, in very strong terms, of our disappointment over the long wait for the detailed designs and start date for work from the County Council. Drayton has been waiting a very long time for promised calming measures, and I don't need to tell anyone in the village how bad things have been recently!

As always, please contact us at clerk@drayonpc.org with any points, or contact any one of us.

*The next meeting will be held on
October 13th at 7pm in the Caudwell
Day Centre, Gravel Lane.*

For further Parish Council info.....

.....please see www.DraytonVillage.co.uk for Agendas, Minutes and Papers for the Parish Council, as well as details of current PC Committees and Working Groups.

Here you will also find archives of The Drayton Chronicle, History of Drayton, Village Information, photographs and more. This site now contains a link to the new website: draytonparish.gov.uk



**Town Furlong
Cattery**

*Kingston Road, Frilford
01865 391864
www.townfurlong.co.uk*

LOCAL GROUPS and CLUBS

Chronicle Meeting

Wednesday 22nd October 2025, 7.30pm
Drayton Village Hall (bar area)

All Agents, Distributors, Editors, Advertising Managers and anyone who has an interest in being involved in the production or delivering of the Drayton Chronicle are very welcome to come along.

The meeting will begin with feedback on all aspects of producing and delivering the Chronicle. Hopefully all positive, but we do want to hear any suggestions for improvements ☺.

Afterwards, the Editors will continue with their regular meeting.

This may be a good opportunity to find out more about all the volunteer roles, without any obligation to commit to anything!

There will be some refreshments!

Royal British Legion Curry Lunch Sunday 9th November 2025

The traditional Curry Lunch on Remembrance Sunday 9th November. This will be held in Steventon Village Hall at 1pm. All are welcome. Two courses. Cost £20 for adults. Children under 16 free. Donations for drinks.

Queries and applications should be sent to: nickandmaryt@hotmail.com or

27 Stocks Lane, Steventon OX13 6SS with cheque or cash

Nick Thompson

**Hon Chairman Steventon and District Branch
RBL**

Christmas Cracker Event

**Saturday 15th November
St. Peter's Church, Drayton
10a.m to 12noon.**



**A sale of handcrafted gifts, home
produce, cards and cakes.**

Raffle!

Mulled wine and mince pies!



**Proceeds to St. Peter's Church fabric
fund for the upkeep of our Church.**

Drayton WI Report

At our September meeting we had a talk by Christine Farmer. She entertained us with her experience of appearing on the BBC's Repair Shop programme. We were given a glimpse into the history of the presenters and the filming location at The Weald and Downland Museum. Christine had a sewing table that she had inherited from her "Aunt Jackson" who was a neighbour during her childhood years - she told us of the enjoyment that she got from looking for treasures hidden in the table's many compartments. The table was repaired by Christine's favourite expert Will Kirk. We were taken through the whole process from filling in the initial application form right through to the final reveal. This repair featured in the Repair Shop book. It was a very enjoyable evening!

We always welcome visitors! So do come along and see us if you can, our meetings are usually the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 7.30pm in the Caudwell Day Centre in Gravel Lane.

For our October meeting we will be having a talk by Darren Martin on the subject of A.I. which sounds very interesting.

DON'T FORGET to save the date of our **Christmas Craft Fair**, November 29th (11am – 3pm in the Village Hall)

Georgina Arnold

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Registered Charity 1098966

Youth & Community Acting Together

JOIN US

The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project
every week @ DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL!

