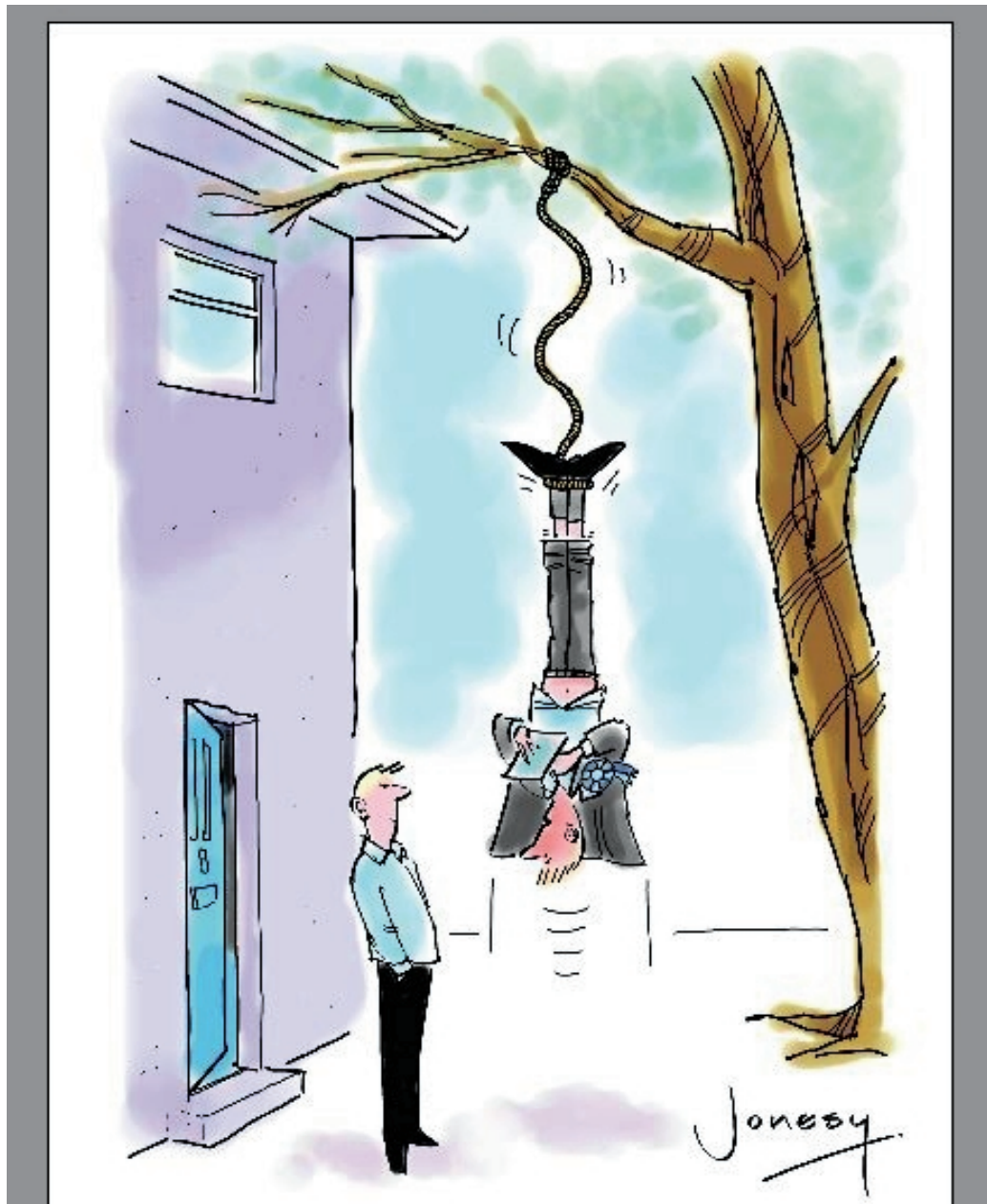


# DRAYTON CHRONICLE

UK General Election      July 4th



*"I'll put you down as 'undecided' then"*

Volume 47 No. 5

June 2024

Editor - Tony Holmes

# COMING CHRONICLES

The **July Chronicle** will be available for distribution on or about **June 28th**.

The Editor will be **Margaret Inger (on 07967 730735)**. **Contributions** may be e-mailed (as below, best to 'editor@'), or placed in the Chronicle letter box, outside Vickery's store on Drayton Green, **DEADLINE = 5 pm, Monday, June 17th**.

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

**NB - ADVERTISERS - PLEASE note** that the ads deadline is **EARLIER, Friday June 14th**, due to their preparation time.

**NB\*\* :- Can we politely remind Contributors** that the above **deadlines** are exactly that; in general, **the later an item is received, the less precedence it gets**.

**NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS** (any doubts, ask the Editor!) All contributions to the Chronicle are most welcome. Be sure to **include the name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number of the author**. Contributions can be made :-

1. By **email** to the relevant editor (and please use a **meaningful title**, we get a lot called Chronicle!)

for the next editor → [editor@draytonchronicle.net](mailto:editor@draytonchronicle.net)

**Please remember to check** that you soon get a confirmation reply. We do occasionally have emails sent – and they just don't arrive!

2. An **email attachment**, in WORD please (NOT a PDF file!).
3. A good, **black typescript** on white A4 paper or smaller. **BUT** – IF you can type it, PLEASE see #1 & #2 above?! [Scanning is a real nuisance, and tends to create errors!]
4. **Hand-written? Preferably not PLEASE, if over maybe a para.** This is 2024, should be a way to type & send it?! (= fewer errors!).

## ADVERTISING RATES

For Block Advert (about 1/12<sup>th</sup> page)

- - - Number of Monthly Inserts - -

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

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

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

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

**This Month's Cover** – a little different from our usual pics of something local, but in the middle of editing 'week', a soggy PM Sunak announced the next General Election, so we have weeks of TV News spouting forgettable guesses from 'pundits'.

I started voting in the 60s (no, the 1960s), and have long got brassed off with Politicos of all badges (how much evidence do people need?!). But – if you're still enthusiastic about all the hullabaloo, don't let me put you off!

