THE DRAYTON CHRONICLE

VOLUME 47 ISSUE 11 DEC 2024 EDITOR: BRIDGET PYNE

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

KEY DATES

The next Drayton Chronicle will be the Jan/Feb issue edited by Margaret Inger.

lssue	Deadline for contributions			
Jan/Feb	20th Jan			
Printed Chronicles available on: 31st Jan				

NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

If email is impossible, please place your contribution, typed or handwritten, in the Chronicle box outside Vickery's Hardware Store on Drayton Green, or post to Vickery's. 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, Oxon. OX14 4JA. After the deadlines, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed, or delivered directly to the editor's house, by the Wednesday following the deadline.

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

ADVERTISING

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

Advertiser category	1 insert	3 inserts	6 inserts	12 inserts
Drayton resident	£6	£16	£31	£60
Non-Drayton resident	£7	£19	£37	£72

Double-sized adverts (approx. 9cm X 9cm) are charged at twice the above rates. All advertising MUST be paid for in advance, either electronically, in cash or by cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at, or sent to, Vickery's.

Requests for advertisements should (preferably) be emailed to Stephen Fearnley, the Chronicle advertising manager

(advertising@draytonchronicle.net), or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please phone Stephen on **01235 531347.**

Note: deadline for ads is the Friday before the deadline for contributions (see top of page).



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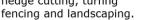


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ST PETER'S CHURCH



Rector: Revd Helen Kendrick rector@damascusparish.org.uk Pro-warden: Mrs Linda Johnson lindajjcw@gmail.com Administrator: Alison Bampton admin@@damascusparish.org.uk 01235 847179

The church remains open daily {Sun–Sat, 10-3 pm} Please note change of closing from **4 pm to 3 pm**

SERVICES INFORMATION

Sunday	8:00am	Holy Communion BCP – 3rd Sunday only
Sunday	9:30am	Regular Sunday service
Thursday	9:45am	Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Thurs)
Thursday	9:45am	Celtic Morning Prayer (2nd & 4th Thurs)

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

YOU STAY WE PRAY

1st – 7th Dec Corneville Rd; Crabtree Lane ; Lesparre Close.

8th – 14th Dec Drayton Rd; Milton Rd; New Cut Mill; Fisher Close; Marcham Rd; Meads Close; Rippington Court; Stone Hill.

15th – 21st Dec Steventon Rd; Kiln Lane; Mott Cottages; Barton Court

22nd – 28th Dec Eastway ; Eastway MHP **29th Dec – 4th Jan** Church Lane, Henleys Lane, Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane



CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S

<u>Sunday 1st December</u> 9.30a.m - Holy Communion for Advent

Sunday 22nd December 9.30a.m - Carol Praise

<u>Christmas Eve</u> 3.00 pm - Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion

<u>Christmas Day</u> 9:30a.m - Christmas Family Service

Sunday 29th December

11.00am – DAMASCUS Parish service at All Saints, Sutton Courtenay. There will be no service at St. Peter's on this Sunday.

STARS OF REMEMBRANCE

Would you like to remember a loved one at Christmas by writing their name on a star or a Christmas tag? These can be hung on the Christmas tree in St Peter's from Sunday 15th December. The Church will be open from 10.00a.m to 3.00 pm daily.



First Monday	14:00	Knit & Natter No need to be a knitter, if you'd just like a natter
Monday	19:30	Bellringing practice
Tuesday	14:30	First Tuesday Connections All welcome for a cuppa & chat
Wednesday (term time)	10:00	Pebbles Baby & Toddler For more information contact: Draytonpebbles@hotmail.com



ST PETER'S LETTER

What a year it has been, with world events seemingly going from bad to worse. As well as the escalating war in Ukraine and the Middle East, we have had unprecedented wildfires, storms and floods across the world. Millions are displaced, millions are homeless and hungry. Meanwhile, the cost-of-living crisis continues, and food banks in the UK look set to be overwhelmed. Many of us now are facing a hard winter, with seemingly little to be cheerful about.

And yet, and yet – the message of Christmas is just as real for us today as it was 2000 years ago, and it can still bring us hope and joy for our long-term future. Emmanuel has come, the Prince of Peace, the Son of Righteousness. God IS with us. And HIS kingdom will have no end.