Sports
Arts and crafts
Music

Chill and chat with Youth Workers

Every Monday 6:30pm to 7:45pm

For more info contact @lisa.adyp
 lisaharold@adyp.onmicrosoft.com

Millennium Green Bulrushes





Family-run automotive garage

MOTs, servicing, repairs & more

Unit 6, Station Yard, Steventon, Oxon, OX13 6RX

Tel - 01235 635330

Email - office@povallmechanics.com

Web - www.povallmechanics.com



FRIENDLY PERSONALISED CARE



Home Care



Companionship & support



Prescription & medication



Medical appointments



Power of Attorneys



Transport for social visits



Shopping on-line or local



Meal Preparation

First Aid Trained

Enhanced DBS

Fully Insured



07889 985386



mandybiddle@btinternet.com



Fabulous themed picnic, teepee and bell tent sleepover parties

Sarah Coombes

07779 300054

peony_parties@outlook.com

www.peonyparties.co.uk



DOG GROOMER



DOG STORE

*GROOMING APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE NOW

COFFEE SHOP

THEDOGSPOT.CO.UK

2 HIGH ST, ABINGDON, OX14 5AX

01235 797386

*free delivery over £60, same-day local delivery



Fun and Imaginative Dance Classes for Children 2-16 years

Book for a Free Taster Session!

Thursdays @ Steventon Village Hall

Wednesdays @ Northcourt Centre, Abingdon

Email: bettybloomdance@gmail.com

Website for more information: bettybloomdance.co.uk

Mobile: 07785 232862



SP COURIER SERVICES

'MOVING ASSISTANCE'

House - Flat - Apartments - Office

FURNITURE MOVED / TRANSPORTED

COLLECTIONS - DELIVERIES

Tel 07721 679487

ProClean

Housekeeping & Ironing Services

Sue Oliver



Fully Insured & all Staff are DBS checked.

All equipment & cleaning products supplied.

Call now or email for a quotation

East Way, Drayton, Abingdon - Tel: (01235) 468402

Email: sue@hsoliver.co.uk

FROM THE ARCHIVES: DRAYTON BUSINESSES 1977

DRAYTON WINDOWS

Replacement Windows
Patio Doors — Front Doors
Double Glazing
Solar Heating
Aluglaze Furniture
98 Steventon Road. Tel 245

A. W. LESTER

GROCERIES
PROVISIONS
POST OFFICE

9 The Green. Tel 359

Z & M ROGOWSKI

Your Local Newsagent
Tobacconist - Confectioner
'We Have Everything'
40 Abingdon Road Tel 217

**SABINA
HAIR FASHIONS**

40 Abingdon Road
Tel Drayton 217
Free Car Park

A. L. VICKERY & SON

Hardware - Paints - Tools
Agents for Calor and Gaz
Keys cut while 'U' wait
The Green. Tel 497

**DRAYTON
TV SERVICE LTD**
TV SALES
TV RENTAL
TV SERVICE SAME DAY

Gravel Lane. Tel 451

BETTLES OF DRAYTON

Groceries & Provisions
Fruit & Vegetables
Wines & Spirits
78 Abingdon Road Tel 215

**W. J. TAYLOR
& SONS**

FORGE GARAGE

High Street. Tel 350

THOMAS & JARVIS

BUILDER & DECORATORS

9 High Street. Tel 334

**COLIN WOODCOCK
INSURANCE SERVICES**

Life Insurance - Investments
Pensions - Mortgages
Insurance
25 Binning Close. Tel 681

H. W. POULTON

Building Contractor
High Street. Tel 234 424

'DRAYTAX'

Your LOCAL Taxi

25 Steventon Road. Tel 662

HEATHER MOLE

Beauty Treatments
Slimming and Keep Fit
classes

26 High Street. Tel 507

C. B. BOMFORD LTD

Specialist, one off and
architectural joinery
manufacturers
Call and Discuss your
requirements with us
High Street. Tel 392 711

JOHN FERNEYHOUGH

Precision Machining
Industrial - Laboratory -
components
Small batch quantities
or individual pieces
25 High Street. Tel 279

BUY-LO SALES LTD

86 Abingdon Road, Drayton (246/541)
Frozen & Bulk Foods Centre — Full Range at Keenest Prices
Delivery/Terms
Electrical Discount Centre
Deep Freezer/Radio/TV/Stereo, etc., etc. available
BUY WISE at BUY-LO SAVE £££'s