## DATES for FOLLOWING Chronicle

Issue for	Copy Deadlines :- to Editor by (& Ads on the Fri before these)	Chronicle published and available for distribution on Friday:-
Aug	Mon July 15th	July 26th

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# Local Groups & Clubs

## Drayton Table Tennis Club

The DDTA League season has concluded and I am very pleased to say **Drayton Flamingos** have finished runners-up in division 3! **It's been a great season for the team.** Captained by Mike Russell and consisting of regulars Fred & Valentin Marlin, and Graham Stephenson with back-up from Chris & Oliver Gifford. The **Eagles** just missed out by finishing 3rd in the Division of 12 teams.

In addition, **Flamingos** have reached the final of the **Handicap Shield** competition. In their semi-final they beat Abingdon C (from Division 2) by a single point! Quite possible due to a lucky netcord maybe! They are yet to find out their opponents in the final so I'll report on the result in the next issue!

Our other league teams all did well. The **Artisans** finished 4th in Division 1. Star man Matthew Davies finished on 82% overall. In Division 2 **Buzzards** were 4th, **Corinthians** 5th and **Dingos** ended their season in 9th place. **Sergio Carcia-Castello** was the Club's top performer on 94.44% in his first season in the League.



Overall, it was a good 8 months of competitive ping-pong and we can look forward to next season with anticipation of more success.

The club is continuing **Monday practice sessions** at Thameside School from 7pm and **we are happy for new players to come along and try us out for size!**

Finally, our **AGM** will take place on Friday June 28th, 7.30pm at the Caudwell Centre. **John Gould**



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### **Letters to the Editor**

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

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## **Drayton Wives (Lisa Lammiman)**

Our April meeting was the AGM where we discussed the old year and looked forward to a new year.

In the last year we enjoyed two very successful coach outings, one to the **Black Country Museum** and one to **Winchester** for their **Christmas market**. We also had an interesting talk about **Dartmoor prison** from Mr Caldicott, and one about **local honey** from our very own Mr Busby who also sells his produce at Abingdon market.

**We are always on the lookout for new members.**

If you would like to join a **very friendly** daytime ladies group, we have a coffee morning once a month, a craft class once a month and then generally a speaker on the last Wednesday of every month.

If you would like to join **please contact me.**

**Lisa Lammiman** (Chair - 07949 275641)

# ST PETER'S CHURCH



(part of the DAMASCUS Parish)

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**Pro-warden** Mrs Linda Johnson  
**Administrator** Alison Bampton 01235 847179

**Email contacts:-** [rector@damascusparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@damascusparish.org.uk) (or [admin@](mailto:admin@)) & for Linda:- [lindajjcw@gmail.com](mailto:lindajjcw@gmail.com)

The church remains open daily {Sun – Sat, **now 10 – 4pm**}

NB – All information is correct at time of going to press.

## REGULAR SERVICES

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

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Mondays	2.00 pm	<b>Knit &amp; Natter (to 4pm – First Monday)</b> And you don't have to be a Knitter for a Natter!
	7.30 pm	<b>Bellringing Practice (each Monday)</b>
Tuesday	2.30 pm	*** <b>Tuesday Connect – ALL welcome for a cuppa &amp; chat (*** now the FIRST Tuesday of each month) and that runs to 4pm</b>
Weds	10.00 am	<b>Pebbles Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> (term-time) For more information contact Katy or Cheryl <a href="mailto:Draytonpebbles@hotmail.com">Draytonpebbles@hotmail.com</a>

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

## PARISH EVENTS (June)

(All Events at All Saints, Sutton Courtenay)

Sat	1	7.30pm	<b>Moonrakers Concert</b>
Sat	22	7.30pm	<b>Folk Music evening</b> (Raising funds for a child with Ataxia)
Sun	23	3.00pm	<b>George Orwell afternoon</b> (Cream Teas & a gathering of the Orwell Society, with an act of commemoration at the Graveside, at 3pm)

## PARISH REGISTER

**Wedding** May 4th **Ethan Ginders & Lauren Strong**

## YOU STAY WE PRAY (June)

May 26th – 1st	Abingdon Rd; Oday Hill.
2nd – 8th	Binning Close; Haywards Road
9th – 15th	Sutton Wick Lane; Greenacres; Newman Lane; Conifer Drive
16th – 22nd	Hilliat Fields; Lyford Close
23rd – 29th	Manor Close; The Green
30th – July 6th	High St; Chiers Drive; Cheers Farm; Halls Close

## MISSED OUT ON YOUR CHRONICLE?

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



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## From the DAMASCUS Ministry Team

“D-Day” -- June 6th 2024 is the 80th anniversary of D-Day; the Normandy invasion which was to become one of the greatest turning points of WW2. This event is in living memory for some, and for the rest of us, **it is an event to reflect upon.**

One of the many things Jesus said, and the strength of his teaching, is that we are to love one another. Love your neighbour as ourselves. “Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends”, which is what Jesus did. Here Jesus is telling his friends what he was about to do. This particular verse (John 15:13) was used many times during WW1 to mean “you must go off to the front line, and if necessary, die for your country”. **From a Christian perspective, this verse was taken out of context** and used to put moral pressure on people. This sits uneasily alongside a passage like this one where the talk is of love, not war.

The poetry of **Wilfred Owen** describes very insightfully, the situation he found on the front line. “The scribes on all the people shove and bawl allegiance to the state, but they who love the greater love, lay down their life, they do not hate”.

This reminds me of that well known quote from Martin Luther King Jr. “Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.”

We cannot legislate for love, but Jesus can command those who follow him and his example, to love. **Let us remind ourselves** at this time of the D-Day anniversary, of those who have made the self-sacrifice of laying down their life. Let us also remind ourselves of those who, today, **sincerely believe in doing their duty for others.**

Take care,

**(Rev'd) Rosie Bruce**

*(Associate Minister - DAMASCUS Parish ministry team)*

## Thank you!

To everyone who came and supported us at our **plant sale** at St Peter's on Sat May 11th. It was lovely to see you all and we raised just over **£400** to help with the upkeep of the Church.









[www.DraytonPC.Org](http://www.DraytonPC.Org)

## Next PC Meeting



Now **Tuesday** evenings (2nd of month – \*\*barring any late change!\*\*) so next it's **June 11th**, in the Caudwell Day Centre (Gravel Lane), 7pm. **All residents are welcome to attend**, and raise issues within the public participation item early in the meeting.

