

DRAYTON CHRONICLE

Issue Editor: Derek Pooley

Volume 29 No. 8

September 2006

FRATERNITÉ, de DRAYTON et LESPARRÉ Alun Griffiths



The Drayton Twinning Group made its fourth biennial visit to Lesparre in Medoc in mid-July, timed to coincide with the annual Bastille-Day celebrations in France. The main party left Southampton at a relatively civilised time on 13th July, arriving in Lesparre late afternoon, which gave the visitors just enough time to settle with their hosts before being taken to the night market at Montalibert, a nearby seaside resort town on the glorious Atlantic "Cote Sauvage". The rest of the group arrived on Friday morning, after a less civilised 6 am departure from Gatwick, just as the Bastille Day ceremonies were starting. This was similar to our Armistice day celebrations, with a procession to the cenotaph led by the local veterans. After a short ceremony reaffirming "Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité", there was a drive past by the fire brigade, which has a youth section similar to our Scout and Guide movements. No ceremony in the Medoc would be complete without a small "degustation", so off we went to the town hall for a welcome glass of fizz.



The Drayton visitors are shown round Blaye

The plan for the afternoon was a trip to the local races but the weather was too hot, so hosts made their own arrangements for their guests. A large group had an impromptu picnic in the pine forest just inland from the sea – no soggy sandwiches or limp lettuce here, but a veritable feast, with roast chicken, tarts, cold meats and fresh, juicy, local fruit. After that, a snooze on the beach or a swim in the sea, time enough to rest before the evening's Blues concert, BBQ and fireworks. The Blues concert was fantastic – genuine Mississippi blues from Jackie Bell and the Bordeaux Blues Connection, names to look out for! ➔

➔ Saturday was slightly more formal, with a short film at the "Maison du Vin" in Paulliac, lunch at a local restaurant then a guided tour of Chateau Lanessian with a wine tasting. The Chateau was very impressive, set in large grounds which also house a horse carriage-driving school. The stables were equally impressive and the horses seem to have been treated better than the servants, living in opulent stables with blue marble water troughs, polished brass ornaments and every known equine comfort. There was a brief thunderstorm as we drove back to Lesparre, but it held off during the evening BBQ which was supplemented by a karaoke session. Although most of the songs were in French, this did not stop us joining in.



Sunday morning was a time of rest, though breakfast seemed to flow fairly seamlessly into lunch, and then it was a dash through the back-roads of Medoc to catch the ferry across the Gironde to the mediaeval, fortified town of Blaye (opposite). By now, the temperature had reached 37 deg C so we took every opportunity to sit in the shade and sip a cold beer or an iced tea. We had an excellent bilingual guide to explain the history of Blaye, and he coped very well with both the barrage of questions and torrent of rain that fell during a thunderstorm half-way through the tour. The day was rounded off by an evening meal at the homes of our hosts.

Another wonderful visit to Lesparre and, once again, we were treated very well indeed. Those visiting for the first time commented on the genuine friendship that has grown up over the past seven years. **A party from Lesparre will be visiting Drayton next summer and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us and host individuals, couples or families.**

Continued on page 7

Also in this issue:

- P3: Celebrating Schumann's genius
- P4: Restoring Lebanese grass
- P5: Fair Trade Sales on Saturdays
- P6: MVEMCJSUNPCX?
- P7: Almshouses Trustee needed
- P7: Drayton Village Hall online
- P8: Pre-School Playgroup Administrator needed
- P10: See the Spy who came in for the Phone
- P11: Drayton is judged to be
'A busy, caring community'



**Drayton Players invite you to a
Comedy Drama Night
with interval supper**

**Thursday 28th, Friday 29th & Saturday 30th September
7.30pm at Drayton Village Hall**

**Tickets, including supper £7.50
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CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The **October Chronicle** will be available for distribution to Area Agents on **Friday, 29 September 2006** from **Margaret Armstrong, 1 Crabtree Lane (531122)**, who should be contacted by any Agents requiring copies additional to their allocation.

The Editor will be **Tony Holmes, 53 Whitehorns Way (531180)**. Contributions should be emailed to the editor or placed in the Chronicle letter box, which is outside Vickery's hardware store on Drayton Green,

no later than 5.15 pm on Monday, 18 September 2006.

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

THE SUBSEQUENT THREE MONTHS

Issue for	Copy for publication and return of Agents Lottery Packs needed by Monday:	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:
November	16 October 2006	27 October 2006
December	20 November 2006	01 December 2006
Jan/Feb	08 January 2007	19 January 2007

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

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

A contribution can be sent to us in one of several ways:

1. The best is by **email** to the relevant editor. These contributions should either be in **plain text** or attached as a **rich-text** or **Microsoft Word** document; we do not have all word processing packages! When using email make sure the editor acknowledges your contribution within 2 or 3 days. The editors' email addresses are:

Tony Holmes tony-holmes@ntlworld.com
 David Lee david_r.lee@ntlworld.com
 Derek Pooley derek_pooley@talk21.com

2. On a **3½" diskette**, in PC format, preferably as a Microsoft Word file. Please include your address if you want the disk returned to you.