There is a story told of a farmer who didn't believe in Jesus. One snowy Christmas Eve, his wife was taking their children to a service at their local church. He refused to come saying: 'Why would God lower Himself to come to Earth as a man? That's ridiculous!' So, they left him at home. During the evening the winds grew stronger, and the snow turned to a blizzard. He heard a series of loud thumps on the window. In the field near his house he saw a flock of wild geese. They had been migrating south when they got caught in the snowstorm. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter. The man wanted to help the geese and so he opened the doors of the barn, hoping they would go inside for shelter. But the geese didn't do anything, despite the man's efforts to move them. He made a breadcrumb trail leading to the barn and tried to shoo them toward the barn, but they only got more scared and scattered. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn: 'Why don't they follow me?!' Then he realised: 'If only I were a goose and become one of them, then I could save them.' Finally, he understood the heart of the Christmas message. God has become one of us in Jesus. The eternal creator God has entered time and space as a baby, to show us who God is and how we can know Him.

This Christmas the five churches of the DAMASCUS Parish are inviting you to 'Follow the Star: Calm and Bright' and to step into the Christmas story, away from the excessive 'busyness' of the season. Our churches offer an opportunity to find peace and to contemplate the amazing truth that we have a God who knows and can meet our needs in Jesus, who became one of us. Whether through our worship; supporting various charities; through carol singing or simply by showing kindness and love to our neighbours we can all help to share and rejoice in the love of God who sent his only Son to be our Saviour. 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Emmanuel', which means "God with us". Matthew 1:23. May the Good News of Christmas bring you hope, peace and joy.

With love and prayers,

Helen

The Reverend Canon Helen Kendrick, Rector of the DAMASCUS Parish



Peachcroft Christian Centre invite you to join us for lunch on

Will you be on your own this Christmas?

Christmas Day

Enjoy a 2 course lunch, entertainment and the company of others all free of charge. If you or someone you know would like to come then please get in touch with Kay Davies via email: christmaslunch24@peachcroftcc.org Or phone: 07787 629198 Venue:

Peachcroft Christian Centre

Lindsay Drive, Abingdon, OX14 2RT







CAROL SINGING

Carols at the Brewery with Abbey Brass

19:30 - 21:30

Loose Cannon Taproom



THE VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

A collection of local events, classes and activities.







The Stealer of Stories Performance

29th & 30th December





Elves Workshop

21st, 22nd & 23rd December



19:30 - 23:00





Drayton village hall ox14 4LG

Hi everyone, we are back with another chairty event in aid of children diabetes with all money raised going to JR HOSPITAL DIABETES TEAM!

Drayton village hall OX14 4LG 8th December 2024

11am-4pm Please come down and say hello we look forward to seeing you all. lots and lots of diffrent stalls, entertainment for children and a lot more. Charity number -1175809

Free entry and a little suprise for the children



DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

First off – **Merry Christmas,** and Happy New Year!

I know this comes through the door in late November, but I'm getting in the holiday spirit early – my son loves Christmas. And yes, I've previously agreed with the feeling that it's terrible that all the preparation for it spills over earlier and earlier every year, but I'm finding myself caring less about that. Perhaps it's like Stockholm Syndrome, and I've been captured by it, but I'm going to enjoy it while it lasts (I may turn into the Grinch by the end of December, mind you).

Reservoir

Guess what - kicking off with this again. After we lobbied on having dam breaks and drawdowns "scoped back in" to Thames Waters proposed Environmental Impact Assessment (as part of our October Full Council Meeting), we've since learned that the Environment Agency appears to agree with us - which is heartening. The Planning Inspectorate have published a "Scoping opinion" of Thames' Water's efforts, which include the EA's responses. They insist that embankment breach cannot be scoped out and must be addressed, and they've also noted that emergency drawdown should be in it, and recommend multiple different sizes of flows (including when the Thames is "bank full" and "more extreme events."

Given that Thames Water have recently had their maintenance and level of inspection of existing assets questioned, including reservoirs where cracks have been ignored and where repairs are urgently needed, and that they have £23bn of existing assets in dire need of repair already, this is the sort of thing they can't safely gloss over (I've also encountered a huge Environment Agency report from 2011 covering lessons from historical dam incidents and stating that these risks should never be overlooked).