The agenda is published on the PC website prior to meetings. NB Parking IS a bit limited near the CDC, so if you attend, & can walk or bike there, please do?!

This will be an unusually short report (I can hear the cheers!).

\*\*The regular monthly Parish Council meeting was **postponed until 28th May** so the PC has not met since I submitted my last report. The postponement of the normal meeting was to enable the Finance Committee to ratify the year-end accounts for the PC (& pushed it past when this issue had to reach the printer!).

There is one really **important item** to inform you of. The PC website now contains **draft designs** for the **proposed new pedestrian crossing** at Abingdon Road/Chestnut Drive and also at the High Street.

The link is [www.draytonpc.org](http://www.draytonpc.org) and you will see the diagrams on the home page.

Please have a look at these plans and **send any comments to the Parish Council**. We do not yet have a firm timetable for their implementation but have asked Oxfordshire County Council and their contractor to treat these as priority. As many may recall, we have been waiting some years for action on these promised safety improvements. **It would be really helpful to gain your feedback before we progress further. Please send comments to [clerk@draytonpc.org](mailto:clerk@draytonpc.org)**

The **village footpaths** are still unusually muddy in parts but let's hope that the warmer weather continues

**To contact** any members of the Parish Council, all enquiries should be directed to the **Parish Clerk**, and messages will be passed on. Any Drayton resident may also ask to be added to the Clerk's E-mailing list, so that they receive prior notice of meetings and any relevant documents. **[Clerk@draytonpc.org](mailto:Clerk@draytonpc.org)**

All **Parish Council minutes** are now **archived** on the village website: <http://www.draytonvillage.co.uk/> which also has a link to **back copies of the Drayton Chronicle**, and details of other events in the village.

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## ABBEY CINEMA --- ADVANCE NOTICE >>

For **Andre Rieu fans** especially, they're showing the 2024 Maastricht show ('Power of Love') at the end of August, and the start of September. They say "only in cinemas". Book up EARLY?!

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We've another **JEWELLERY VALUATION** day, Tuesday June 11th, 1pm to about 4pm. Last time he had a steady stream of customers, and I'm told **offers very fair prices**. That's all sorts of items, brooches, watches, (working or not!), rings, etc etc, he does a leaflet drop round the village a couple of days before the event, with far more details about items of interest.

We've another **ANTIQUES Fair**, Sunday June 2nd, that's with Kathy Head running her excellent value cafe for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarniel!).

Oh, and it's the **Village FETE** this month, Sat June 15th - see F'book notices about the attractions they (FoDSA) have lined up.

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

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

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

And another **NEW CLASS** :- **Beginner's YOGA**, has had one set of sessions I believe. **TUESDAY** evenings, just after that evening's Karate class (so about 7.45pm?), and it's also run by Sabrina.

I hear that the sessions of **KEEP FIT with FAYE**, (Fridays at 11am), have quite a crowd now, but still room for a few more, aimed at the 'more mature' customer, so seated if you prefer, they're **just £6** per class and get great reviews (she runs them at several other local halls).

Last year we had a **major stroke of luck** when we asked for more editing help, and **Bridget** came forward, several excellent & stylish issues now 'in the bag'. **Well, could there be any more such talent in the village?**

It would be great if we could have a rota of 4 editing, as opposed to the present 3, and that I think would pave the way nicely for me to, as they say, let someone else take their chance?!

Having edited since soon after we came to the village, so maybe around 1990 or so, I'm now at the stage that if I was a car, I'd be costing so much money at MOTs that I'd be offered as spares for the few similar old wrecks still pottering about!

If YOU could help, **do please get in touch** (see page 2).

## UK passports: Don't get caught out!

The price of a getting or renewing a UK passport has risen for the second time in 14 months.

Meanwhile, UK holidaymakers travelling to the EU are being warned not to get caught out by the "10-year rule".

How much does it cost to get or renew my passport?

It now costs £88.50 to get, renew or replace your passport if you apply online, external, up from £82.50, or £100 for a postal application, up from £93.

An online application for a child's passport costs £57.50, up from £53.50, or £69 via post, up from £64.

It costs more if you apply from abroad, or if you require a passport urgently. Passports are free for people born on or before 2 September 1929.

The increased fees apply to both new passport applications and renewals. Prior to last year's rise, passport fees had not gone up for five years and a standard adult online application cost £75.50.

The Post Office, meanwhile, said its "check and send" service will still be on offer for £16.

### When should I renew my passport?

You must renew your passport before you travel if either: 1) your passport has expired

2) your date of issue was more than 10 years ago (if travelling to countries with the 10-year rule)

3) your passport does not have enough time left before it expires.

How much time you need on your passport depends on where you are going. You can check entry requirements, for individual countries on the UK government's website {see <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>}.

How do I renew my passport?

You can renew online at HM Passport Office, {see <https://www.gov.uk/renew-adult-passport/renew>} or by filling in a paper application from certain Post Offices.

You'll need your old passport and any valid passports you hold from a different country.

It should take up to three weeks to renew a passport in the UK, **but it can take longer**, during periods of high demand, such as before school holidays.

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# YOUR LETTERS

## Bowling Along?

We have our AGM Date:- July 1st, 2pm in Drayton Village Hall. **All are welcome to come and join us.**

**Would you like to learn a new skill and meet new people?** Come along and play **Short Mat Bowls** at Drayton Village Hall. All Adults of 20 years and over are welcome.

We meet Monday and Thursday, 2pm to 4pm, also Wednesday evening 7pm to 9.30pm. We enjoy a half-time break for tea/coffee and biscuits!!

**FREE** :- 3 trial sessions to see if you like it? Woods are provided for your trial. Please come with flat bottom shoes, slippers or play in socks. We do have some spare pairs of shoes for your trial sessions, please just ask!

We have other social events throughout the year to enjoy, such as meals at the Merry Miller and a Skittles evening plus meal.

AND . . .you can enter competition matches, if you want to, it might be just up your street! **Any questions or more info, call Andy on 07434 273053.**

Thanks to everyone who came to the last Merry Miller meal, it was great to see so many members, the food was excellent, **thanks to everyone who made this possible.** We do appreciate all the hard work that goes into organising this event.