3. As a **good quality, fairly large, simple black typescript, without underlining** on white A4 paper or smaller. Our optical character recognition software can read typescripts but only imperfectly, especially if the typeface is elaborate or small.

4. Any **hand-written items** are dictated directly to the computer or typed up by a willing team of typists. **Please write the names of people and places in capital letters.** This does save a lot of mistakes.

It can be a great help if paper items are left in the box a few days before the closing date.

ADVERTISING RATES

For a single Block Advert (about 1/12th page)

----- Number of Inserts -----

Advertiser Category:	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£5.00	£14.00	£25.50	£48.00
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Double-size adverts are charged at **twice** the above rates.

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

They may be placed in the Chronicle Letter Box, outside Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, **no later than the Friday before the main Monday deadline given above.**

To discuss requirements phone **Linda Semmens**, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, on 531180 or email linda.semmens@ntlworld.com.

CHRONICLE LOTTERY

Daphne Samworth, Hon Promoter

RESULTS OF THE AUGUST LOTTERY

Prize	Ticket	Winner	Agent
£25	0949	Mrs Blogg, 46 High street	Margaret Long
£20	2005	Pater Canfield, 9 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£15	1389	Mrs Parrott, 58 Steventon Road	Jackie Walker
£10	2043	Mrs Donovan, 1 Whitehorns Way	Trudi Buckner
£10	0694	Mrs J Stevens, 44 Abingdon Road	Jennie Stevens
£10	0387	Mrs Brock, 39 Sutton Wick Lane	Beryl Dawson
£10	2405	E Morgan, 6 Eastway	Teresa Burnage
£10	1085	Mr. Jones, 1 Halls Close`	Mary Alexander
£10	1792	Mr Broad, 96 Whitehorns Way	Terry Arnold
£10	0077	Mrs Lucas, Sutton Wick Lane	Julie Brown

The winning tickets were drawn by members of the Bowls Club from the 2098 tickets sold



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NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

We welcome Alan Elson, who has recently moved into the High Street from Kidlington

Sadly, Joan Judd has had to leave her house in Steventon Road to move into a care home in Worthing.

Sadly for us, Tom and Veronique Robitaille, with Luke and Jake, are leaving Halls Close to return to Montreal in Canada

We wish Joan and the Robitailles all the best for the future

CHRONICLE NEWS

We are delighted to welcome Janet Tilt as a new Area Agent. She has agreed to take over Lyford Close. Thank you Janet, and we trust you will enjoy meeting more people in Drayton.

We are very grateful to Gerald Redman who has been looking after the area as a temporary measure. Thank you Gerald, it was kind of you to help in this way.

We are always looking for new people to help. We are particularly looking for help on the Steventon Road. This can be done on a job share basis, so does not have to be every month. Do please contact me!

Thanks to everyone for all the hard work that goes on to make sure that the Chronicle is delivered to almost every house in Drayton. Everyone on the Chronicle team is a volunteer and gives freely of their time and energy to make the publication a success.

Thank you one and all!

Jean Barton



Holiday Villa to Let *Near Calis Beach, Fethiye,* **TURKEY**

This well equipped villa is one of 12 set round a lovely swimming pool. It has four air-conditioned bedrooms and can sleep seven in comfort.

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NOTICE BOARD

ABINGDON ANGLO-GERMAN CLUB Leslie Argyle

Visitors are most welcome to come to our meetings at the Abbey Chapel, Checker Walk, Abingdon. On Thursday 7th September we have music by Schumann, Brahms and Clara Schumann, to celebrate the Schumann/Heine 150th anniversaries, played by Brien Masters (Piano) and Julia Katarina (Soprano):

On Thursday 5th October we have a talk on 'Berlin - today and tomorrow' by Axel Hahn, Member of the Praesidium of the Abaeordenetenhaus, Berlin.

For more information phone the secretary on 533887

WANTAGE STAGE MUSICAL COMPANY Mike Davies

Following the last two year's successful 'Old-Time-Music-Hall' and 'Variety Show' tours, WSMCo are now performing yet another 'Old Time Music Hall'. This year it's the usual format with comedy sketches and silly songs interspersed with some good singing, including a few harmony numbers from the chorus. As well as the statutory melodrama, they will be performing a spoof Shakespeare play "All's Well That Ends As You Like It" by the 'Art of Course Acting' writer Michael Green.

