DRAYTON CHRONICLE



Issue Editor: Margaret Inger Volume 45 Issue 8 September 2022

Chronicle Information



The next chronicle will be the **October** issue. Editor: Margaret Inger 07967 730735

Key dates for next Chronicles:

Issue:	Deadline for Contributions:		Printed Chronicles	
	Adverts	Editor	available on:	
October	16 th Sept	19 th Sept	1 st October	
November	14 th October	17 th Oct	29 th October	

Notes for Contributors

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are <u>very welcome</u>. 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	1	3	6	12
Category	insert	inserts	inserts	inserts
Drayton Resident	£6	£16	£31	£60
Non-Drayton Resident	£7	£19	£37	£72

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).

<u>DISCLAIMER:</u> 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.



THE WHEATSHEAF Seniors Menu

£9:95 for 2 courses

Starters

Pork liver & Chicken Pate with onion chutney, salad & toast. Soup of the day (ask your server)

Mains

Fish & Chips served with garden peas or mushy peas with tartar sauce & lemon.

Gammon Steak served with chips, garden peas, grilled tomato & onion rings. Topped with pineapple & fried egg.

Steak & Ale Pie served with mash, garden peas & gravy

Pork loin with creamy mushroom sauce served with chips & garden peas.

Desserts

Sticky toffee pudding served with custard or Ice cream.

Hot Chocolate Brownie served with ice cream.

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, rain or shine, in or out.

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton Sunday Service: 10.30 am

Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409



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Premier Beauty, 174 Broadway, Didcot OX11 8RN two minutes' walk from the Orchard Centre.





ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON



Rector	Revd Helen Kendrick	01235 848297
Associate Priest	Revd Meg Haywood	01235 537100
Associate Priest	Revd Rosie Bruce	07707087131
Pro-Warden	Mrs Linda Johnson	01235 527521

The church remains open daily, Sunday-Saturday 10am-4.00pm

REGULAR SERVICES

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

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

Thursday 9.45 am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Thursdays), Celtic Morning Prayer (2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Everyone is welcome.

REGULAR EVENTS

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

If you have a baby or toddler, you would be so welcome to join us. We meet in Church. Please email suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com for more information or visit our Drayton Pebbles Facebook Page.

Tuesday Connect.

We will start having tea, coffee and biscuit afternoons on the $\underline{\text{second}}$ Tuesday of the month, starting on September 13th, still from 2.30 – 4.00 p.m. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible on that day!

Bell ringing practice -

every Monday evening 7:30pm

PARISH REGISTER BAPTISMS

17th July 2022 Heidi Grace Parrott and

Blake George Parrott

14th August 2022 Iris Hope McAnaw

ST PETER'S LETTER

Back to School

I love this time of year as I have fond memories of getting ready for going back to school after the long summer holidays. New pencil case and new pens; new shoes and uniform; new class and new friends; a new start and new lessons to be learnt.

September is that time of year when we get back to school after the summer break and even for those of us not returning to school there is a sense of getting back to our usual routines after living a different pace of life during the summer. As disciples (lit: *learners*) we are all called to learn from Jesus and live like Him. God wants us to make a difference as disciples whether in our school or workplace or amongst our family and our friends. As St Paul writes:

'And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.' (Colossians 3:17).

'WHATEVER you do': As Christians we believe that God is at work in every aspect of our lives. He can use whatever we do to make a difference to those around. But do we really believe this? Our lives shouldn't be like an orange, segmented into the sacred and secular, but more like an apple, in which the whole is available to God.

'Whatever YOU do': God wants to use us to share God's love with the people around us, wherever we spend time. We can trust Him for the resources we need hour by hour, day by day, year by year. What do we need from Him?

'Whatever you DO': Our work is for God alone, as a response to God's love for us. How does this perspective make a difference when what we do seems hard, unrewarding, or unappreciated by others?

A man standing on a train platform was asked one day: 'Who are you?' He replied, 'I am a Christian thinly disguised as an accountant.' If we were asked the same question, I wonder what we would say? As disciples of Jesus Christ, our identity is rooted in God and His call upon our lives. For each of us, September represents going back to school with Jesus, to learn how we can live for Him.