A. W. GRACE & SON

Blacksmiths & Engineers

General Iron & Steel Work — Ornamental Ironwork

The Forge, High Street

Tel: 462

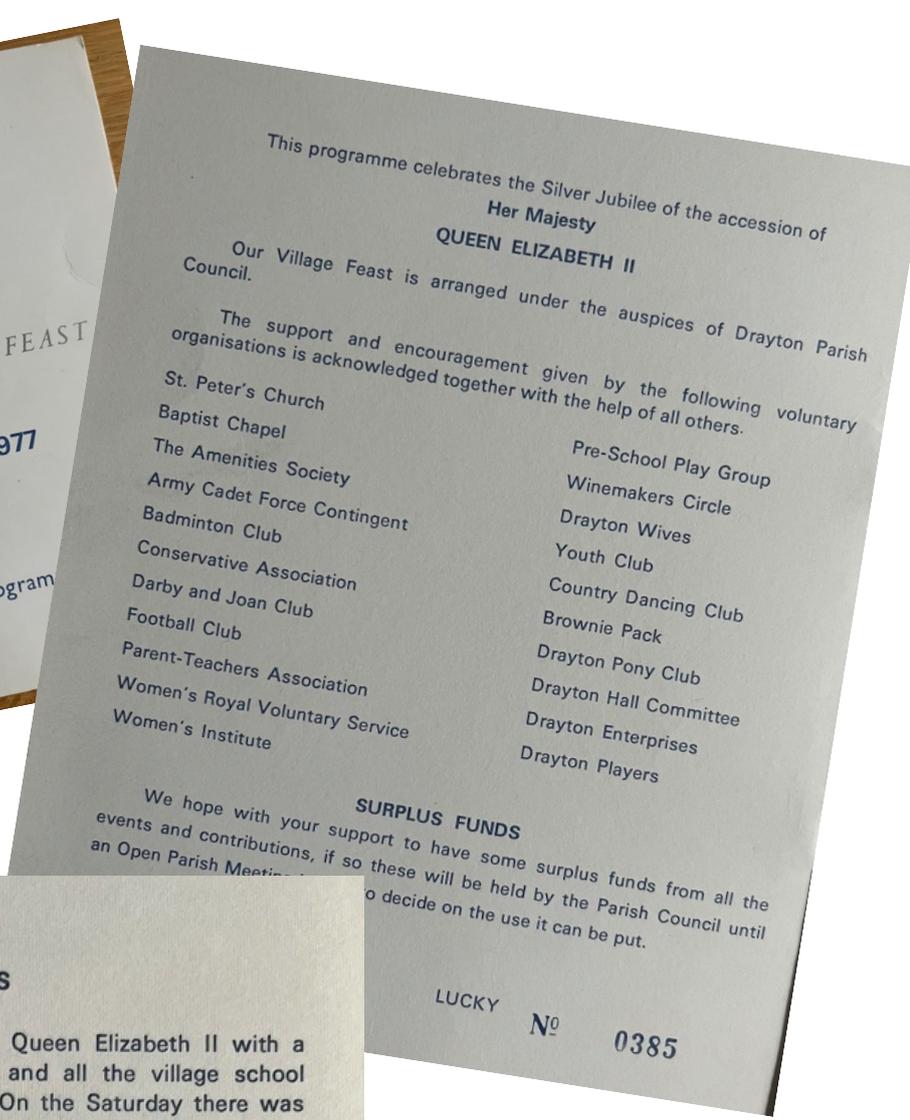
Ed note: you will need the 'new' prefix of 531 in front of these 3-digit telephone numbers (and then some of these businesses may answer!)

Going back further in time –
the Post Office in its previous
location, a few doors down
from the current position

Please send in your
recollections of any of
these businesses by email
to
editor@draytonchronicle.net,
or in a note in the
Chronicle box outside
Vickery's



20TH CENTURY DRAYTON



DRAYTON'S 25 YEARS

In 1952 Drayton greeted the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II with a week of celebrations. Street parties were held and all the village school children were presented with a coronation mug. On the Saturday there was a procession with decorated floats and children in fancy dress. There were sports, a women versus men six-a-side football match and in the evening a bonfire and fireworks.