In his review of last years variety show in the Newbury Weekly News, Trevor Dobson said "They presented a very enjoyable evening's entertainment with some good voices coming to the fore well backed by members of the company"...

They are performing on Saturday 30th September at Steventon Village Hall. Tickets are £10/£8 (inc food) from Mike Davies 01235 821 351 or by phoning 01235 770087.



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Licensed Lay Minister	Dr Peter Barton523702
Minister in Training	Mrs Rosie Bruce.....525284
Churchwardens	Mr Peter Cline530519 Mrs Sue Harris848361
Organist	Mr Adrian Thompson.....01865 714801
Choir	Mrs Rosie Bruce.....525284

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship - Traditional)
	10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (CW), except 2nd Sunday when there is a non-Eucharistic Family Service
Mon - Fri	8.15 am	Morning Prayer (CW) in Lady Chapel
Wed	10.30 am	Parents' & Toddlers Service in Church Room
Thurs	9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW) in Lady Chapel.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday	10.00 am	Pebbles (every 3 weeks)	<i>Church Room</i>
Monday	7.45 pm	Bell Ringing Practice	<i>Bell Tower</i>
Fridays	6.30 pm	Choir Practice (fortnightly)	<i>Church Room</i>

CALENDAR FOR JUNE

Sun	3rd	11.15pm	Sale of Fair Trade Goods	<i>Church</i>
Tues	5th	3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections	<i>Church Room</i>

PARISH REGISTER

Baptism

30th July	Ben Alfie Hayward
30th May	Grace Olivia Payne

Funeral

7th August	James William James
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YOU STAY - WE PRAY

27 Aug – 2 Sept: High Street; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close. 3 – 16 Sept: Lockway and Whitehorns Way. 17 – 23 Sept: Corneville Road; Crabtree Lane; Lesparre Close. 24 - 30 Sept; Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill.

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LETTER FROM REV JOSIE MIDWINTER

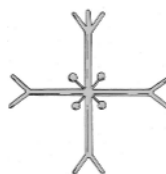
Dear Friends

The Africans have a saying: 'When elephants fight it is the grass that suffers'. This proverb can well apply to the recent conflict across Lebanese territory. The two "elephants" are the Israeli army and Hezbollah. As they slog it out with artillery and rockets the people at the grass-roots – the ordinary men, women and children of the area – endure terrible suffering. The destruction of buildings and property has caused long lines of refugees and the casualty lists have been predominately civilians.

The Lebanese Republic was formed in 1926 but the history of the region goes back over 5,000 years. The cedars of Lebanon were greatly sought after for important buildings and we read in the Bible that King Solomon used them in the building of the Temple in Jerusalem. However the problem for Lebanon has been that it is a 'corridor' between so many great powers of the past – Mongol – Egypt – Babylon - Greek – Roman – Turk – and its territory has been blighted by wars which were not its own. There are about 70% Muslim and 30% Christian in the population and this has also been a cause of friction at various times.

The very first Christian missionaries planted the Christian faith there in the first century as they travelled out from Jerusalem. In the fourth century, St Maro, a Syrian monk, developed the church and his followers now form the largest group of Christians known as Maronites. There are Greek orthodox churches and monasteries in the north. In more recent years evangelical Christian groups have helped to found schools and hospitals in the country for the benefit of all in need.

Up in the northern mountains there are a number of monasteries, some of which fell into disrepair in the earlier part of the twentieth century. One was the monastery of St John the Baptist, at Douma near the village of Beit Chala, which has taken the ancient Lebanese Cross (left) as its symbol. It took the spiritual energy of one woman, the Mother Superior, Mother Maria, to turn things round. She was inspired by the need to breathe peace and love and spiritual value back into her ravaged country. Greek orthodox worship finds inspiration in a poetic liturgy, which is both said and sung. Prayer is at the heart both of that worship and the daily life of the believer.



It is hard to know how Lebanon is going to recover from this latest round of violence. It will take years to reconstruct the shattered economy as well as the ruined buildings. Even harder is for people to put their lives back together after all the trauma they have suffered. The 'elephants' have trampled a lot of grass.

It needs many more like Mother Maria to work for that reconstruction. Not just a reconstruction of the physical infrastructure, although that is essential, but a reconstruction of people's inner lives, emotional and spiritual. Both the Christian and Muslim traditions hold these things as central to their respective faiths. Let us pray that they can put aside differences and seek unity to work for the harmony of all. The elephants have trampled the grass, but the spirit of love and care can make it grow again. Please pray for Lebanon and its future.