With love and prayers,

Helen

The Reverend Helen Kendrick, Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish

YOU STAY WE PRAY, MARCH 2022

28 th Aug –	High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm;
3 rd Sept	Halls Close
4 th - 10 th	Friars Mews; Monk Close; Prior Drive;
Sept	Abbot Crescent
11 th - 17 th	Chestnut Drive; Holly Lane; Walnut Way;
Sept	Willow Way
18 th - 24 th	Furlongs; Plough Lane; Furrows End;
Sept	Lammas Land; Virgate; Fallowfield Close
25 th Sept –	Lockway
1 st Oct	

Local Dog Walking

I will walk and feed your dog while you are out

Instagram: secret_walkiesx

Phone: 07742498269

Email: mia.may8@icloud.com







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DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL



Walnut Meadows

On $8^{\rm th}$ July, members of the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Group met virtually with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) Highways and Miller Homes to discuss the road adoption issues at Walnut Meadows.

It was a very positive and productive meeting which clearly demonstrated the benefit of getting all the different parties in a single location, albeit a virtual one.

The remedial works to the highway, street lighting and drainage for the connection of Chestnut Drive to Abingdon Road are in progress with a predicted completion date of the end of August with approval / sign-off anticipated shortly afterwards.

The adoption of the roads by OCC is subject to a survey of what is currently in place, and this will then form the basis of a design proposal to be submitted to OCC. At the same time the issue of the Swales discharging flood water on to the roads is being examined and their design reviewed.

The approval of the Abingdon Road connection and the road adoption have been ongoing for some years now but there does appear to be renewed impetus to get these outstanding issues finally completed. A plan is currently being put in place covering the works required and we will update the village once the extent of the work and the timescales are confirmed.

You may have seen Andy Cooke's (Vale of White Horse District Councillor) article in last month's Chronicle. The Agronomist report commissioned by the Parish Council advises it will not be possible to install drainage for the sports pitches with the waste material, buried by Miller Homes, in situ. The Parish Council is working with Vale of White Horse Planning Enforcement to resolve the issue.

The Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Group have been meeting weekly for some months now to maintain progress and ensure the parties involved deliver their commitments.

Drayton Parish Council

Millennium Green

A very sad notice on the Millennium Green. Despite this, the Green is looking magnificent, and its management committee deserves every congratulation. It is one of the village's most valuable assets



From Oxfordshire County Council....

Green light to improve Oxford station

Network Rail have been awarded £78.6m from the Department for Transport to support the redevelopment of Oxford station and railway – providing a bigger and better station, more services for passengers and freight and improved journey times for passengers.



Artist's impression of new Oxford station western entrance

Small grant support - Green Week

The Oxfordshire Great Big Green Week small grants programme is now open to support community groups to organise local events, activities and festivals during Great Big Green Week 2022. (24 September - 2 October)

https://www.climateactionoxfordshire.org.uk/

£12.7m to get people onto buses

We've been awarded £12.7 million of government funding to support plans to get people out of their cars and on to buses. Plans include cheaper fares for under-19s and new rural services.



£12.7m will fund cheaper youth fares, bus priority measures and rural services

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT



Hi. all.

Reservoir and droughts

Well, given that drought has been declared as I write this, and the SESRO reservoir is in the news again (with minimal thought or knowledge behind almost all of the commentators, unfortunately), I thought I'd better open with that.

Firstly — SESRO would not be helpful right now if it was magically built in an instant and magically filled from a very low flowing Thames. At the start of August, after the driest July in who knows when, Thames Water's main reservoirs were still nearly 90% full.

So why are TW calling for us to "reduce demand"/"thinking of a hosepipe ban"?

Because they foresee a dry winter and risk of another dry summer. Like in 1975-76.

In such circumstance, SESRO would draw down and dry up as well — because it's dependent on the Thames to refill! The modelling shows it down to 6% full in such a scenario — well below the 20% minimum usually used to avoid algae blooming (incidentally, that village over towards Buckinghamshire that's in the news? It lost water due to E. Coli contamination in its local (very small) reservoir. This doesn't fill us with confidence that TW would deal with SESRO any better in a deep drought).