In that year the Drayton Football Club won the North Berks Cup and people were settling in nicely in the first new houses on the Hilliat Fields Estate. More houses were added to Hilliat Fields later in the fifties and in the sixties the village grew again with the coming of Whitehorns Way and Lockway. Our most recent addition is Binning Close, built in the seventies. The population, which according to the Domesday Book, was 'four villeins, four bordars and two serfs' has soared to over 2,000.

Tragedy struck the village twice during the 1950's. In March 1957 a Beverley aircraft crashed on a bungalow in Sutton Wick killing two civilians and a number of airmen, and in February 1959 a fire severely damaged the church.

Our achievements during the last 25 years have included a new school, finished in 1968, a by-pass for most of the village, opened in October 1973 and a splendid new village hall, completed in May 1975, in the same year the Village won the County Best Kept Village Competition in its class. New people have brought new ideas and organisations. One thing we did not celebrate in 1974 was moving from Royal Berkshire to plain Oxfordshire but we have got used to the idea now.

Drayton is no sleepy village; it bursts with vitality and something is always happening. Jubilee year sees us making plans to extend the recreation ground and in the autumn the residents at the southern end of the village will be celebrating that they too have a by-pass.

Sunday 5th June — 3 p.m.

St Peter's Church — United Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Preacher Bishop Bulley former Bishop of Carlisle.

Monday 6th June — 10 a.m.

Jubilee Bells — Drayton ringers will attempt to ring a half-peal of 2,520 changes of Bob Triples.

In 1977, along with the rest of the country, Drayton celebrated the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. The Souvenir Programme reflected on many of the events that took place in Drayton during those 25 years since the coronation in 1952.

The main day of Jubilee celebrations took place on Saturday 7th June 1977, and included a Novice Horse Show and Gymkhana, Football matches, a Pram Race around the village, races including egg & spoon, sack, obstacle, three-legged, 100m sprint. There was also Punch & Judy, Abingdon Town Band, Fancy Dress parade, Morris Dancers, Gym Display team, entertainment by the brownies, fairground attractions, bowling, balloon race, tossing the straw bale, rifle range, slippery pole, coconut shy, wine tasting competition, penalty competition, hoopla, tip the bed and fishing. All afternoon there were teas and a licensed bar. The icing on the cake was a presentation gift given to any child born to a Parish resident on that very day.

YOUR LOCAL GARAGE

Servicing all makes and models of vehicles,
Diagnostics, General Repairs,
Tyres, Exhaust, Air Conditioning, MOT's



www.autocheckoxfordltd.com

autocheckoxfordltd@gmail.com

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

01865 730011

Courtesy cars available

Free collect and delivery service

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.



Larkmead
VETS

Proudly Independent

Caring for your pets 24-hours a day

01235 814991 / 01491 651379

www.larkmead.co.uk

07360 277998

www.larkmead.co.uk

we run our own
24h emergency
service



Didcot | Great Western Park | Wantage | Cholsey | Benson | Sutton Courtenay



THE
Oxford
WINDOW REPAIR
COMPANY

The Wooden Window Renovation Specialists

Flaking paint and cracked putty on your wooden windows and cills?

We specialise in repair and renovation to give your windows
a new lease of life!

We cut out rotten wood and replace with new timber.

We replace failed single/double glazing

Combined with modern & traditional paint solutions to give an
excellent finish inside and out

We are accredited suppliers and installers of Fineo® Vacuum Glazing

We also specialise in wood treatments, oils, stains and varnishes

Maintenance contracts & references are also available for peace of mind

All work guaranteed

Call us for your free estimate 07880 560 403

www.oxfordwindowrepair.com



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

R & R Landscaping

Richard and Ryan Seamark

randrlandscaping12@outlook.com

07565421637 / 07498399521

Call or email us today!

42 Abingdon Road, Drayton

- Garden Maintenance

- Garden Clearance

- Turf Laying

- Patios

- Fencing

- And much more

A.L.VICKERY AND SON

Hardware and much more

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

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

Vickery's first!