Josie Midwinter

BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastoral Co-ordinator: Mr Roy Brown.....Tel. 531296

REGULAR SUNDAY SERVICES

- 11.15 am Presently only one morning service per month. This is the Family Service, and is on the first Sunday of each month
- 6.00 pm Evening Service. A traditional form of service frequently with guest speakers. Communion every second Sunday of the month.

EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP

High Street, Milton, (near the Post Office)
Sunday Service: 10.30 am

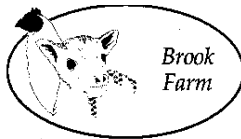
Local contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle, 531409

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS **Jean Hager**

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? Why not come along to our monthly tea and chat afternoons. They are held on the first Tuesday of the month in St Peter's Church Room from 3.00 pm to 4:30 pm and you are invited to drop in during these times. The teapot is always at the ready and you can be sure of a warm welcome. Our next two dates are 5th September and 3rd October. If you need transport or further information please give me a call on 531558.

Our September date will include an 'exercises from the chair' session and in October (our 4th birthday) an Age Concern representative will be joining us.

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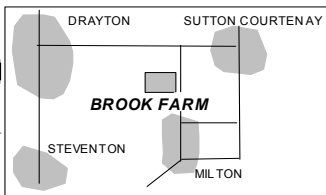
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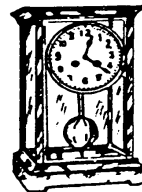
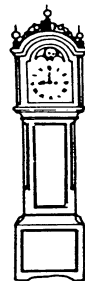
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FAIR TRADE

Val Cross

St Peter's Church has a sale of Fair Trade goods on the first Sunday of each month from 11.15 to 11.45 am and everyone is welcome to come. However, as this may not be a convenient time for everyone, we will now be selling the goods on the preceding Saturday between 9.45 and 10.45am, the first Saturday sale being on 30th September and subsequently on 4th November and 2nd December. Tea and coffee (Fair Trade of course) will be served, so come along for a cup of tea or coffee and a chat and see the range of goods available.

If you are unable to make it, but would be interested in buying Fair Trade goods, maybe placing a regular order, please contact me on 535183 or Victoria Griffiths on 531463. Traidcraft was established in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty and works with people of all faiths and none, to create opportunities for the poor to harness the benefits of trade, offering them hope for a better future.

If everyone could commit to spending £2 - £5 a month on fairly traded goods (ie. the price of a packet of tea, or tea and a jar of coffee) it would make a huge difference.

SALE OF FAIR TRADE GOODS

St Peter's Church

Saturday 30th September

9.45 to 10.45am



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At the recent Drayton Community Day, Daria Stimpson reminds Jean Ferneyhough and Brenda Malin of the 'Hall News' whilst current Chronicle editor Dave Lee looks on

WOODEN SPOON RECIPE

Lois Rennels

Recipe No. 20 (from April 1990) Curried Prawn Soup

2 tablespoons ground almonds, 2 tablespoons desiccated coconut, ¼ pint boiling water, 2 oz butter or margarine, 1 onion (peeled and minced), 2 sticks celery (minced), 1 oz plain flour, 1½ teaspoons curry powder, 1 pt chicken stock, 2 teaspoons lemon juice, salt, freshly ground black pepper, few drops tabasco sauce, 1 bay leaf, ½ pint milk, 3 – 4 oz peeled prawns, 4 – 6 tablespoons double cream.

- Put the almonds and coconut into a bowl, pour on the boiling water, mix well and leave until cold. Strain off the liquor and reserve, squeezing out any excess with the back of a spoon.
- Melt the butter or margarine in a large saucepan. Add the onion and celery and fry gently for 3 – 4 minutes until soft. Stir in the flour and curry powder and cook gently for 2 minutes.
- Add the stock and coconut liquor and bring to the boil. Add the lemon juice, salt, pepper, tabasco sauce and bay leaf, cover and simmer for 20 minutes.
- Discard the bay leaf, stir in the milk and prawns and return to the boil for 2 – 3 minutes. Stir in the cream, taste and adjust the seasoning.
- Garnish with parsley and prawns.

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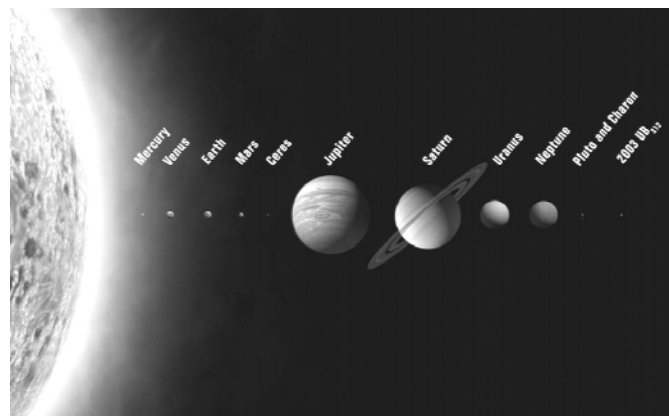
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NOW WE ARE 12 - Going on 100! Derek Pooley

Last year, having some empty space to fill in the September 2005 Chronicle, I wrote 'Now we are 10, or are we really only 8?'. Astronomers had just discovered a new 'planet', then and now officially called '2003 UB313' but now unofficially called Xena. The discovery had sparked a debate as to whether the newly discovered object, or for that matter the long known but very small and distant planet Pluto, should really be counted as planets at all or simply seen as another of the many 'small Solar System bodies' known to be orbiting our sun.