There was a recent briefing by Thames Water to stakeholders on their Environmental Impact Assessment where they did, fortunately, note that they had been requested to scope major accidents and disasters into their proposal – something that actually seems to have come as a genuine surprise to them. I'm not sure if I should be happy they're taking it on board, or worried that they were surprised by it.

Valley Park

As the Valley Park development has a small chunk of it poking into our ward (albeit a chunk that will be dedicated solely to allotments), I get copied into the discussions and applications with regards to it. Recently, the developers there applied to put crossings over a bunch of small watercourses, but neglected to give important details – such as whether they'd be using culverts, and, if so, what the flooding risk elements would be.

The Vale rejected the application due to this (and because we're unsurprisingly rather sensitive about flood risks at the moment!), and the developer appealed, asking for costs to be awarded against us into the bargain.

I've learned that the Planning Inspector ruled in our favour and against the developer, including throwing out the request for costs. I only mention this because I was getting demoralised about the way we seemed to have very limited power to compel developers to do anything, or to forbid it. Whilst I'm still irritated about the way we can apparently get overruled on all sorts of areas here, it's reassuring to see that once in a while, we do get to say "no," and make it stick. I'd like to see that sort of thing more often, though. Not because I'm anti-development or even anti-developer, but because I'm anti-takingthe-mickey-by-developers.

First Electric Food Waste Collection Vehicle

We trialled a couple of EVs for waste collection a year or so back, which didn't pan out, but a more recent investigation specifically into a food waste collection vehicle was much more promising. Accordingly, we've now purchased one – which is hopefully one of the first steps to decarbonising the entire waste vehicle fleet as the technology steps forwards.

We're sharing it with South Oxfordshire, and it should cover 26,000 miles per year – which will lead to a saving of more than 20 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year. It's also an advance from the existing vehicles – the compression function means it can carry more before it fills up (saving time on needing fewer trips to the food waste reprocessing facility in Wallingford) and it has a lift to assist the bins being mechanically lifted and emptied (unlike the existing ones that work by hand), which is quicker for the crews.

Community Hub – support

Although Christmas is a time of happiness for many, there are always some who find things especially difficult at this time. If you need support or advice, you can contact the Hub here: Tel: 01235 422600

Email: <u>communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk</u> Website: whitehorsedc.gov.uk/costofliving

All the best, and Merry Christmas when it finally rolls around,

Andy Cooke

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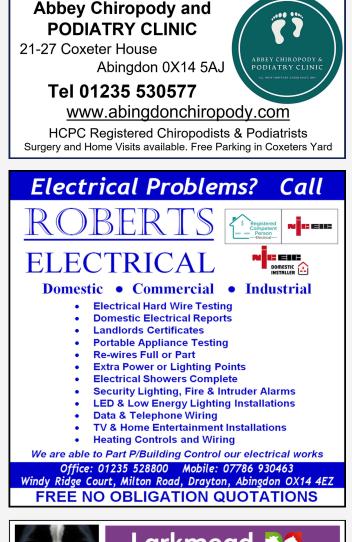


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COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Merry Christmas!

I am writing this shortly after the Remembrance Sunday memorial service, which I attended in Sutton Courtenay and was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the council. It was very moving to listen as the name of every solider killed in World War I and 2 was read out and remembered individually. We were also asked to remember and pray for all those caught up in current conflicts across the globe, and my heart went and goes out to the two million displaced civilians struggling to stay alive in the Gaza Strip, and the number of innocent women and children killed as 'acceptable collateral damage' which of course is totally unacceptable, as is apartheid and genocide, if that is proven.

Christmas is a time to remember Christian values and wish peace and goodwill to everyone. With the rhetoric of the incoming US government and increasingly militant views being witnessed in many places, I worry that further escalation seems almost inevitable, and I wish that to be avoided and that all sides seek lasting peaceful solutions particularly in the Middle East, Ukraine and Africa. Along that vein, I have asked the council to raise the United Nations flag on United Nations day at Abbey House, to remember the reasons for the creation of that global body after WW2, and its continued role for promoting peace amongst nations today. Christmas is a time to pray for peace for all.