Secondly – TW keep insisting they won't consider the Severn-Thames-Transfer link that links up to United Utilities in Cumbria (where there has been rain, as droughts tend to be regional, and Cumbria averages six times as much rainfall as we do). Not until well after SESRO is built – which would take until the mid-2040s if this complex megaproject, well beyond anything TW has ever built, comes in on schedule. (Spoiler – it wouldn't).

I'm still (just) in my forties; I'd be in my seventies before the first drop of water would be available at the very earliest. More likely in my eighties. That's a long time to be exposed to drought (if SESRO would be resilient enough, which it wouldn't be). Meanwhile, STT could take only 2 or 3 years.

That's without mentioning the far higher cost of SESRO, the environmental damage, the huge disruption, the massive regular winter flood risks, the flexing of three-to-five-Swindon-weights on the clay floor of the Vale within a few hundred metres of the A34, the regular fogs over the A34 it would cause, and so on. Unfortunately, very few news outlets seem to care. It's all shrieks of "NIMBY!!!"

Why can't TW just get on with STT and stop blocking it by waving this reservoir around? A solution resistant to any single-region droughts, with more water, new to the region, far cheaper, and FAR quicker?

Meanwhile, TW sent a couple of people to the Parish Council meeting on 9th August. They were very nice and approachable; unfortunately, they didn't tell us much we didn't already know, and they were unaware of some of the documents TW has already lodged (for example, the massive impact of the risk of Intrusive Non-Native Species on their intent for recreational facilities).

Waste collection - changes to collection days for some

Biffa have told us: "Since the waste collection routes were first planned more than ten years ago, there have been many changes to the number and distribution of homes across the districts, resulting in uneven rounds. By introducing new collection routes, Biffa can make them more efficient meaning they use less fuel. This is more cost-effective and better for the environment. The new routes are of a more equal size which is also fairer on the collection crews."

This means that bin collection days may change for about 20% of households (no further details yet), but that should be the only change we notice. Biffa have been adding message tags to bins at properties that will be affected for a couple of weeks now as an early heads-up; they'll follow up with letters to these households with specific information. More information as I get it.

Waste collection – effects of prolonged extreme heat periods

We've been experiencing some very hot weather (I know – you've noticed!), which can slow down the waste collection crews. On extremely hot days, they might be unable to complete their rounds. The contingency plan is as follows:

As the weather gets hotter, Biffa may begin collections an hour earlier. They usually advise residents to put their bins out the night before when this happens (personally, I always do, anyway). If your bins aren't emptied on the normal day, please leave them out for two days after the normal day (including the weekend) and the crews will try to catch up.

Help for energy bills for those on low incomes

Households on low income in the Vale of White Horse will soon receive a one-off payment to help with the rising cost of energy bills.

Those living in properties which are in council tax bands E to H and who are in receipt of council tax support will receive a single one-off payment of up to £172. Households in council tax bands A to D in receipt of council tax support, who should have already received the mandatory £150 Council Tax Energy Rebate, will receive a single 'top up' payment of up to £22.

To be eligible for this payment, households must have been resident in the property on 1 April 2022.

This does not have to be repaid

All eligible households should receive their money by 28 September 2022. If you're on direct debit, this will be straight into your bank account; if not, the council will write to you to confirm your bank details.

Household support fund for pensioners

If you are a pensioner or know a pensioner who is in difficulty affording food and essential household bills, please complete the pensioner application form and send to the advice centre of your choice. It can be completed here:

https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/cost-of-living-crisis-advice-and-support/household-support-fund/

If you're unable to fill in the form online and email it, a paper version of the application form is available by contacting our Community Hub:

Tel: 01235 422600

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Ox-Cam Arc - Councils withdraw

We've officially withdrawn from the pan-regional partnership across the Oxford-Cambridge Arc. This may seem disappointing, but after most of the funding had been withdrawn by Government, it was hard to see what useful outputs it was going to provide, other than a talking shop. Especially as others had already withdrawn. Instead, we're engaging with the Bucks, Oxon, and Berkshire Integrated Care System (BOB ICS), and with the "England's Economic Heartland" group that aim to improve transport infrastructure.