Well, the International Astronomical Union has deliberated for a year and has (almost) concluded that both Pluto and Xena should be counted as planets. They decided that we need to have a strict definition of planets and that it should be: *A planet is a celestial body that (a) has sufficient mass for its self-gravity to overcome rigid body forces so that it assumes a hydrostatic equilibrium (nearly round) shape, and (b) is in orbit around a star, and is neither a star nor a satellite of a planet.* How about that?

This means that there are not 10 solar-system planets, nor 8 but 12. Ceres, the largest of the long-known asteroids orbiting the sun between Mars and Jupiter, is a planet under the new definition. So is Charon, previously seen as a satellite of Pluto but really its twin sister. So, to remember the current 12 names you should either keep the picture below (courtesy of the IAU) or remember the mnemonic (courtesy of the 'Times') 'Most Victorian Euphoniums Make Cats Jump Suddenly Unless Neighbours Play Calming Xylophones'. But the mnemonic has a sell-by date, even if Xena is eventually confirmed as the name of 2003 UB313, because the number of planets will now rapidly grow as today's powerful telescopes find more - and may eventually reach 100!



ALL AROUND

DRAYTON TWINNING

Alun Griffiths

Continued from page 1.



Twinning Group members Jill and Bob Matthews - extolling the delights of Lesparre at the recent Drayton Community Day

Like many organisations in Drayton and across the Vale, the Drayton Twinning Group is largely self-financing. Apart from some welcome support from the district and parish councils, we need to raise money for the twinning events from fund-raising activities.

We are holding one of these in the **Steventon Village Hall** on **Saturday 23rd September**. This is a jazz evening with the East Coast Kings who played for us at Steventon during last year's visit from Lesparre. The band play a great mixture of foot-tappin' tunes and it's a great pleasure to have them play for us again. Tickets cost £10 and include supper – contact Bob Matthews (531204) for details. There will also be a cash bar.



St. Peter's Church, Drayton

Gift Day

Saturday 30th September

Rev'd Josie Midwinter will be in church from **10am to 3pm** on that Saturday to receive any gifts which people might want to make for the work and upkeep on the parish church. All money given will be used to maintain St Peter's church and churchyard. Everybody in the village should receive a letter about the Gift Day, if you do not receive one copies are available in church.

Thank you for your support

ALMSHOUSES TRUSTEES

Josie Midwinter

Drayton is fortunate to have six modern almshouses, which are available to older people in the community who need accommodation. These almshouses are managed by a group of five Trustees. The Parish Council nominates two, two are co-opted and one (the vicar) is ex-officio. The Trustees are responsible for the good management of the almshouses and for selecting the residents when there is a vacancy. The Almshouse Trustees are affiliated to the National Association of Almshouses and all our funds come under the strict rules of the Charity Commissioners.

For the last ten years Diana Hasting has been a Trustee and in recent years been the Clerk of Works. In this time she has done an exemplary job in keeping the almshouses in good order – this has included refurbishing both kitchens and bathrooms. Last month Diana decided to step down from her position as a Trustee, and as chair I would like to thank her for all the hard work she has put into her trusteeship.

Diana was a co-opted trustee and we are now looking for someone to replace her. If you are interested, or you can recommend someone who might be interested, in becoming a Trustee please contact the Clerk to the Trustees Mrs Camilla King, Gothic House, High Street, Drayton – telephone 531253

VILLAGE HALL WEBSITE

Ann Webb

The village hall now has its own website, www.draytonvh.org. It is based on a website of a Wiltshire village hall and adapted to fit our needs. It is now programmed with this year's and next year's bookings. From this anyone may view availability for weekends and regular bookings of all village activities held in the hall. The hall can be viewed online and a booking form downloaded and sent to the booking secretary with a deposit to secure the booking. All the information you need is supplied and can be read on screen or downloaded by anyone for anyone.