5 The Green, Drayton,
Abingdon OX14 4JA
Telephone 01235 531497

Just park outside!

OPEN Monday to Saturday

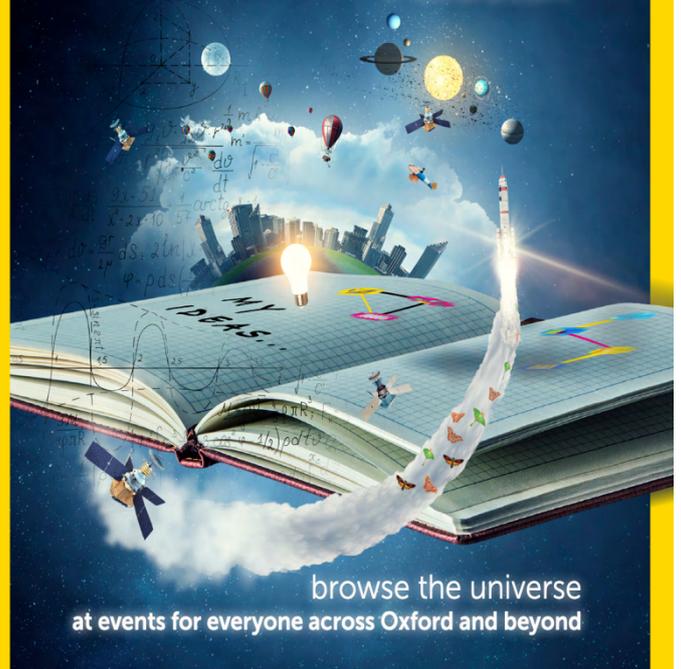
9:30am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm. Lunch 1pm to 2pm



if OXFORD SCIENCE
+ IDEAS FESTIVAL

17 October – 2 November 2025

if-oxford.com



browse the universe
at events for everyone across Oxford and beyond

Architectural Design Services

Over 40 years experience in the Building Industry.
Plans and Specification prepared on Autocad for
Planning Permission and Building Regulations Approval
for all kinds of Building Work. Contact: Steve Lester
stevelesterads@gmail.com Mobile 07818-751526



- Scarification
- Hollow Tining
- Lawn Aeration
- Over seeding
- Top-Dressing
- Removal Weeds
- Moss Control
- Professional Service

NO CONTRACT

Contact Steve

01865331501/07894983801

Email: cotswolds@greensleeves-uk.com

DRAYTON TELEVISION SERVICES

Digital TV aerials installed Extra aerial points
Television Wall mounting New TV Sales
Satellite Sky or Freesat FREE ESTIMATES

TV tuning and programming

Telephone: 01235 531451



Drayton Post Office

Post office has now reopened

Mon - Sat 9 – 6pm

& CONVENIENCE STORE

Open Mon - Sat 7 – 10 pm Sun 8 – 10pm

9 The Green, Drayton, OX14 4JA

01235 531359

L H GOODWIN professional decorator.

Our services include both domestic and commercial painting and decorating.
We are fully insured and all work guaranteed
25 years' experience – References available.
For a free estimate please call Leigh on
07789873483 or visit my website
www.lhgoodwin.co.uk



DRAYTON DOSA SPICES

Traditional Indian Spices

A flavourful celebration in Drayton



**SUGAR
& SPICE**

AVAILABLE AT:

www.draytondosa.com

Book your
table now

01235 612388



3 THE GREEN, DRAYTON, OX14 4JA

Abbey Chiropody and PODIATRY CLINIC

21-27 Coxeter House
Abingdon OX14 5AJ

Tel 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiropody.com

HCPC Registered Chiropodists & Podiatrists
Surgery and Home Visits available. Free Parking in Coxeters Yard



HAIR THERAPY

MON/TUES : 9:15 - 5PM

WED : CLOSED

THURS : 9:15 - 7:30PM

FRI : 9:15 - 6PM

SAT : 9:15 - 3PM

CHILD/OAP PRICING

10% BLUE LIGHT DISCOUNT

CALL - 01235 399043

[BOOKSOLO.CO/HAIR-THERAPY-](http://BOOKSOLO.CO/HAIR-THERAPY-SALON-BYJOANNE)

SALON-BYJOANNE

PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R. Matthews

50 Witan Way Wantage, OX12 9HB

Tel: 01235 766412

Mobile: 07796 532356

stephenmatthews.pgs@gmail.com

All kinds of work undertaken, including:

- garden maintenance and restoration
- fruit tree, shrub and rose pruning
- hedge cutting, turfing
- fencing and landscaping.