There seemed little that the Arc was going to provide that wasn't already covered.

(I read the proposals, and there was supposed to be a *lot* of money to put in for very little out)

That's all for this month.

Take care,

Andy

Andy.Cooke@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT



Richard Webber

Water Supply

Whatever we might think of the Thames Water proposals for future water supply, and, in particular, that our area should allow them to build, at a cost of £2b+, Europe's largest above-ground reservoir, or whether you are a fisherman or a yachtsman or a vehement objector, no one could disagree that we would reduce the scale of future water problems by reducing our per capita daily water consumption.

Thames Water currently assumes that each of us uses on average more than 160 litres a day. Most of our neighbours with similar standards of living use much less, some as little as 110 litres per day. If we could all follow the best examples, we could save the equivalent of several reservoirs.

I am not in a position to preach on this subject. Like everyone else, the latest heat waves and the predictions that we should expect many more in the future have made me aware that I have not been doing enough. As a Thames Water rate payer and on a water meter, I have another reason to do more now.

There are things Councils are trying to do and things my family and I could do to help. I decided (for the first time, I am ashamed to say) to spend 48 hours focusing on how my family and I use water.

Morning Tea or coffee / dish washer / washing saucepans/ flushing loos / watering garden / washing cars / cleaning teeth / laundry / showers and baths / washing hands / window cleaning / house cleaning – all together it's a staggering amount. Would I and my family be able to exist on 70% of our current water usage?

One particular excess which came to light in our house is that our cold water and hot water kitchen pipe is shared. To get a glass of cold water (4or5 a day for each of us in recent weather) we have been used to running off the warmer water from our cold tap until the water has run cold. When we collected the run off of warm water, we had enough to water most of the garden. It may not be enough to save the planet but it's a start.

I am sure there will be hundreds of other good ideas being used by residents which would benefit everyone. If you have ideas, please let me know and I will publish them.

I already treat the car accelerator pedal like a tap, likewise our fuel and energy consumption; it's about time I treated water the same way.

Here are the Friends of the Earth tips for saving water:

- Turn off the tap when brushing teeth (6litres/min) and fix leaking taps (up to 60 litres a week wasted)
- 2. Shower with less....17 litres used every minute.
- Save up dirty clothes. Full loads use less water than two half loads.
- 4. Reduce food waste.
- Water plants early morning and evening manually and water soil at roots.
- 6. Water butt saves up to 5000 litres a year
- 7. Low flush toilets use less than half the old style toilet.
- A full dishwasher uses less water than washing everything by hand.
- 9. Eat seasonal vegetables where possible.
- 10. Only boil the water you need.
- 11. Steam your veg.
- Check pipes for leakage. Locate household stop valve and keep local Thames Water telephone number handy.

Richard Webber.

Richardwebber777@gmail.com 01235 534001



GARD is a local community group formed to campaign against Thames Water's proposals to build a reservoir south-west of Abingdon.

Abingdon Reservoir – Latest from GARD Abingdon reservoir – not a solution during drought

The recent dry spell has highlighted the need for effective water resource management - but the proposed Abingdon reservoir would not provide resilience during drought conditions.

- Covering over 4sq miles of land, up to 30m in height above ground and holding 150 billion litres of water, it would take 10 years to build and a further 2 years to fill from the Thames.
- The alternative Severn to Thames transfer scheme could be up and running in 3 years and would bring new water into the area.
- Past records show, that in a drought like 1976, it would have been impossible to fill the Abingdon reservoir from the local Thames for over 18 months.
- What the drought does highlight is that Thames
 Water, who leak more water in a day (600 million
 litres) than any other UK water company, need to
 urgently deal with this problem where a solution
 could be delivered years before the construction
 of any reservoir.

Upcoming dates

 The consultation of the Thames Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) is anticipated to start in mid-November and last for 14 weeks. At the same time, the Water Resources South East (WRSE) draft plan for the region will be out for consultation.

These plans set out how the water companies plan to provide a secure and sustainable water supply. We are waiting to see if the reservoir fits into these plans (as we suspect it will).