But bookings can still be made the old way, if this suits you better. All organisations can operate their own website but you will need a password. Please contact us for this information. Don't forget a booking can be made on the 'under 4 week rule' at a very attractive reduction. The bar is now included in any age-legal booking. The last page of the website can be used free for any village organisation to publicise any forthcoming event on receipt of the particulars. The 21st of Dec is still available (at the time of writing) for your party. Call me on 531418!

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7.30 pm
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MORE ALL AROUND

TODDLER GROUP

Anna Loughlin

Drayton Toddlers have been busy playing, singing, gluing and painting each Thursday during the Summer. It's been great to meet some older brothers and sisters who have joined us during the break.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Barnardo's Toddle. The money is still coming in and so far we have collected £84.

The Toddler Fun Day will take place on Thursday 7th September between 9.30 and 11am. Please come along to support us. The Tempest Photographic Agency will be there to take a lovely photo of your children. Come and sample some tasty treats and browse the Usborne Books stall. Helene Craig of HSC Holistics will be offering Indian Head Massages to ease away those back-to-school stresses and strains! As ever, the children can enjoy the Toddler Toys. Please do come along. The normal rate of entry will apply. It's a wonderful way to check out the Toddler Group and meet some friendly mums.

See you all in September.

PRE SCHOOL

Trudi Humphreys

As summer holidays are in full swing this will be brief!

Pre School are hoping to improve their gardens and play area in the near future; any donations of plants, fencing, paints etc would be gratefully received. A very big thank-you goes to Tony Faulkner for his very kind cash donation to help with the new garden.

Nestle box tops and Persil stars are still being gratefully received. Geoff Dix has a collection box for vouchers in his village shop; please donate any you may have and a pre school representative will collect them.

There are places available from September at pre school, Monday to Friday, morning and afternoon sessions. Also, lunch club is available daily, which with a morning and afternoon session would equate to full day childcare in term time. Please telephone 01235 536094 for an information pack or to arrange a visit.

Drayton Pre-school Playgroup

requires an

ADMINISTRATOR

This is a paid position for 38 weeks in school term, an average of 8 hours per week, mainly working from home

Aims:

- Improve the quality of information the group has to manage its business
- Reduce the burden on unpaid volunteers
- Provide continuity when management committees change

Reporting to the chairperson, duties will include:

- Managing group records
- Managing the register, waiting lists, time sheets and invoices
- Preparing annual accounts
- Contributions to business planning
- Point of contact for Oxfordshire Children's Information Services.
- Any other additional tasks required by the chairperson.

The hours and duties of this position will be reviewed after 12 months

If you are interested please contact Adele 07749 750071 or Annette 07816 580563 by **8th Sept** for more information or an informal chat.



St. Peter's Pebbles

For Parents/Carers and Toddlers
10:30 am in the Church Room
every Wednesday in term time

A time of songs, craft and play. Tea and chat for adults.
Everyone is welcome

Autumn term starts on Wednesday 13th September

SCHOOL REPORT

Anita Hedditch

The beginning of a new School year; new starts and change. This includes building work which will be finished for the start of the term to create a more secure access to the school itself. Visitors will, from what I hear, only be allowed access to the school via a new buzzer system. Also the head teacher gains an office to herself at long last.

The new term brings new starters who include Jordan Strong, Della Brant, Samuel Hopkins, Jacob Gurl, Gracie Humphreys, Morgan Atherton, Leah Smith, Samuel Clayton, Taylor Wolton-Alford, Kira Powell, Louis Kogel and Oliver Poulter. These children join the reception class with Miss Stezhorn and Ber Rayner.

FODSA have provided a new canopy to provide vital shade in the play area for the reception class. This was in the process of being fixed in place at the end of the term.

Year six leavers include Ellie Gordon, Kerry Muldoon, Sean McKenna, James McKenna, Betsy Caudle, Reece Tickell, Jasmin Burnage, Conor Painton, Lewis Bowers, Isaac Jordan and Georgia Boulton. They go to a variety of local schools and we wish them well as they settle into their new environments, routines and experiences. Their final gesture to the school was to beat the teachers at the annual teachers versus year six rounders match.

Other families who move on this year include the Jordans, Maia, and Kasia who are moving to the Hendreds CE School; and the Bradfords, Shaun and Emma who are moving to the Manor at Didcot. However we can welcome to the middle Unit Bianca and Amber Moffat who have moved into Hilliats Field recently. ➔



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529510

YET MORE ALL AROUND

⇒ The school term will start with the usual babble of recounting holiday activities, drawing and story writing of experiences. The children adjust to their new placing in the school and sport activities get underway. Good luck to everyone including the teachers for a happy start to the term.

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Gould

Many thanks to Janet & Glenn at the Red Lion for providing a room and buffet for our recent Pre-season Meeting. The food was substantial & excellent.