Back to local life, first snow has fallen now, and I remind residents to protect against the winter weather. I am highlighting issues to Highways with the route taken by many Europa children from Sutton Courtenay across Culham to make that very busy route safer for children and parents. I am also showing the new placemaking team in Highways the lack of a safe foot and cycle path from Peep-o-day Lane to Drayton, which many have pointed out previously. Although it may be a long term project, I think providing a safe route along Drayton Road beyond the cycle path to Abingdon is important to local residents and many who travel between the two villages. There are often accidents along that road, which deters cyclists and walkers and divides those who live along the road from both villages. Lastly, following the concerns raised by residents at Milton Heights about joining the A4130, new temporary lights will be fitted there during the roadworks to enable safe entry and exit to Milton Hill, and we intend to use this period to work out a more permanent solution.

Beyond highways, consultation on the new Joint Local Plan finished in November, and many have inputted to improve this new local planning document, including protection of green spaces between villages, along with better paths and transport links. Didcot Town are also now starting a neighbourhood plan and have asked our neighbouring villages to join them. Although most of our villages have neighbourhood plans already, so do not need to join formally, close relationships are welcome. Similarly, public consultation is now starting for the major redevelopment of the Dalton Barracks brownfield site at Abingdon airfield, highlighted in the Joint Local Plan as a major contributor for meeting local housing needs. Your input is welcome.

Lastly, In the next few weeks, you may see Thames Water drilling and carrying out tests for the SESRO reservoir in the fields between Sutton Courtenay and Abingdon where they intend to build the new intake and offtake with the River Thames. We are still awaiting response on the added flood risk this creates for our district and our other considerable concerns with Thames Water and their strategic management of our water and waste. In the meantime, we must continue to hold them to account. For any sewer flooding, ring the Environment Agency on **0345 988 1188**, and for other local issues, please raise them on **FixMyStreet.com.**

The county council have prepared a flood toolkit, and guides for utility failures (like power cuts), clearing snow and other emergencies, which you may find helpful.

https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/

Enjoy the festive season and happy new year to all!

Councillor Peter Stevens

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT



The Parish Council met on 12th November.

Walnut Meadows

As you know, further buried waste has been found on the site of the sports facilities. This has been raised with the Vale of White Horse as it is going to cost the PC a further £9000 to remove this. We have requested that the Vale take action against Miller Homes as they are responsible for the waste. So far there has been no response from the Vale. The PC is liaising with the Vale in respect of the legal agreement that needs to be in place once the funding release has been approved. The Vale will release the S.106 funding on a monthly basis as and when invoices are approved.

All work on the sports pitches has been curtailed due to the weather. It will start again in the Spring as long as the ground is not too wet. The construction of the MUGA (multi-use games area) will also begin in the Spring. The PC has asked the contractor for the sports pitches to undertake work on the perimeter path around the sports area.

Miller Homes have replaced dead trees on the land adjacent to the Footpath to Corneville Road but have not replaced two sections of hedge as per the approved plans.

Manor Farm

Cala have completed the work to remediate the perimeter path around the public open space. The PC had requested that the PC take over the POS once the remedial work had been completed. This request has been blocked by the Vale who are insisting on a 1 year maintenance period once the completion certificate has been issued. This is frustrating as the PC would like to implement a more environmentally friendly approach to managing the hemlock. Cala have sprayed the area several times, this has not eradicated all the hemlock but has killed most of the other vegetation which has had a disastrous effect on wildlife and has left a significant 'dead' area. We have asked the Vale to stop Cala from further spraying and requested that Cala revert to the original agreement whereby they hand pulled the Hemlock as it emerged in the Spring.

Traffic calming

The business case for the traffic calming plans has been agreed by OCC. We understand that OCC are about to start the statutory formal consultation for the new pedestrian crossings which will run for 4 weeks.

Allotments

There are currently 12 people on the waiting list for a plot. The PC recently carried out an inspection of plots to ensure that they are being worked adequately. Whilst we wish to maintain the allotments in a relaxed and friendly style we have a responsibility to ensure that those fortunate enough to have plots are using them well. A further inspection due early April 2025.

Grass cutting

The contracts for grass cutting on PC land is out for re-tender with a closing date of mid-Feb.

School admission reminder

Parents and carers of children born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 are reminded to apply for a school place.

Next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held at the Caudwell Day Centre , 7pm on 10th Dec.