- We expect the next 'gate' in the RAPID process to be around the same time. This will be a crucial point, as it represents the earliest point for the government to discard the reservoir plan, or to put it on the back burner for the end of the century.
- Oxfordshire County Council are reviewing dates to reschedule the June water summit. The end of September is now a possibility.

We will keep you all fully informed of the proposals, upcoming dates, and how to campaign against them/share your views on the decisions.

For further information, updates, contact details or to join GARD visit:

www.gard-oxon.org.uk,
Facebook: @abingdonreservoir,
Twitter @GARD_OXON

LETTER FROM WESTMINSTER



DAVID JOHNSTON MP david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR WANTAGE

I'm very grateful to the companies that have offered work experience to local young people so far as part of my work experience campaign. They're from a range of different sectors and highlight the depth and breadth of employment opportunities – and creativity – across the constituency. I have been hosting the young people interested in politics myself – 6 so far – and, given what has been happening in recent weeks, they've seen some quite eventful times in Westminster, albeit still at a bit of a distance. It's clear lots of organisations have got out of the habit of providing work experience as a result of Covid, so if your organisation can help, please do get in touch: I'm arranging placements for October half-term.

You might have seen a debate in parliament has been renamed the Sir David Amess Summer Adjournment Debate. This debate happens just before we go on summer recess and allows us to raise any issues of relevance to our constituencies. Sir David's contribution was always a tour de force as he could get 30 or so topics into a 4-minute speech, so naming the debate in his memory is a fitting tribute.

For what it's worth, I didn't manage anything like 30 topics. I managed to get in a few, including the Didcot Good Neighbour Scheme and my campaigns on GP surgeries, Grove Station, building homes to the latest environmental standards and the Local Electricity Bill, as well as problems constituents have been having with passports and driving licenses (and a couple of other things). But as I said as I started, none of us can get close to what he used to do in that debate.

Recess is its usual mixture of activity: surgery appointments across the constituency and visits to local businesses and charities, alongside attending summer events and the usual casework, door-knocking and planning for the autumn. It's good to be able to spend a lot more time at home in Didcot - even if it is as hot as it is! - but contrary to what some people suggest, it's far from a 5-week holiday. I am getting to read more than I usually get to when parliament is sitting, which I very much miss most of the year, and I will have a week abroad for a holiday, but few of us down tools.

By the time I write the next piece we'll know who the next Prime Minister is. Based on the conversations I've been having, I suspect the race is closer than people expect. Whoever wins has a big set of challenges facing them, starting with the cost of living, particularly energy. While I don't know exactly what each candidate will do if they win, I know whoever does will take further action to support people as every one of us realises how difficult things are.

As ever, if I can help you with anything then do get in touch via david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

David



The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project



It is with sadness but great pride that we say farewell to Roxy Elford who has been a key member of the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project staff for over twelve years. Prior to joining as staff, Roxy engaged with ADYP as a young beneficiary. We are extremely proud of Roxy's achievements in the time she has been with ADYP, both in the personal development of her career and for the support she has given to countless young people over the past twelve years.

Her understanding of young people and approach that she takes with them inspires trust and confidence in the young people and she has a very high success rate in supporting them back on to the Education, Employment, Training track.

After working as a qualified youth worker for some years -Roxy felt her next step was to develop an understanding of the formal education system and the relevance and benefits of informal (youth work) education being integrated in the more formal education system. To this end Roxy, supported by AYDP, did an MA in Education, Childhood and Youth Studies. Roxy is now moving on to take up a fulltime post at Didcot Girls' School (part of the Ridgeway Education Trust) as a teacher of Personal Development. Thank you Roxy and we wish you all the best and know that you are just down the road and our engagement will continue albeit in another context. Roxy wished it recorded that while she is very sad to be leaving, she knows she couldn't have moved forward in her career had it not been for the support and encouragement that ADYP gave her over the years.