Yours Andy (vice chair)



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

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## Retiring -- Respect

Dear Editor, via email

I saw in the May Chronicle that **Richard Webber** is retiring, after he reckons over a thousand Parish meetings and some 19 years in his roles as District and/or County Councillor.

Readers may not have always agreed with his opinions, but surely **you can only respect that degree of service!**

I once visited a County meeting, and also had to visit a Parish meeting re a local issue, and that was enough for me, anyone who has sat through a thousand of them is well due a happy retirement!

Regards, Kath Hoad

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## Steventon Choral Society

Dear Editor, via email

Your local choir includes several members from Drayton. We rehearse just down the road in Steventon Village Hall on Thursday evenings but welcome singers and audience members from across South Oxfordshire.

**Our final concerts for the season** feature popular songs from the latter half of the 20th century, many from the 1960s and 1970s and well-known showtunes. These are friendly and sociable concerts, sat around tables rather than in rows so that you can relax and enjoy a drink as you listen to the music. **We hope that you will be able to join us!**

The concerts "Music for a summer evening" are at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th June and again at 7.30pm on Saturday 15th June in Steventon Village Hall.

Tickets are £10 and available from Caroline Miller (01235 633166) or [info@steventonchoral.org.uk](mailto:info@steventonchoral.org.uk).

After the concerts the choir will take a break for the summer. Rehearsals will resume on Thursday 5th September.

**We are always on the lookout for more singers** and are particularly keen to hear from those wishing to **join our friendly tenor and bass sections**. Please get in touch if you would like to know more and try us out.

Find out more on our website [www.steventonchoral.org.uk](http://www.steventonchoral.org.uk), or drop us a line [info@steventonchoral.org.uk](mailto:info@steventonchoral.org.uk)

Kind Regards, Abby Evans

# YOUR LETTERS

## Margaret Long

Dear Editor, via email

With sadness we note the death on Monday May 20th of Drayton's **Margaret Long**. Margaret had reached 93 in April and had lived in Drayton for some 40 of those years, though just before she died, she moved to a care home in Weymouth to be close to her two daughters.

She had worked at the Rivermead Rehabilitation Centre in Oxford and played an active part in Drayton Wives, the Drayton book club and play reading. Her husband **Geoff**, who died in 2006, had been an editor of the Chronicle and coordinator of the Chronicle team for many years.

Margaret (pictured below) will be cremated at Weymouth Crematorium at 12.15 on Wednesday 12 June.

On Monday 17 June at 14.30 there will be a **memorial service at All Saints Methodist Church** (Appleford Drive, Abingdon, OX14 2AQ), the church Margaret attended for 65 years.

Derek Pooley



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## THE WHEATSHEAF

We are pleased to announce a  
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**Starters** - Garlic Bread (£4.45); Halloumi fries (£6.95); Chicken strips or wings (£7.95)

**Main** – Steak and Ale pie (14.99) Hunter's Chicken (£15.99) Gammon Steak (£14.99) Half Roast Chicken £15.99)

**Lite Bites** – Chicken Caesar Salad (£11.99) Smoked Salmon Rosette (£12.99) Jacket Potato & seafood mix (£12.99)

**Desserts** - Ask your server

**Sunday** - Roast

**Wednesdays to Saturdays** –  
phone 01235 550778

## QUIZ Night - Great Causes!

Dear Editor, via email

Anna and Louise are taking on the Berlin Marathon in September on behalf of two amazing UK based charities:- **Get Kids Going & Wellchild**. As part of our fundraising, we are hosting a **quiz night** to raise some pennies!

It will be on Saturday June 8th at Drayton Village Hall, arriving from 7 for a 7:30pm start. We would love it if you would join us for a **night of quiz fun** and a raffle to help these two very worthy charities!

Please contact **Anna** on **07805 954040** if you would like to book a table! It will be £5pp, maximum of 8 per table. It will be cash only on the night.

If you can't attend but would like to sponsor me, there will be a collection tin in Vickery's.

Thank you so much! Anna Gimigliano

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## **Halls Close**

The developers at Hall's Close have put in an application for a change to the Condition placed upon the development that states that "the full Foul Water drainage system shall be installed prior to first occupation." They are asking for a change to allow a "gravity-fed Foul drainage system" to be used for the first five houses, whilst the rest will go on a pumped system.

I am obviously not an expert in foul water drainage systems, but I instinctively get **alarmed at any hints of developers looking for a shortcut to the drainage systems**, given all the problems we've had with Thames Water and the drains around the High Street. I've therefore asked for this change to be "called in" to the Vale Planning Committee to **ensure it's thoroughly debated**. It may be that I'm just being alarmist, but I want them to make damn sure of it first.

## **Drayton Post Office**

Unfortunately I've got no further information on this (I have no privileged source of information other than going in and talking to the people in the shop, which I've been doing). I'm told that they're very actively seeking a new postmaster, but that's all I've got for now, unfortunately. Hopefully, there may be better news by the time you read this in the Chronicle!

## **Police and Crime Commissioner Election**

**Matthew Barber** was re-elected as Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, with 32.1% of the vote on a turnout of 24.4%. That means only 7.8% of registered voters voted for the winner (and even fewer for the other candidates).

## **Leisure Centre upgrades**

We've received developer contributions (of £165,000) to **upgrade the tennis courts at White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre** in Abingdon installing a new sand-based Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP) at four tennis courts at the centre. The new surface means the tennis courts can be used in all weather conditions throughout the year. The old astroturf has been stored for possible repurposing (eg for outdoor classrooms, community landscaping projects for erosion control, for temporary events, or even a putting green).

In addition, contractors have been appointed to install the **multi-million pound major energy-saving work** at both White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre and Wantage Leisure Centre. This will involve the installation of insulation, new windows, solar panels, air source heat pumps and external wall insulation. Once completed, the measures should help reduce the council's overall carbon emissions by more than 25 per cent. This work is **expected to be completed by March 2025**. This also follows the installation of solar panels and air source heat pumps at Faringdon Leisure Centre last year. Those measures should save around 500,000kWh of energy over a year – the equivalent to the annual electricity use of 135 houses.