Joining the team

There are still vacancies on the Council. If you are interested and would like to get involved, you are welcome to attend a meeting or contact us. Don't be put off by the thought of hours of work, you'd only need to attend monthly meetings but otherwise can put in as much or little as you can.

Elaine Wade



All Saints Church, Marcham, OX13 6NP 31st January & 1st February 2025

6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. on both days. Adults £5 --- Under 18s £3

Tickets: On the door or in advance from Marcham Village Shop, North Street, Marcham, OX13 6NG

Refreshments included. Proceeds to All Saints Church



This hour-long, action-packed feature film, shot in and around Marcham in 1989, has been restored and can now be seen and heard as never before!

To view the trailer, scan the QR code

CHRISTMAS PUZZLES

WORD SEARCH

We've hidden twelve Christmas themed words, can you find them?

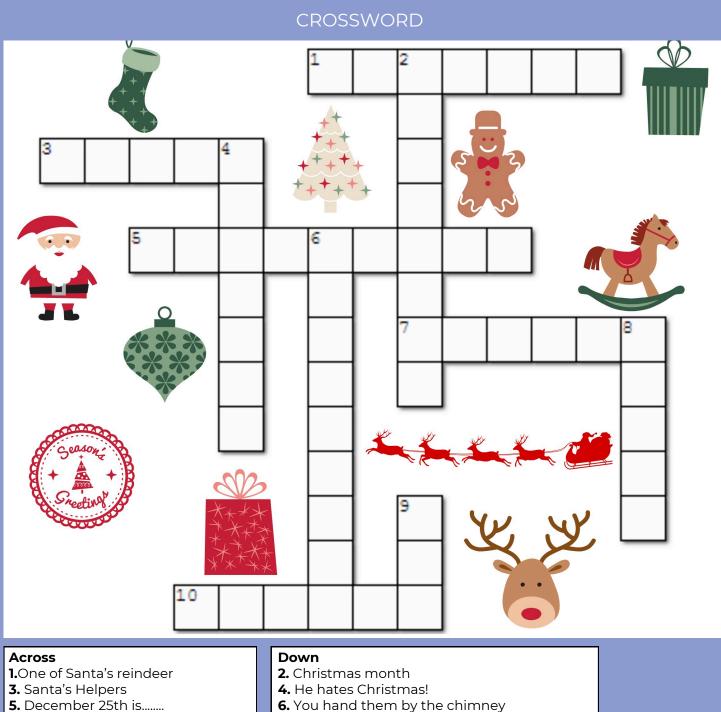
S	S	S	S	С	R	0	0	Α	S	Α	0	Ε	Ε	 Crackers Workshop Christmas
С	Α	Ε	W	S	S	S	S	Ι	S	С	Т	L	Α	Turkey
S	Α	N	S	Α	Т	R	R	R	Ε	Т	Ν	V	С	SnowTree
R	Т	Т	Ρ	R	Ε	S	Ε	Ν	Т	S	Α	Ε	Η	Santa
Α	U	Α	Ε	С	Т	Ν	С	Κ	R	Ε	Т	S	R	DraytonElves
S	R	Ε	S	U	0	S	Α	R	С	Τ	S	Ε	Ι	Stocking
S	Κ	Ν	Η	Т	Ε	С	S	R	Ρ	Α	Ρ	W	S	PresentsSprouts
Ρ	Ε	Α	Y	R	Α	Т	Ν	Α	S	Ε	R	Ε	Т	
Ν	Y	Α	Κ	S	Ν	Ν	S	Ι	R	Ρ	0	С	Μ	
Κ	R	Ι	Т	Α	S	D	Ν	С	Ρ	S	U	S	Α	
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Ρ	N	L	Α	Τ	Ρ	0	Η	S	Κ	R	0	W	Ε	
S	S	Α	Ν	Ν	R	R	Α	Ι	R	0	Ε	S	S	

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are **10** differences in the two pictures below, can you spot them all?







7. Christmas Drink

10. A popular snowman

- 8. On Christmas morning we unwrap....
- **9**. to the world!

CHRISTMAS CRACKER JOKES

WHAT DO ELVES LEARN AT SCHOOL?

WHAT IS RED AND WHITE, RED AND WHITE, **RED AND WHITE?**

The Elf-abet

Santa rolling down a hill.