Jake Fleetwood is also moving to take up a job closer to home and which leaves him time in the evenings to pursue his other interests. Jake joined us in April 2019 as a qualified youth worker and in the short time that he has been with us transformed our social media engagement - this proved hugely beneficial as not long after, as we all know, we went into lockdown due to the pandemic. It meant that we were able to provide continuous support to our most vulnerable young people and even some face-to-face work as staff were classified as key workers. We know we will still see Jake as he is a keen angler and enjoys the local fishing opportunities. Jake has also offered to come back for some evening sessions - an offer that cannot be turned down!

Due to the summer break, we have not been able to say a proper thank you to Jake and Roxy. They will both be coming back to say a proper goodbye to young people over the autumn term. If anyone would like to contribute to leaving presents for both of them and/or sign a card – please do get in touch.

Rita Atkinson

Emily Damascus

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

Do contact any of us on jamesq.ycat@gmail.com, jakef.ycat@gmail.com, roxy.ycat@gmail.com, emily.adyp@gmail.com

Tel: 01235 848694 or 07875649008

fJake Damascus, Roxy Damascus, James Damascus,

YouTube - The Abingdon Damascus Youth Project - MIND GYM. Website - www.damascusyouthproject.org.uk

LOCAL GROUPS AND CLUBS

Drayton Wives

On 27th July Drayton Wives celebrated their 60th birthday (although a bit late) with a wonderful boat trip down the Thames from Henley.

There was lots of glamour as everyone dressed up for the occasion.

On arrival we were greeted with a summer Pimms and an afternoon tea as we glided first upstream then downstream. The cruise lasted 3 hours during which we manoeuvred locks, saw lots of wildlife and beautiful houses.

A good time was had by all as we look forward to the next 60yrs!!!!

Lisa Lammiman



Drayton Table Tennis Club

The club AGM saw a number of changes at the top table! John Gould has retired as Secretary after over 30 years and is now Chairman from Kevin Davies. John Hyland takes over as Secretary. Additionally, Mike Russell has taken over as Treasurer with Alec Winton stepping down. Kevin and Alec will continue as players I am pleased to say.

A follow-on meeting sorted out our teams for the new Didcot League season. With an influx of new members, we will now run 5 teams for 2022-23. All will play on a Wednesday at home with the school allowing the hire of their 'small' hall to accommodate the extra team. We expect to have one team in Division 1, two in Division 2 and one in each of Divisions 3 & 4.

At the meeting we awarded Life Vice -President positions to Kevin Davies, David Hudson, Tony Krason & Roy Stocker. All these have been stalwarts of the club for over 20 years and join former player Iain Stuart in these positions.

We will return to coaching and practice each Monday from early September with Janet Quarry and Chris Blencowe our coaches. As last season we expect this to be very popular. Our League matches are expected to start late September

John Gould



Drayton Wasps Football Club

The brand new season kicks off on September 3rd for both sides as we begin our journey to win our leagues. Drayton First are once again in Division 1 fighting for the title, hoping to build on their amazing North Berks Cup win last season.

Drayton Reserves finished 3rd in Division 3 last season for a second season running, so this time round, they too hope to achieve finally winning the league.

Both sides had great pre-season results (scores posted on our Facebook Page) and the managers have had a great oppurtunity to look at incorperating a host of new players in with the current squads. Please keep an eye out on our Facebook page for our fixtures, results and any updates we may have. (Drayton Wasps Football Club).

We serve Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks and Beer at our bar so please feel free to come down to watch (we are opposite the Village Hall) and support our campaign this season!

Up The Wasps!

Bradley Cox





Serving Drayton and nearby villages and towns for over 25 years Professional yet personal care for your pets and home when you're away

> info@keyminders.co.uk www.keyminders.co.uk

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LETTERS

<u>Drayton Village Garage Sales/Thames Valley Air</u> <u>Ambulance Total</u>

Myself and my sister Pam, just wanted to thank everyone who took part in the recent garage sales in Drayton either as a seller, buyer, and all those that bought maps and made donations. We raised a total of £183.80! for Thames Valley Air Ambulance which is amazing.

Special thanks to Lawrence and his staff in Vickerys Shop for selling the maps/collecting donations for Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

So, thank you all once again and we hope you all enjoyed the weekend of garage sales.