KOGELS of Abingdon Limited

HOME EXTENSION SPECIALISTS
AND GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS

72 Steventon Road
Drayton

Tel: Abingdon (01235) 531200 Abingdon
Email: kogelsofabingdon@btconnect.com Oxon
www.kogelsofabingdon.co.uk OX14 4LD



TAYLORED ELECTRICAL SERVICES

QUALIFIED. EXPERIENCED. RELIABLE.

Call: 07841677921

Email: taylored.electrical@outlook.com  



Celebrating 20 Years of Oxford Wood Recycling

- For 20 years, we've been:
- Reclaiming good wood from waste
 - Creating local jobs
 - Supporting vulnerable adults

We need your help to keep our mission alive.

Our fundraising goal is

£20,000 over the next 20 months

Donations of any size are greatly appreciated

Scan the QR code to donate

Find us at 4 Suffolk Way,
Abingdon, OX14 5DX -

Tel: 01235 861228 - www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk



CPPM LOCKSMITHS

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



Emergency Locksmith – 24 Hour Service

www.cppm.org.uk

email: colinpizzie@btinternet.com

Tel: 01235 239068 Mob: 07760 537147



Suzy Willis & Associates

MCSP HCPC AACP

CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

Old Lodge, Henleys Lane, Drayton,
OX14 4HU

Tel: 01235 531269

Please call for a face to face or remote consultation

Sharman Roofing Ltd

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist

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

all work considered, call Mark on

07979 791075

sharmanroofingltd@gmail.com

DANES/MACE STORE

Mon-Sat 5am-8pm – Sun & Bank Hols 6am-6pm

FOR ALL YOUR PAPERS, MAGAZINES,

GROCERIES, FROZEN FOODS,

CARDS, OFF LICENCE and

SAVOURY SNACKS.

Co-op groceries are also
available for sale here.

Small bakery cakes, biscuits and

Fresh sandwiches

NOW WITH PAYPOINT

TEL: 01235 554813

E: danestores@gmail.com



A. Gibbard & Son

High quality interior & exterior

painting & decorating

Mob: 07759 842388

ANDY BRYAN BUILDERS

For all types of building work from a
reliable local company

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

MOB: 07905386150

Trees

Seasonal Spotlight – Autumn

It's that time of year when the trees will be changing colour, the air is getting colder and fresher, and we can't help thinking of warm drinks, cosy clothes and playing in the crunchy leaves.

As we enter Autumn, it can be tempting to cut back all the dead and dying vegetation in our gardens and green spaces. It's worth considering that many of these woody stems will become perfect winter homes for insects as they enter hibernation and can create areas of architectural beauty in our homes and communities.

In Oxfordshire, the hedgerow species we generally recommend planting (for their capacity to provide for both people and wildlife year-round) and you're most likely to see in your local area include Blackthorn, Spindle, Common Buckthorn, Guelder Rose, Wild Privet, Cherry Plum, Dog Rose and Hazel. Fruiting season for many of these species starts from late summer to early autumn. As such, by this time of year, most of the species listed above will be fruiting. Hawthorn berries have traditional use in heart-strengthening natural medicines but also act as a vital source of food for caterpillars, moths, and migratory birds. Keep your eyes peeled for spindle, which has vibrant autumnal colours with vibrant pinks, and the leaves turning from a deep green to a beautiful red.