WHY IS IT SO COLD AT CHRISTMAS?

Because it's Decemberrrrrrrrrr!

WHAT DO YOU CALL A SNOWMAN PARTY?

A snow-ball!



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LOCAL GROUPS AND CLUBS

W.I

We met **Simon Booker** on Thursday, and what an amazing gentleman he is and what a photographer!

His subject was **birds**, mostly captured on his amazing camera and foot-long lens. This equipment allowed him to take the most amazingly detailed photos of the local bird population.

He explained that most of them were taken in around South Stoke where he lives. A couple were taken in the north of Scotland and America.

He also told us that, as an engineer, everything had to be as finely focused as possible, and they were. I don't think any of us had seen such beautiful photos, and all taken so close to our homes.

When we had seen a montage of pictures, Simon demonstrated his personal **"hide gear"** which turned him into The Green Man. It gave one lady quite a turn when she spotted him on the river bank trying to catch the elusive kingfisher. Luckily, she recovered when he explained what he was doing.

At the end of his talk he told us that any profits from the sale of his beautiful cards and calendars would be donated to the **stroke association** because he is a stroke survivor himself.

Thank you Simon.

Next month is our **members' Christmas meeting**, with table display by Jack Matthews, food, and our Santa sack.

This is only for members but do come and join us in February to learn more about the food bank and what they do for people who need them:

Thursday 13th February in the Caudwell centre at 7.30 pm

Ann Webb

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DRAYTON TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The season is well underway in the Didcot League and after the first matches our teams are settling into the routine. The Artisans in **Division** I have had a steady start and lie in mid table. This after having already played two of the very best teams in their first 3 matches. These days the first division has a good number of top players with several quite well placed in National rankings. So they can expect a number of challenges.

In **Division 2** the Buzzards are riding high at the top, winning all of their first matches. They are currently 8 points clear of second with Stuart Pringle unbeaten and Fred Marlin only losing 1 of his 12 played. David Hudson has also only lost one from 9. Also, in Div 2 the Dingos are 7th and with a match in hand on those above can consider it to be a good start after they toyed with possible relegation last season. The Corinthians are currently 8th but with 70% of the season still to play I'm confident they will not be there for long.

In **Division 3** the Eagles have landed quite well and the Flamingos are in the pink! Lying 4th and 5th respectively both have started ok and will hope to continue being well placed. The Flamingos have a mix of experience and complete novice players being mentored along. The newbies seem to be enjoying the experience. This will bode well as the season progresses.

Club Night Coaching sessions under Coach Jonathan Cattell are thriving with attendances at a high level. As things stand we will be starting a waiting list for these hour-long Monday sessions. The new influx of players shows Jonathan is doing a good job in what is his first full season in the role following the retirement of Janet Quarry after many years of excellence. There is a good mix of children and adults. Coaching is followed by 2 hours of general practice and again a good number of players attend the session.

John Gould Chairman

15



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LETTER FROM WESTMINSTER

With winter upon us, Parliament remains in full swing. I've had the opportunity to speak in the House of Commons about various matters that are of concern, as well as meet constituents, including from Drayton.

Travel, homes, farming, the environment, including water, and small businesses are issues that have been shared with me.

Since the last newsletter I met with young people and also local councils in the constituency to find out more about what services are needed. I also welcomed **DadShift** who are aiming to see reform in paternity leave which will help families thrive.

It is more important than ever that the **water companies** are held to account. I welcomed the opportunity to join fellow MPs in meeting with **Ofwat** so we could share your local concerns. Bringing together the different local agencies is taking time but remains an aim!

Of significance locally is the impact of the recent budget upon our rural communities. Farmers and small businesses have been heavily affected – which could impact upon our food security, and I will continue to support those in greatest need.

In November I was elected to the **Transport Select Committee** where the Department of Transport's work is scrutinised – from potholes to planes, from buses to high-speed railways and much more. At the first meeting I expressed my worries for families who are reliant upon public transport because of the bus fare price cap, as well as higher train fares. Nevertheless, I agree with the Secretary of State, that these services need to be more reliable as they can be a lifeline for many. I look forward to sharing more of this work with you in the new year.

My team provides support for all our constituents. Please contact me if I can help, or if you would like me to attend a local event or meet with a local organisation. My parliamentary email address is:

olly.glover.mp@parliament.uk

Finally, my very best wishes to you all for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Olly.