## **Cost of Living**

As the Cost of Living crisis hasn't gone away, I'm once again putting in the contact details for support for individuals and families from the Community Hub.

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

**01235 422600** or [communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk)

Website: [whitehorsedc.gov.uk/costofliving](http://whitehorsedc.gov.uk/costofliving)

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

## **Reservoir**

Despite Thames Water appearing to try to imply they've had the go-ahead for the reservoir (possibly I'm being unduly sensitive, though?), **they most certainly have not**. They've been allowed to start work on examining a section of the soil to see if it's even possible to hold back all that water.

GARD have obtained (via a Freedom of Information request) a copy of the **Environment Agency's advice** to the Secretary of State on the Thames Water plan. It's significant that they recommended that Thames Water is not allowed to publish their plan as it stood in December (ie, **it is not acceptable as it stands**). They also advise that DEFRA consider whether further public scrutiny is required even after changes are made.

**A leading authority on Embankment Designs & reservoirs** has also carried out an independent review and is scathing about the state of the design and it appears it has been sent around the expert circles.

**To update my comment a while back** about the inability to even fill up Farmoor reservoir during the wettest winter on record – let alone further fill up something more than ten or eleven times larger than Farmoor on top of this:- I'm advised that it's not down to the sewage discharges. Or at least, not solely due to them. It's apparently due to unavoidable silt entering the river during wet winters.

This actually means that **it's even worse** for TW's reservoir plan: whilst it may be theoretically possible to resolve the sewage issues (even if TW aren't really credible there), it is literally impossible to prevent silting in wet winters. As they can't refill the damn thing without multiple years of ideal conditions (and if conditions are ideal, it's never needed!), it's obviously just a colossal and damaging white elephant unless water transfers are set up from wetter areas of the country to fill it. **But >>>** if we have the water transfer system set up – it's redundant! It can only be needed if Thames Water fall out with other water companies, which really doesn't strike me as a decent reason to spend billions, wreck the local environment, cause increased flooding, risk catastrophic damage in case of dam-breach events, and likely cause frequent fog-stoppages on the A34 and Great Western Rail.

## **Meadow areas to be allowed to grow**

What **does** work, and help the environment, is increasing a biodiversity-friendly approach to land management. Vale have therefore been **deliberately allowing grass to grow** on sections of land the Council own or manage. This year there are **sites marked with meadow area signage** across the district in Abingdon, Botley, Faringdon, Marcham and Wantage.

{continued overleaf >>}

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# Andy Cooke - continued

## Summer Activities

Over the summer months, the council's Active Communities Team will be offering a **range of activities to get involved in**, including community walks and skateboarding.

Find out more on the Active Communities webpage here:- <https://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/vale-of-white-horse-district-council/sports-and-activities/active-communities/>

Work is also under way to get the **splash pads** in the Vale ready for the summer season. The pads in Abbey Meadow in Abingdon and Wantage Memorial Gardens are both set to open on Saturday 25 May in time for the May half-term. The Abbey Meadow splash pad should be open from 9am to 6pm each day, and the kiosk at Abbey Meadow should open on the weekend of Saturday 25 May and be open at weekends until the outdoor pool opens for the most popular months of the year during the summer holidays on Saturday 20 July. The kiosk, splash pads and pool will then be available for visitors to use every day over the summer holidays through to early September.

**Leisure centres** will have activities during the May half-term and over summer, see:- <https://www.better.org.uk/what-we-offer/activities/activities-for-kids> )

There will be **classes, shows and entertainment** at the **Beacon** (Wantage:- <https://www.beaconwantage.co.uk/> ) – with something for all ages, including the Let's All Dance Ballet: Goldilocks in July.

## Richard Webber

You'll know that long-serving County Councillor (and former District Councillor) Richard Webber has stepped down as County Councillor for health reasons. I'd like to pay tribute to him for **all his hard work on behalf of the community for so long** – I count him as a personal friend and Richard is the person who encouraged me to stand as a candidate in the first place (so it's him you have to blame!). I wish him a **long and happy retirement** – it's very well earned.

## Cost of Living

I've included the details of cost of living support, as some people do still need that help.

All the best,

*Andy Cooke*



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## LIVE WELL Initiative

Being run by OCC, with a variety of assistance, on various topics.

For example :- If you are struggling to buy food, you can find a list of food banks across Oxfordshire. If you or a relative is coming out of hospital and need some support to stay independent you can find organisations that provide care at home.

The website is at :- <https://livewell.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

Need a bit of help finding what you are looking for, or finding your way around this site? Contact Community Links Oxfordshire (managed by Age UK Oxfordshire) on >>>

**01235 849410** for a chat.

Or choose a category... (they're listed on the site) :-

Looking after someone / Staying independent

Keeping fit and well / Things to do

Finding a care home / Help with life events

Money matters / Community support

And . . . 5 ways to wellbeing

# GARD -- Group Against Reservoir Development

When **GARD** issued its call for a Public Inquiry, we asked via Freedom of Information request to see the Environment Agency's advice to Secretary of State, Steve Barclay, on the Thames Water plans.

Finally last month, DEFRA agreed to our request and released the EA's advice, revealing that the **EA have serious reservations about the plan**, and quite a few of these echo GARD's criticisms about lack of substantiation that SESRO represents the best value plan, and our doubt on its resilience to droughts, amongst others. However, the most **important take-away from this advice** is the EA recommendation on page 6-7 in the Executive Summary:- **"We recommend that:- Thames Water is not allowed to publish its plan.** The company should make further changes as set out in ... These changes will require regulators to review them before the company's plan is allowed to be published. We also advise that due to the public interest shown in the consultation that Defra considers whether further public scrutiny is required before the plan is published. "

Not being allowed to "publish the plan" equates to the plan **not being acceptable as it stands.** Clearly our call for a Public Inquiry has stayed the Barclay's hand, reinforced by the EA opinion. →>

  
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There are many forms of further 'public scrutiny', e.g. a consultation of a "revised-revised-draft Plan"(!), but we believe the most efficient, in-depth, and probably even the quickest, would be a **Public Inquiry**.

Please write to DEFRA supporting our call for a Public Inquiry into this dangerous, damaging, and unnecessary project, citing the Environment Agency opinion.