Spindle fruits

Riverside trees

The native white, crack, pussy, osier and goat willows are a familiar sight along the Thames and its tributaries. Willows provide shelter for birds, mammals, including bats, otters and water voles. Their leaves are the larval foodplant of the Purple Emperor, Large Tortoiseshell and Comma butterflies and their catkins the earliest sources of food for bees. Both the male and female flowers (catkins) carry sugary nectar, and the male flowers also carry protein rich pollen, which is so important for developing bee larvae. Willow nectar is also a major energy source for Blue Tits during early spring.

Traditionally managed by 'coppicing and 'pollarding', mature trees can be cut to form a thick stump or 'coppice stool' that considerably extends the life of the tree and lets in light to the shrub layer. Some Crack Willow pollards are known to have lived for 1000 years. Willow is also a useful hedge plant in damp conditions.

Trees for Bees

Trees are an important, stable long-term source of food for bees and other pollinators, providing thousands of flower heads all in one place. Plant a variety of tree species selected to benefit bees and other pollinators, with species that flower at different times of the year to provide nectar, pollen and nesting sites as well as offering a haven for other wildlife and cleaning the air and water and storing carbon. Check out the guidance on our website for more information:

<https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/tree-planting-guidance>

Hedgehog Friendly things to do this autumn and winter

- Put out a shallow dish of water or make sure your ponds are easy to get out of for hedgehogs (shallow edges or a platform / ramp), so they have water to drink
- Leave a wild patch each year with piled up logs or leaves that you don't disturb
- Always move your burn piles before you light them as hedgehogs and frogs often use them to sleep in (this is, after all, how hedgehogs were once upon a time cooked to be eaten!). Thankfully it is now illegal to eat this endangered species
- Avoid using pesticides or herbicides as this will make hedgehogs very ill. Find out more here www.hedgehogrescue.org.uk/hedgehog-friendly-slug-pellets/
- If you want to put out food, cat or dog food is best
- If you find a sick or injured hedgehog, or one up and about during the middle of the day, call ***Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital on 01844 292292***

To find out more about:

- 1) Hedgehogs - head over to the People's Trust of Endangered Species (PTES) website.
- 2) Wildlife and hedgehog friendly gardening - head over to the Wild Oxfordshire website at www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk and have a look in our guidance section.
- 3) Kirtlington's Hedgehog Street – see the website at www.hedgehogstreet.org/kirtlington/



Imogen Parker, Wild Oxfordshire Community Ecologist <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/>

DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL NEWS



GRATEFUL THANKS to all those who bring clothes items to support the **Child Air Ambulance charity bin** – BUT --- if you find the bin is FULL, then PLEASE call the charity number (on the bin!!) and TELL THEM it's full?!

It's another **ANTIQUES Fair, Sunday Oct 5th**, 9am to about 3pm, and a few new stalls apparently, that's plus Kathy Head running her excellent value cafe for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarnie!). Another one on Nov 2nd too.

Oh, and before that, **LEE is having another Jewellery Valuation** session, best prices paid, **Wednesday for a change (Oct 1st)**, and THIS time he's coming **early, 9am start** (to midday). He usually does a leaflet drop just before his session, but he's looking for all manner of precious metals, even broken items, watches (working or not), chains, rings, brooches, or old coins if they're pre-1947, etc. **PLUS, PLUS PLUS**, that same morning, **Kathy is running her 'good-cause' Coffee Morning**, and she's intending to make them **WEEKLY from now on** (10 to noon – see local signs, and Facebook notices).

So, **come along for coffee and cake**, and perhaps get an Xmas bonus from an old brooch, chain, ring, coins or broken watch?!

Our **Friday exercise classes** continue, **KEEP FIT with FAYE**, (11am for an hour, SITTING if you need), then **YOGA, run by Diane ('Bliss' Yoga)**, at 1.30 . . . BUT . . . please **DO check** with Diane (p20) if you fancy the yoga, as she has occasional other commitments at present.

As this piece was being written (mid-Sept), I just had a call (4pm) from a chap checking to see how he would get a key for his group's 6pm booking in the Hall. "Really" I said, "you might have the wrong hall" (there are **at least EIGHT other halls round the UK** with Drayton in the name). He assured me he had the right number (!), so I asked where he was... "Denmead" came back. That's a village near Portsmouth, and next to Cosham is one of the other Drayton Village Halls. Hope he made it?!