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

DRAYTON HALL NEWS

Thanks to all our users for their patience, re the Main Hall lights having a couple of tubes out for several weeks. The new (replacement) LED lighting has been installed in the Main Hall, and should be fitted round the rest of the rooms in due course.

One related thing the C'tee is considering is to have 'movement' sensors fitted – this due to a regular stream of incidents with lights being **left on** when hirers have gone home!

We've another Antiques Fair, Sunday Dec 1st, 9am to about 3pm, and a few new stalls apparently, that's plus Kathy Head running her excellent value cafe for one of her good causes (lovely breakfast, or perhaps just a bacon sarnie!). Another one on Jan 5th too. That evening, Dec 1st, is also the date for the popular Carols **Concert**, usually very well attended, so do look out for local F'book ads. We've another **Jewellery** Valuation day, this time a Monday, (Dec 2nd), 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, chains, etc, he does a leaflet drop round the village ("Wanted -Gold & Silver") a couple of days before the event, with far more details about items of interest.

Oh, and another 'good-cause' **Craft Fair** this month, it's Sunday Dec 8th, (llam to 4pm) and in aid of the **JR Diabetes team**, look out for ads on the local F'book. I hear that the sessions of **KEEP FIT with FAYE**, (Fridays at llam), 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).

A very merry Christmas – and Happy New Year – - to all our Clubs, Groups and 'ad-hoc' hirers. For anyone who overdoes the calories in that period, do consider that Keep Fit class in the previous paragraph?! Or our Bowls, Badminton or Sequence Dance groups if they suit?!

Tony Holmes



DRAYTON DIARIES

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated. To book the Hall email Tony Holmes at bookings@draytonvh.co.uk or call on (01235) 531180. See the website: www.draytonvh.co.uk

Sun 1st	1:00pm	Antiques Fair
Sun 1st	7:00pm	Carols Concert
Mon 2nd	1:00pm	Jewellery Valuation
Tues 3rd	2:00pm	Bowls (League) Match
Sun 8th	11:00am	Diabetes Charity Craft Fair
Tues 10th	2:00pm	Bowls (League) Match
Tues 10th	7:00pm	Parish Council Meeting (Caudwell DC)
Sat 14th	All day	Private Function
Sun 15th	1:30pm	Private Function (child's party
Sat 21st	9:30am	Private Function (child's party)

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise. [## = Small Hall in Village Hall]

If an entry is wrong – DO tell an editor (page 2)

	MONDAYS
2:00pm	Short Mat Bowling Club Session
6:00pm	Damascus Youth ##
7:15pm	Badminton (Private Group)
7:45pm	Bell-ringing (St Peter's)
	TUESDAYS
9:30am	Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925)
1:45pm	Drayton Art Group (<i>Caudwell DC</i>)
2:30pm	Tuesday Connect - 1st Tuesdays (Church)
5:30pm	Irish Dancing (Ashleigh - 07375 878445)
6:45pm	Karate/'Dojang X' session (Sabrina 07938 537310)
7.45pm	Health & Fitness (ditto)

10:00amPebbles Baby Croup (Church)1:30pmWhist Drive (Caudwell DC)1:45pmU3A Science/Tech, 1st Weds (07890 385931) ##2:00pmDrayton Wives (Last Wednesday, most months) ##2:15pmBadminton6:30pmBrownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435) ##7:00pmShort Mat Bowling Club Session7:00pmShort Mat Bowling Club Session9:30amParent & Toddler Group9:45amHoly Communion (**) (St Peter's Lady Chapel)11:00amBaptist Café (to 1pm) NOW IN >> (Caudwell DC)2:00pmShort Mat Bowling Club Session2:00pmShort Mat Bowling Club Session2:00pmCrafts Group (2nd Thursday - Call Kate 01235 550486) ##5:30pmRainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs) ##7:30pmSequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)7:30pm'Community Choir' (2nd/4th Thurs) (Caudwell DC)7:30pmKeep Fit with FAYE (07815 583591)4:15pmKarate/'Dojang X' sessions (07938 537310)4:15pmFor all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), please see our St Peter's Church page6:00pmEvening Service (<i>Baptist Church</i>)		WEDNESDAYS
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