Also, please, if you have not already done so, sign our petition:-

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/stopTWreservoir> or see the QR code at the end. You will find paper slips and petition boxes in Vickery's.

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

*Derek Stork* (Chairman GARD)



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**Reminder :- November 2024 will see the start of OCC's Traffic Filter scheme in OXFORD** so if you're obliged to drive or deliver there, best BE PREPARED?!

Six major roads will be affected, but you may be able to get an exemption, depending on your needs to be there?

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/roads-and-transport/connecting-oxfordshire/oxford-traffic-filters> has all the relevant info.

**Summer Garden Open Days 2024** - in aid of CPRE Oxfordshire. £10 per head, £5 for under 16s, under 10s free. Teas will be available – donations welcome. Places limited so please reserve in advance – see [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

Weds 5 June, 3pm-7pm College House, Stanton St John, &

Sat 6 July, 2.30pm-5pm Coopers & Woolstone Lodge, Woolstone. All proceeds to the Countryside Charity.



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# WESTMINSTER VIEW



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

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

[Ed:- That could well of course change after the July 4th election].

I have had a number of meetings in the last month to progress various local campaigns that are a priority for me and my constituents.

I met with the Health Minister to again push my campaign for better local health services and for our infrastructure to keep pace with all the new housing that is being built. For the year ending Oct 2023, there were 50.9 million more GP appts compared to Oct 2019 - but there’s more to do. Improving our health services is a key campaign and I am pleased the Minister has agreed to write to the local health leaders on our behalf.

I met with the Water Minister to again raise constituent concerns about the proposed reservoir and to call for public scrutiny of the proposal. In December, I wrote to the Environment Secretary about this, echoing GARD's call for public scrutiny and have been regularly raising concerns with Thames Water and the Environment Agency, who I took to Steventon recently where I discussed it with them.

This meeting came just before we got the great news that Wallingford Beach has officially been designated as a bathing water site by the Government. This is something that residents have long been calling for and the Water Minister has rightly recognised the strong show of local support. [Ed’s note:- Thames Water have it on their list to pollute though . . .]

I took Niamh Dernie, from Grove, to meet the Minister for Victims and Safeguarding so she could tell the Minister about her campaign against the sexual harassment she and her friends have experienced and what she would like to see happen.

It was also great to welcome the Science Minister to meet with and take questions from our great local science and technology organisations at my latest Wantage and Didcot Science and Technology Forum. I was glad to hear the Minister confirm that the Government will spend £20 billion on investment in science and research this year which is welcome news for our local sector.

In other news, I had the pleasure of hosting a reception at Number 10 Downing Street for people working in our great early years sector and was pleased to bring Julie, a childminder from Didcot who spent 14 years fostering around 30 families, as my guest to recognise her incredible efforts. It was a really uplifting atmosphere as MPs from across the country brought people they wanted to thank for the work they have been doing to shape young minds.

‘Didcot TRAIN’ works with young people, especially those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable and provides various essential services including youth clubs, mentoring and outreach programs. They are doing great work to empower young people. Thank you to Ben and the team there who I visited recently to see the work they are doing. Visit their website at www.trainyouth.org.uk.

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

# Light-Hearted Moment

As the General Election was announced as this issue was being collated, I was reminded of some of the sayings of a chap called **H L Mencken**.

He (Henry Louis – though invariably known as H L in that American fashion) was a journalist, essayist, satirist and 'cultural critic'. He was active in the first half of the 20th century, and was especially intolerant of politicians, though he occasionally took aim at other topics.

These days he'd probably be doing 'podcasts', and might even be an 'influencer'.

He seemed to have anticipated the election of Donald Trump, about 80 years ahead of the event, when writing:-

As democracy is perfected, the office of President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last and the White House will be adorned by a downright moron.

## Other political barbs were :-

It is inaccurate to say that I hate everything. I am strongly in favour of common sense, common honesty, and common decency. This makes me forever ineligible for public office.

Democracy is the art and science of running the circus from the monkey cage.

Democracy is a pathetic belief in the collective wisdom of individual ignorance.

If a politician found he had cannibals among his constituents, he would promise them missionaries for dinner.

A politician is an animal which can sit on a fence and yet keep both ears to the ground. →

**Thames Water sent this PR piece** (I did suggest to the woman that if they run 'info' sessions, having people who can answer tricky questions might be better than their previous ones)

Thames Water is working closely with other water companies in the southeast to protect future water supplies for millions of people. Population growth and hotter, drier summers place additional pressure on our water resources, so to keep the taps running, we must invest in new infrastructure.

A new reservoir in Oxfordshire would help to safeguard millions of households from the risk of drought, providing a sustainable water supply for generations to come.

Our ambition for the reservoir is to create a natural, tranquil space which will be sensitively landscaped to blend with the surrounding countryside. We want to work with local communities to ensure we create new green spaces that everyone can enjoy. You can find out more about our current proposals at [www.thames-sro.co.uk/sesro](http://www.thames-sro.co.uk/sesro).

We'll be holding a series of community information events this summer, where you'll be able to find out more about our plans. Do look out for updates on the events page of our website [www.thames-sro.co.uk/events](http://www.thames-sro.co.uk/events). This is a great opportunity to meet the team and discuss any questions or concerns you may have.

We look forward to seeing you soon.



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He wasn't overly religious either, as with:-

It is impossible to imagine the universe run by a wise, just and omnipotent God, but it is quite easy to imagine it run by a board of gods.

A church is a place in which gentlemen who have never been to heaven brag about it to persons who will never get there.

A Sunday school is a prison in which children do penance for the evil conscience of their parents.

Immorality: the morality of those who are having a better time.

Puritanism. The haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy.

And a couple more, life in general :-

It is even harder for the average ape to believe that he has descended from man.

A man may be a fool and not know it, but not if he is married (he had got married!).

And -- my absolute favourite, I think with plenty of evidence over the years :-

**Nobody ever went broke underestimating the taste of the American public.**

**The Abingdon Museum Friends**

support Abingdon County Hall Museum to advance education in the local community. Throughout the past few years the Museum Friends have contributed, and its volunteers have saved the Museum, over £15,000. We raise funds mainly through membership subscriptions.