Kind Regards
Dawn and Pam Haines

Bench Question

There was a bench in the parish council cemetery dedicated to the memory of John Spencer (1937-2005) Unfortunately it has now completely rotted and has had to be removed for safety reasons.

The parish council is in the process of purchasing a new bench and re-installing the plaque to Mr Spencer on it. However, he isn't buried in the cemetery and we have been unable to contact any of his relatives. Does any know anything about him?

Best wishes

Sue Harris (Parish Councillor)

Reasons to Reuse Wood

The current international supply chain issues affecting building materials have been felt acutely within the timber trade with knock on affects for customers seeking wood for DIY projects. Timber shortages and high prices serve to highlight the environmental benefits and wisdom of being frugal and for reclaiming usable wood from waste. Just down the road in Abingdon, local social enterprise and charity Oxford Wood Recycling (OWR) have been doing just that for the past 17 years.

OWR is a lot more than a timber merchant. Although the Woodshop has been described as an Aladdin's cave of useful wood and quirky items, in fulfilling its mission to care for the environment and transform lives all of their business activities are solely for the benefit of the community.

Drayton residents may have seen OWR's caged trucks scurrying to and from domestic or commercial pick-ups of waste wood. At least 20% of the wood is reclaimed— the rest is recycled—resulting in 350-400 tonnes per annum of timber kept in circulation and available for DIY. Some staff started as volunteers at OWR before being offered permanent roles and they are rightly proud of the support provided to ensure that everyone develops and thrives. In 2021 with help from the Postcode Lottery 'Wood to Work' opened, a professional employability service serving individuals perhaps furthest from being able to compete in the jobs market. There have been fantastic early results with four of the first participants being offered employment in the past couple of months.

If you are popping in for some wood or just to look around, you will be warmly welcomed and be assured that the timber and furniture products are hard fought for and come with added value.

For more information see www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk

Mike Holland, OWR

THE LATEST WHETHER FORECAST

There is no longer any speculation as to when or weather the entrance signs will be installed. The outlook is extremely sunny.

I am so pleased to be able to tell you that after being under high pressure for some time, I can report that the latest forecast for the entrance signs to the village is for them to be installed before Christmas. Everything has been approved by the Highways Department as well as the PC, so it's all systems go, and the winds of hope are blowing. Final date to be confirmed.

An extra note:

The sum that we collected for DAMASCUS during the Parish council Jubilee celebrations, and afterwards at the sale of leftover Jubilee mugs kindly arranged by Lawrence Vickery, came to £213.65 and £220 respectively. Therefore a grand total of £433.65 which I handed over to Rita Atkinson, the hurricane of activity behind DAMASCUS. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed. I've been flooded with help, and had buckets of support.

Pervin Shahin Drayton PC

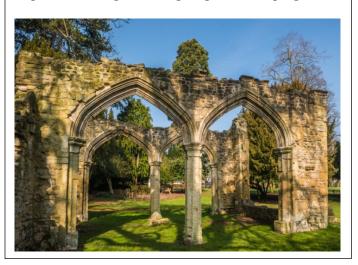
Heritage Open Day

We would be most grateful if you would advertise our forthcoming Heritage Open Day event in the next issue of the Drayton Chronicle. These days are always popular and provide a different look at the locality.

With many thanks, Ruth Weinberg Heritage Open Day Group

Abingdon's Heritage Open Days are always a highlight of the town's late summer events calendar. This year the main events are on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September, but our "Engines, Drains and Nuisances" Exhibition will be open in St Ethelwolds on the Thursday and Friday as well and we kick off with a talk in the Unicorn Theatre on Wednesday 14th. This year's theme is "Astounding Inventions and Innovations" - very appropriate for this area - and we will have the usual mix of exhibitions, open historic buildings, walks, talks and trails. You can find the full programme at

https://www.abingdonheritage.org.uk/festivalprogramme



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LETTERS continued

Abingdon Arts Society Fundraising Events

In what seems to be becoming an annual fixture, the Abingdon Arts Society, formerly known as NADFAS, supported two fund raising garden parties in Pervin Shahin's magical garden in early August. On two consecutive days, Pervin once again hosted the events which provided guests with two perfect afternoons of tea and entertainment,

The two charities supported were Clear Sky, which provides art therapy for local young children, and DAMASCUS, which is well known to Drayton residents for its unwavering commitment to work with underprivileged teenagers in the local area.

