



# DRAYTON PARSLOW VILLAGE NEWS



14<sup>th</sup> February



1<sup>st</sup> March



17<sup>th</sup> March

ISSUE 144

February / March 2018

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## NEXT ISSUE

Contributions, articles and photos for the April/May issue **by no later than Friday March 2nd 2018** please to the Village News mailbox [dpvillagenews@outlook.com](mailto:dpvillagenews@outlook.com) or **by hand to Sally Wallis (10 Prospect Close) or Claire Darnley (Tamara, 3b Main Road)**. If you want to speak to either of us, please contact Sally on 720030 or Claire on 720383.



**Greenacre Hall**

For hall bookings please telephone  
Carol 01296 720741

## DRAYTON DIARY

February	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	First Friday, Three Horseshoes, 2:30pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Re-Fresh, The Pavilion, 5pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Prize Bingo, DPSSC, 8:00pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, DPSSC, 7:30pm
March	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	First Friday, Three Horseshoes, 2:30pm
11 <sup>th</sup>	Re-Fresh, The Pavilion, 5pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Prize Bingo, DPSSC, 8:00pm
26 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, DPSSC, 7:30pm
April	
14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup>	Mousefest, Holy Trinity Church
21 <sup>st</sup>	Prize Bingo, DPSSC, 8:00pm
Later	
Jun 9 <sup>th</sup>	Church Summer Fete
Aug 11 <sup>th</sup>	Village Show

### Village Quiz Night 2018

Thank you to the fifteen teams who supported the annual Village Quiz night on January 13<sup>th</sup> at Greenacre Hall.

Our congratulations go to Margaret Woods and her team who came first!

### Cutting Her Hair for The Little Princess Trust

Esmai went ahead and donated her hair to The Little Princess Trust back in December and has raised a marvellous **£310** for the charity as well. Congratulations Esmai!

**BEFORE**



**AFTER**



If you'd still like to donate please go to:

<https://www.youcaring.com/search/go?w=esmai+summers>

The next of our series of features on members of the local community:

Let's spend 30 minutes with...

## Wendy Preston

Loyal supporter of many village activities & events and former Parish Council Chair



### 1. How long have you lived in Drayton Parslow?

Exactly 30 years, for us a return to village life after many years in a large town, and where we hopefully intended to stay - 26 years in Prospect Close and currently 4 very happy years in our smaller house in Fox Lane.



### 2. What do you like best about living in Drayton Parslow?

From first opening the heavy Church door, a scary thing when you are newcomers in a village, but then greeted by Sid Hounslow I somehow knew that our move would be a good one and so it has been.

Sid told me "he thought I would be good at fund raising" which has been long and varied over the years. I confess to enjoy organising but nothing would be possible without a team you can call upon and who will willingly help, never a problem in Drayton.

Being able to walk the village and always meet and greet someone.



Knowing that if you should need help it would just quietly happen.

### 3. What is your favourite event held in the village?

Can't just focus on one event, beginning in January with the Village Hall Quiz now a firmly established fixture then the year carries on with a variety of equally good events both big and small throughout the year, all sociable, enjoyable with a great community spirit.

It's what makes Drayton a great place to live.

### 4. What is your favourite book / books?

I started a Book Group 16 years ago so approximately 190 books later! Ten ladies meet once a month having read a set book which we then discuss. I have always been a 'reader' but have now read many books I might not have been tempted to, most enjoyed but some not so much which makes for a lively

discussion. It is a treasured group for both friendship, stimulation and a glass of wine.



### 5. Who is your favourite celebrity chef & why?

Prue Leith, my daughter Sarah trained under her at Leith's Cookery School, so for over 30 years I have used many of her recipes.



As an avid watcher of cookery programmes, I am always willing to learn and experiment.

### 6. The film you can watch again & again?

I like a wide variety of films, preferably not too violent, and could happily watch many second time around when they are on TV but my real preference is for the cinema and feeling enveloped by sound and screen.

### 7. What is the best job you have ever had?

After Secretarial College I have gone from industry to first training and then teaching, finally back to industry for another 20 years which I loved.