If you are interested in supporting your local Museum by joining the Friends or volunteering, please contact the Secretary:  
[AbingdonMuseumFriends@Outlook.com](mailto:AbingdonMuseumFriends@Outlook.com)  
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# Down the Years



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

In 2004, Peter Andre was in the charts with 'Insania' (referring to Katie Price?!), and Britney Spears was at #1 with 'Everytime'.

Back to 1994 – Wet Wet Wet were at #1 with ('Love Is All Around'), top selling single that year.

40 years ago (is it REALLY so long?!) and we had an iconic #1 from Wham ('Wake me up before you Go-Go') & that was followed by Frankie Goes to Hollywood ('Two Tribes'). They (arguably) did us all a favour, by keeping Black Lace off the #1 slot (the wildly irritating 'Agadoo'). As in:- "AG-A-DOO Doo Doo, Push Pineapple, Shake The Tree" . . . . ah, they don't write 'em like that anymore.

That song was from France, via Morocco apparently, and was voted in 2000 as the 4th-most annoying song of all time. Only fourth?!

I tried to check what the three even more annoying ones were, but could only find 'The Birdie Song' – The Tweets in 1981. I also found that 'We Built This City' (Starship, 1985) is often voted "THE worst song of all time" (seems a bit harsh?) with 'Sussudio' (Phil Collins, also 1985) also popular as the SECOND-worst song ever. Another source put 'Don't Worry, Be Happy' (Bobby McFerrin, 1988) as more likely to have listeners smashing radios, they could be right?!

FIFTY years ago (for real old-timers), we'd just had The Rubettes ('Sugar Baby Love') at #1, and to follow came Charles Aznavour ("has no voice"?! ) & 'She', plus George McCrae (Rock Your Baby'), with soon to follow the Three Degrees ('When Will I See You Again').

Anyone recall 1964?! Let me help:- this was a terrific few months, we'd just had Cilla Black ('You're My World') at the top, with Chuck Berry 'No Particular Place to Go', Lulu ('Shout'), and Mary Wells ('My Guy') just behind.

This month had the Animals and the iconic 'House of the Rising Sun' at #1 (the first #1 hit to have a playing time over 4 minutes). They were fronted by the gravel-voiced lead singer Eric Burdon, (83, still with us), and were praised by no less than rock icon Bruce Springsteen as being a major influence.

Coming up were Dusty Springfield ('I just don't know what to do with myself'), the Stones ('It's All Over Now'), the Beach Boys ('I Get Around'), the Swinging Blue Jeans ('You're No Good'), Louis Armstrong ('Hello Dolly') and the Nashville Teens ('Tobacco Road').

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### This month in 2014

-- saw ISIL (Islamic State), beginning its attacks in Iraq. Within 2 weeks, a Military campaign (international) began against them. In Spain, King Juan Carlos abdicated, in favour of Felipe 6th.

Sadly we lost Rik Mayall, also Sam Kelly (Porridge & Allo Allo), Francis Matthews (Paul Temple, & the voice of Captain Scarlett), Eli Wallach (The Magnificent Seven, & the Good, Bad and the Ugly trilogy), and Gerry Goffin (Lyricist, often with Carole King, many great songs inc The Loco-Motion, One Fine Day, It Might as well rain until September, Don't Bring Me Down, etc).

TWENTY years ago Jose Mourinho became Chelsea manager (the first time!), Ken Livingstone was re-elected London Mayor, and Natasha Kaplinsky & Brendan Cole won the very first series of Strictly.

And we lost Ronald Reagan, and Ray Charles.

This month in 1994 - Tony Blair was elected Labour leader, and Fred and Rose West were arrested in Gloucester for multiple murders. Jeff Bezos was about to found Amazon, and OJ Simpson went on that famous slow-motion car 'chase' before being arrested for those murders that he, um, didn't officially commit.

Sadly we lost actor Mark McManus ('Taggart' fame), also composer & conductor Henry Mancini (the 'Pink Panther' theme amongst many more).

FORTY years ago the Miners' Strike was still going strong, Virgin Atlantic had its first flight, and O-Level & CSE exams were combined into the new GCSE. We'd just lost much-loved Eric Morecambe and were about to lose Dame Flora Robson. Ghostbusters was the highest grossing film, and on TV we saw the first Crimewatch.

This month in 1974 – Jon Pertwee was replaced as Dr Who by Tom Baker, and Bob Monkhouse was about to be reinstated as host of The Golden Shot. Coming into the world that year were Victoria Beckham, Vernon Kay, Bear Grylls, Denise Van Outen, David Mitchell & Emilia Fox (Happy 50ths all?!).

Later that year, ex-Cabinet Minister John Stonehouse was found in Australia (he'd faked his own death in Miami) – apparently Aussie police thought he was Lord Lucan!

# More Notices & Other Local Churches

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

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

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

## Milton Methodist Church News

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

**We are always pleased to welcome visitors.**

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

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

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

**Lunch Club** (First Tuesday), 12.30pm

**Art Group** 2 to 4pm, Fridays

## The Red Lion

Deborah

**Welcomes you to more up & coming Events**

7th June - GLAM RESSURECTION 80's Glam rock party night music from Sweet-Slade, Bay City Rollers, The Tubes and many more favourites

New offerings coming to the Red Lion soon:

The new-look summer garden is the place to be with its children's play area, a large sun trap garden, nice cold beer and bar food. What's not to enjoy?

Fizz Friday every Friday for £14.95

Free pool every Tuesday Free juke box every Sunday

AND REMEMBER  
D-FEST 29TH JUNE LINE TBC

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# NOTICE BOARD

## VALE of WH District Council

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

### YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL CONTACTS :-

**Parish (Clerk)** Dianne Rickaby (clerk@draytonpc.org)  
**District (VofWH)** Andy Cooke (07507 602911)  
& **Oxfordshire County** **By-election** on June 20th

## FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

**Could you foster?** The demand hasn't gone away with Lockdown! We need **short term and long term** foster carers as well as carers who can just help out for weekends and school holidays for children of all ages from babies to teenagers.

Foster carers receive a comprehensive training and support package along with financial support. **We need a diverse range of people** with different skills and qualities so that more children are placed in the right home, first time.