Leaders of both charities began the proceedings on each day by explaining their aims and giving examples of projects and activities they had been working on. Art is seen by both groups as a key way of engaging with young people. Their dedication and enthusiasm were an inspiration, as they explained how they provided stability and continuity for young people with often chaotic lives.

On the second day, James Quartermain and Loren Knowles from DAMASCUS highlighted how internet platforms such as Instagram and TikTok enabled members to share photos and videos of their artwork as well as providing an online community for members and leaders alike.

This was followed by tea with an array of mouth-watering cakes baked by Abingdon Arts Society members which were served in great style by Pervin and helpers.

The afternoon concluded with music. Pervin, who is a professional harpist, was accompanied by Penny Shackleton on the flute and together they provided a delightful medley of music perfectly rounding off an excellent afternoon.

The amount raised was £1,200 over the two days.

Many thanks are due to all who worked hard to produce such successful afternoons especially Pervin and family whose tremendous efforts ensured a good time was had by all.

Liz Branson







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DRAYTON HALL NEWS



I mentioned last month, we've a class, Traditional Irish Dance, Tuesday evenings, starts Sept 13th. Ashleigh is on 07375 978445 for info and bookings, but tells me the class is for fouryear-olds and upwards.

Also to look out for: the latest Antiques Fair (Sunday 4th, 9.30 to 3pm) and a further Craft Fair, run by Kathy Head, Sat 24th from 11 to probably 3pm, and in aid of her excellent 'homeless' charity.

There's a **HAMSTER show** (Sat 17th) run by the Midlands Hamster club (like a Crufts, but Hamsters). Most of the classes are for the serious breeders who'll be showing their stock, but the shows USUALLY have a 'Pet Class', so if you've a hamster to show off, you could try that? All the info is on https://www.midlandhamsterclub.co.uk/ourshows/entering-the-pet-class/ but from memory, the entry for that more informal class is around 10am?

And an October date for you, the **Bob Cutting** Big Band (very well known locally) has arranged a show, unusually for the Hall a Sunday evening, Oct 16th. More info nearer the time. For those who haven't seen them, expect numbers made famous by the likes of Count Basie, and Glen Miller, with some more modern composers not forgotten.

Tony Holmes



(Mostly) Hall Diary for September

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 >>)

ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm) 4 9.30am

Sat 10 6.00pm **Private Function**

Parish Council Meeting Tues 13 7.30pm Caudwell DC (Planning C'tee – 7pm)

17 10.00am Hamster Show

Sun 18 10.30am Private Function (child's party) Mon 19 5.00pm **CHRONICLE DEADLINE (see p2)**

(NB Adverts by Friday 16th please!) 24 11.00am (to 3pm, Craft Fair – Kathy Head)

25 11.30am **Private Function**

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 (now 2nd Tuesday)

5.30 pm Irish Dancing - from Sept 13th (07375 978445) 7.30 pm UKELELE Group! (info:-Gill, 07919 976081)

WEDNESDAYS

10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) Caudwell DC 1.30 pm Whist Drive

2.00 pm Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month) ##

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 (Ex Weds - check start date!) 9.45 am Holy Communion (**) St Peter's Lady Chapel Baptist Café (to 1pm) NOW IN >> 11.00 am Caudwell DC

2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session

Crafts Group (2nd Thursday - run by U3A, but it's 2.00 pm simple to join. Call Kate for info 01235 550486) ##

5.30 pm Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs) ##

7.30 pm Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)

7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) Caudwell DC

FRIDAYS

ShikiDojo Martial Arts (Paul - 07479 824887) 7.15 pm

NB DO PLEASE check with Paul before attending! ##

SUNDAYS

(**) For all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), PLEASE see our St Peter's Church page

6.00 pm **Evening Service** Baptist Church



16th October 19:30-22:00 at the Drayton Village Hall

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