The main item was to select our teams for the forthcoming season in the Didcot & District Table Tennis Association League that will start in mid September. Following a very successful advertising campaign we are pleased to have seven new members at the club. In addition two 'old boys' namely Shaun Collins & Martin Honey have returned. Having lost three players from last season these additions have been critical to the club.

We will have 5 teams playing in the League next season – one up on last season. The new team Captains have stepped forward (all very willing volunteers) and all that is needed are to dust off our bats and get down to practice. Practice nights will be every Monday from 7.30 pm at Drayton School starting 4th September 2006. Home League matches will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The new season will be our 21st in the League so we have decided to arrange a celebration. A sub committee of Tony Krason, Steve Gardner & Roy Stocker will come up with ideas for a suitable event for February or March 2007.

Once again we are grateful for the Governors of the School for continuing to support our use of their facilities and we are all looking forward to a successful season.

As always the Club welcomes new members – both social and league players. Feel free to come along any Monday evening to try us out.



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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Pearl Stanbridge

The branch standard bearer has been invited to parade our standard at the Festival of Remembrance at The Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 11 November.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Monday 18 September at 8pm.

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EVEN MORE ALL AROUND

DRAYTON PLAYERS

Jean Hager

We are now in the final weeks of preparation for our two one-act comedy/drama plays - plus interval supper. In the advertisement on the front page of this Chronicle, you will find details of prices and booking, together with a phone number for enquiries. Don't forget the performance dates - 28th to 30th September; come along and enjoy a good night's entertainment.



Edward Henderson and Katie Green will play in 'The spy who came in for the phone'

W.I.

Ann Webb

Our August meeting took the form of a miniature Grow Cook and Sew. We gathered in the garden building because the weather had turned rather chilly and unreliable. We had 12 classes and each one was supported. Considering our small numbers that was an achievement. Members set up their entries and retired while our guest judges Mrs Gwen Price and Rev Jose Midwinter surveyed our efforts. After the judging we all had a well-earned supper and fruit punch and sampled some of the entries. The logic in this was that we did not have to carry them home!

We finished the evening with a memory test quiz and a look back through past photos and our Jubilee scrapbook assembled in 1970 by members. Next month we are back in the Hall; our speaker is Jennie Garlic and her subject is Quilting. Visitors are always welcome. Wit & Wisdom Quiz night this year is on Nov 10th. Do put in a team - see October Chronicle for details. ➔

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DRAYTON WIVES

Daphne Barrand

Our Bring & Share Lunch, which we were going to have in July, was cancelled due to the hot weather. We are hoping to have it at the end of this month. It would be ironic if we have rain on that day, however welcome rain might be.

Dates for your Diary in September:-

Mon 4th COFFEE Mary Alexander, High St.

Mon 18th WHIST Doreen Eato, Caudwell DC.

Wed 27th MEETING SCRAP BOOKING, Aly Atkins.

It may interest everyone to know that our membership is now up to 44 members - and maybe 46 by September.



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Jennifer Pooley

The most encouraging thing this month is the positive report Drayton was given by the Best Kept Village judges. Shops, pubs, school grounds, playground, churchyard and burial ground were noted for their neat appearance. The judges were pleased to see that most of the allotments were under cultivation, (and since the judging two more have been leased). The village hall was thought an attractive building, though perhaps in need of a coat of paint. The Millennium Green was seen as an attractive, maturing area, one that the village is fortunate to have. Sadly the judges noticed the rubbish thrown into the pond! The majority of houses and gardens were in good order and the judge's overall impression was of "a busy, caring community".



Perhaps prompted by what she had heard and seen at the Drayton Community Day, (which the Council unanimously agreed had been a great success) one member of the public attended the meeting, wanting to know more about the workings of the Parish Council. For the benefit of others who may be interested :-

A parish the size of Drayton is entitled to 11 Councillors, elected every four years. The full council meets monthly to discuss a range of issues affecting the village, for example the recent setting up of Police Neighbourhood Action Groups, Thames Water's reservoir plans, road safety measures, upkeep of public areas. In addition there are four sub committees/working groups that meet occasionally. The Finance Committee decides what precept to request from the VWHDC and how to budget it; the Planning Committee comments on all planning applications within Drayton before final decisions are made by the VWHDC planning department; the Rights of Way and Conservation Working Group tries to ensure that paths and stiles are in good condition and the countryside cared for while the General Purposes Working Group looks after things such as play areas, bus shelters, burial ground and tree safety. (Since the last report, work on the tree and pavement at the Village Hall entrance has been completed and a possible stay of execution obtained for the horse-chestnut outside Vickery's). Councillors also attend occasional meetings organised by the OCC, the VWHDC and groups such as Fluvius (the reservoir watchdog). ➔

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➔ For some time we have had only eight Councillors and, sadly, one of those has just had to resign for family reasons. So your Parish Council is somewhat depleted. Helping to ensure that Drayton remains "a busy, caring community" is an interesting and important task, so if any reader feels they would like to be co-opted to the Parish Council they would be welcomed with open arms.