The package has recently been **improved**, now has a wide range of benefits, their website has comprehensive info:-

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/fostering) or please call **0800 783 5724**. Types of placements are both short & long term and include sibling groups. And you can check for updates on their Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshire/](https://www.facebook.com/FosteringinOxfordshire/)

**There's a range of different fostering schemes, and YOU just might make a big difference to someone's life?**

## TUESDAY CONNECT >>

**HAS MOVED! Now back on the FIRST Tuesday** (As on page 4 - monthly tea & chat afternoons in Church).

And the **Baptist Cafe** is on **Thursdays** - each week - but is NOW occurring in the Caudwell Day Centre, 11am to 1pm, more tea and cake, and **you can be sure of a warm welcome**.

## Suzy Willis & Associates

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## LISTINGS

**Jewellery Valuation** Drayton Village Hall, Tuesday **June 11th** (1pm to about 4pm). Lee is back again after successful recent visits, look out for house leaflets and F'book ads.

### MATRIX Arts Centre (Sutton Courtenay)

For more info re assorted classes see their website >> [www.matrixartscentre.org.uk](http://www.matrixartscentre.org.uk)

**The Abbey Cinema** (Abingdon) has lots of forthcoming films, **The Fall Guy & Back to Black** (the Amy Winehouse story) for just two, and Andre Rieu's 2024 Maastricht gig (they say only in cinemas) late Aug & early Sept. They are ALSO showing **England's group matches** in the Euros (so, June 16th/20th/25th) and I guess the attraction is to see us win on a VERY big screen?! My favourite would be the GARFIELD Movie though! See <https://theabbey.ac/> or call **01235 616000** for more info re dates and times. Maybe add on a Panini, an ice cream sundae, or one of their indulgent milkshakes for an extra treat?!

**Antiques Fair - In the Village Hall - Sunday June 2nd** (& July 7th too) from 9am (to about 3pm). Varied stalls, just £1 entry, and the chance of an ace bacon sarnie, toasties, etc!

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

**And the FoDSA Village FETE is back** Sat June 15th - look for more info on the village F'book listings.

**Unicorn Theatre Oxford Drama Network's Festival of one-act plays, June 4th to June 8th**, each night 2 or 3 one-act plays, from various groups, and on Saturday it's Gala night, the 3 top-rated are called back for an encore! Tickets from :- [www.ticketsource.co.uk/Oxfordshire-Drama-Network](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Oxfordshire-Drama-Network) Also in 'The Bookstore' in Abingdon precinct, or email [info@OxfordshireDramaNetwork.org](mailto:info@OxfordshireDramaNetwork.org) >>>>>

### TIME-TABLE of PLAYS for Tue-Fri

#### Tuesday 4th June

Oxford Theatre Guild - 'Wrong Seat' by Adam Wakely  
BODs of Wychwood - 'Husbands Supplied' by Falkland L. Cary

#### Wednesday 5th June

Kingston Bagpuize DG - 'Housebound' by Simon Maudsley  
Banbury Cross Players - 'The Proposal' by Anton Chekhov

#### Thursday 6th June

Didcot Phoenix - 'Metamorphosis' (...or Letting nature take its course) by Gary Bird  
Sinodun Players - 'And Go To Innisfree' by Jean Lenox Toddie

#### Friday 7th June

Kingston Bagpuize DG - 'Reminiscing' by Charles Dennison  
Henley AODS - 'Woyzeck' by Georg Buchner, Adapted by Piers Burnell  
**Drayton Players** - 'Last Tango in Little Grimley' by David Tristram

#### Saturday 8th June - Gala night

3 shows from the above, recalled by the adjudicator, and the presentation of awards.

# DRAYTONDIARIES

## (Mostly) Hall Diary for June

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

Sun	2	9.00am	ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm)
Tues	4	1.30pm	Bowls (League Match)
Sat	8	9.00am	Private Function (child's party)
		7.00pm	QUIZ (charity – see page 10)
Tues	11	1.00pm	Jewellery Valuation (to 4pm)
		7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting (Caudwell DC)
Sat	15		Village FETE (see local F'book/ads)
Mon	20	5.00pm	Chronicle Deadline
Tues	18	7.00pm	Bowls Assoc AGM (Small Hall)
Thur	20		Local OCC By-Election (Small Hall)
Tues	25	1.30pm	Bowls (League Match)



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### July 4th – General Election (you may have heard by now).

Some years ago I worked at the count, in Ab'don, very interesting too. PLEASE DO NOT be tempted to write “all Tories are B\*st\*rds”, “Corbyn is a Commie”, “why are Mars Bars so small now”, or “please help Spurs win the League” (choose your pet peeve) on the voting slip. The messages do NOT go to the PM, or the King, the editor of the Sun (etc), Simon Cowell, or anyone who can help. They (“spoiled slips”) end up in a dusty box for umpteen years, unseen except by counters and the candidates' agents!

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

## REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – DO tell an editor (page 2)

### MONDAYS [## = Small Hall in Village Hall]

2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session	
6.00 pm	Damascus Youth	##
7.15 pm	Badminton (Private Group)	
7.45 pm	Bell-ringing (for 1½ hours)	St Peter's

### TUESDAYS

9.30 am	Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925)	
1.45 pm	Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm)	Caudwell Day Centre
2.30 pm	Tuesday Connect (back to 1st Tuesday!)	Church
5.30 pm	Irish Dancing (Ashleigh - 07375 878445)	
6.45 pm	Karate/'Dojang X' session (Sabrina 07938 537310)	
7.45 pm	Beginner's YOGA (ditto)	

### WEDNESDAYS

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

### THURSDAYS

9.30 am	Parent & Toddler Group	
9.45 am	Holy Communion (**)	St Peter's Lady Chapel
11.00 am	Baptist Café (to 1pm)	NOW IN >> Caudwell DC
2.00 pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session	
2.00 pm	Crafts Group (2nd Thursday – run by U3A, but it's simple to join. Call Kate for info 01235 550486)	##
5.30 pm	Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs)	##
7.30 pm	Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)	
7.30 pm	Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs)	Caudwell DC
7.30 pm	'Community Choir' (2nd/4th Thurs)	Church Room

### FRIDAYS

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

### SUNDAYS

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

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