Last week I had a call from someone wanting the hall in Drayton, **Somerset** (also a rare call, like ones from the Pompey part of the world). And there's even another Drayton in **this county, up near Banbury**, VERY confusing! But I think the only contact I had from up there was from someone on their Parish Council, asking about a problem in their carpark, re a new house, it took a little while to convince them that I really couldn't help!

The problem is due to good old **Mr Google**, so helpful in many ways, but if people ask for Drayton Village Hall, and this one comes top of the list (& quite a few halls have no website) then folk leap for this number or email.

One Drayton I NEVER hear from is the one near Charleston, South Carolina, an 18th century plantation house (very grand!), recently featured on his 'travelogue' of the Southern States by Griff Rhys Jones (on C5), now a museum (the Hall, not Griff).

Tony Holmes

(Mostly) Hall Diary for October

All events held in Drayton Hall **unless otherwise stated**
To book :- **bookings@draytonvh.co.uk** or call Tony Holmes on
(01235) 531180; see the website :- www.draytonvh.co.uk
(for other regular events, see that diary column)

| | | | |
|------|----|---------|--|
| Weds | 1 | 9.00am | Jewellery Valuation (to midday) |
| | | 10.00am | COFFEE MORNING (to be weekly) |
| Sun | 5 | 9.00am | ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm) |
| Sat | 11 | 11.00am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Sun | 12 | 9.00am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Mon | 13 | 7.00pm | Parish Council Meeting (Caudwell DC) NB – Now 2nd Mondays! (check F'book for any late change?!) |
| Sat | 18 | | Private Function (all day) |
| Sun | 19 | | Private Function (all day) |
| Mon | 20 | 5.00pm | Chronicle Deadline (Ads = Fri 17th) (NB – see page 2 for Chronicle Info) |
| Sun | 26 | 11.30am | Private Function (child's party) |

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

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

MONDAYS [## = Small Hall in Village Hall]

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2.00 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club Session |
| 6.00 pm | YOGA class (temp POSTPONED) |
| 6.00 pm | Damascus Youth ## (NB – check their F'book!) |
| 7.15 pm | Badminton (Looking for NEW Members!) |
| 7.45 pm | Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours) <i>St Peter's</i> |

TUESDAYS

| | |
|---------|---|
| 9.30 am | Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925) |
| 1.45 pm | Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) <i>Caudwell Day Centre</i> |
| 2.30 pm | Tuesday Connect (back to 1st Tuesday!) <i>Church</i> |
| 6.30 pm | Karate/'Dojang X' session (Sabrina 07938 537310) |

WEDNESDAYS

| | |
|----------|---|
| 10.00 am | Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) <i>Church</i> |
| 1.30 pm | Whist Drive <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 1.45 pm | U3A Science/Tech, 1st Weds (07890 385931) ## |
| 2.00 pm | Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday, most months) ## |
| 2.00 pm | Badminton |
| 6.30 pm | Brownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435) ## |
| 6.45 pm | Short Mat Bowling Club (seeking NEW members!) |

THURSDAYS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9.30 am | Parent & Toddler Group |
| 9.45 am | Holy Communion (**) <i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i> |
| 11.00 am | Baptist Café (to 1pm) NOW IN >> <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 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) <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| 7.30 pm | Drayton Community Choir (2nd/4th Thurs) -- Call Kay for info 01235 204187 <i>Church Room</i> |

FRIDAYS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 11.00 am | Keep Fit with FAYE (07815 583591) |
| 1.30 pm | YOGA class (Bliss Yoga, Diane, 07469 767500) |
| 4.15 pm | Karate/'Dojang X' sessions (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 <i>Baptist Church</i> |

Printed using vegetable-based inks on non-laminated FSC paper in Kingston Bagpuize by:

artisan
print & sign solutions

This publication is fully recyclable. Please place in green bins.