The next meeting is at 7.45pm on Monday 4th September in the Caudwell Day Centre and all are welcome to attend.



Parish Councillor Chris Fursdon-Davis tries to explain the workings of the Council to (a distracted) Chronicle Agent Mary Alexander, at the recent Drayton Community Day.

DRAYTON DIARY

FOR SEPTEMBER

All events are at Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise
(To book Drayton Hall call Ann Webb on 531418)

Regular Events are listed opposite

Fri	1	5.30 pm	MP Ed Vaizey Surgery	<i>Didcot</i>
Mon	4	7.45 pm	Parish Council	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
Thurs	7	9.30 am	Toddler Fun Day	
Mon	18	9.15 am	Chronicle Lottery deadline	<i>Vickery's</i>
		5.15 pm	Chronicle copy deadline	<i>Vickery's box</i>
Sat	23	9.00 am	District Councillor Richard Webber Surgery	
			Sequence Dance Evening	
Sun	24	all day	Bowls Club	
Thurs	23	7.30 pm	Drayton Players Comedy Drama with Supper	
			Also Friday 29th and Saturday 30th	

JAZZ & SWING CONCERT AT ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON

Saturday 16th September 2006

7.30pm to 9.30pm

Tickets £5.00

available from Vickery's & Mace Stores

All proceeds to church funds

Music by 'Boulevard Swing'



The Red Lion

Family Fun Day

Saturday 2nd September

Incorporating the Runner Bean Competition

Enter your 4 longest Beans, for measuring
Mens, Ladies & Childrens prizes
As well as a novelty bean entry prize
Come Along and Enjoy the Day

BBQ **Bouncy Castle**
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The Red Lion

MILLS OF THE RIVER OCK

Guided walk with historical commentary
(About 6 miles)

Saturday 14th October

Start at St. Peter's church 10.00 a.m.
Return for soup and roll lunch

Charge: £5 including lunch, children £3
Dogs welcome

Sponsored by St. Peter's Church and in aid of church funds
Registration forms and more details from the church or Vicarage

REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

MONDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
5.45 pm	Beavers (Boys / girls, 6-8 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Scouts (Boys / girls, 8-10 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.00 pm	Keep fit / slimming class	
7.15 pm	Drayton Wives Whist (3rd Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.30 pm	Senior Table Tennis, League (for 2 hours)	<i>School</i>
7.45 pm	Parish Council (1st Monday)	<i>Caudwell DC</i>
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	<i>St Peter's</i>

TUESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
3.00 pm	First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday)	<i>Church Room</i>
3.00 pm	Junior Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
6.00 pm	Ladies' Netball (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.30 pm	Senior League Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

WEDNESDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
10.30 am	Parent and Toddler Service	<i>Church Room</i>
2.00 pm	Whist - now each week	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
2.00 pm	Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)	
2.15 pm	Badminton	
6.15 pm	Brownies	
6.00 pm	Evening Prayer	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
6.15 pm	Cubs (Boys / girls, 8-9 yrs, Tel. 512834)	<i>Steventon Hall</i>
7.00 pm	Junior Table Tennis, Age 9+ (for 1 hour)	<i>School</i>
7.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Bingo Session	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
8.00 pm	Senior Table Tennis	<i>School</i>

THURSDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>School Ground Bldg</i>
	followed by lunch club and afternoon session	
9.30 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's Lady Chapel</i>
9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.50 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>Haywards Rd</i>
10.15 am	Mobile Library (Fortnightly, for 20 min)	<i>The Green Car Pk</i>
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session (for 3 hours)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thursday)	
8.00 pm	Sequence Dancing. Tel: 531701	

FRIDAYS

9.00 am	Pre-School Playgroup (in Term)	<i>Sch'l Ground Bldg</i>
11.00 am	The Friday Club (fortnightly) 202466	<i>Caudwell Day Centre</i>
6.30 pm	Choir Practice	<i>St Peter's</i>

SUNDAYS

8.00 am	Holy Communion	<i>St Peter's</i>
10.00 am	Sung Eucharist (Family Service 2nd Sunday)	<i>St Peter's</i>
11.15 am	Family Time	<i>Baptist Church</i>
6.00 pm	Evening Worship (2nd Sunday)	<i>Baptist Church</i>

Friends of Drayton School Association



'QUIZ NIGHT'

on Friday 22nd September

Starts at 7.30 pm in School



Tickets £6 per person **Including HOT supper**
Max 6 people per team **Donation Bar**

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