On retiring I joined the Parish Council where I spent 12 years, many as Chair. I learnt such a lot about the village, past, present and what changes will lie ahead Perhaps the project I am most proud of was the installation of the MUGA which allowed children of all ages to enjoy that facility at no cost.

### 8. What is your favourite place to visit?

Has to be New Zealand. I have been lucky enough, along with John, to travel widely, always enjoying new ventures whether worldwide or anywhere within the British Isles.



### 9. Who would be your special guests at a dinner?

Whether friends or family 'around a dinner table' makes me very happy and creates such special memories but a Welsh trio of Bryn Terfel, Katherine Jenkins and Aled Jones would take me back to Wales.



# Holy Trinity News



## Reflections from the Rectory

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY



A new year has begun, I wonder what this year holds for us all? There will be things we are aware of, things that have been in the diary for months if not longer, others we may not yet know about.

Within the 5 Parishes we have started the year with some changes in our patterns of worship, this has meant some changes in both the times and numbers of services as well as some continued minor changes in our styles and types of worship. Although these changes don't affect Drayton Parslow directly, I thought you might like to know what is happening and why!

Why have we made these changes?

We live in a changing world. While the Bible teaches us that God is the same yesterday, today and forever but the way we live and do things is constantly evolving. Our changes are attempting to reflect changing patterns of worship attendance (looking at our local context along with being aware of the national picture).



We are also looking at the needs of those attending, hopefully enabling people across the benefice to worship in a way that enriches and equips our lives beyond our times gathered together and helps us to bring our thanks and requests to God.

God bless,

Simon

## HOLY TRINITY SERVICE DATES

February		
4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	Jackie Brown
11 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service	John Saunders
18 <sup>th</sup>	No Service	
25 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	David Talks
March		
4 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	John Saunders
11 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service Mothering Sunday	Lay led
18 <sup>th</sup>	No Service	
25 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion Palm Sunday	Simon Faulks
April		
1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 Easter Sunday Family Communion	John Saunders
8 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service	David Talks

## Christmas Wreath Workshop 2017



Many thanks to Sue Milner and the ladies who supported this fundraising event held at Greenacre Hall on the morning of 13<sup>th</sup> December.

24 ladies attended a demonstration of wreath making by Sue Milner and then make their own wreaths or table arrangements. Refreshments and a lunch of homemade soups were served.

**£573.00** was raised which included £76.00 taken for the Raffle.

This was a brilliant result for the proposed Church Extension Fund and, as the previous year, such a nice social event.

*Unfortunately, due to the bad weather there are no photos of the wreaths - this year we must take photos on the day of the workshop!*



Start 2018 with Re-Fresh  
Café-style Church with **live band** and refreshments  
At the Pavilion  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm  
All ages welcome - please come and join us!

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**Mousefest Weekend**  
**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April**

A date for your diary.  
Our mice have been seen busily  
preparing for this extraordinary  
Festival of Church Mice.



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Our Summer Garden Fete 2018 is booked for June 9<sup>th</sup>

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**'Tuesday Coffee Mornings'**  
**at the Pavilion**



Don't forget we are serving tea and coffee during the **Post Office opening times of 9-11am every Tuesday.**

We hope you will come along and meet up with friends and neighbours for tea/coffee and a natter! If you think you could help occasionally, we would love to hear from you.

For more information please contact Jenny on 01296 720208.

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**FIZZ** for all children from Year 7 to year 13. Free every  
3rd Sunday at 6.30pm at

Old Stock, Church Lane, Mursley.

For more info contact Bey Christian:

[bey.christian@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bey.christian@yahoo.co.uk) 01296 720630

## Christingle & Children's Christmas Workshop

Thirteen children aged 5-11 years attended the workshop in the Village Hall. They made Christmas angel and mice decorations, and Christmas tree pizza as well as prayer candles which were lit at the end for prayer time.

The children who attended the workshop also took part in a nativity scene at the **Christingle Service**, led by Canon John Saunders and Rev Jackie Brown. Sophie Titmuss played solo flute for *Away in a Manager* while children came to collect their Christingles. Georgia Darnley and Ben Cotton gave the readings. It was lovely to have such a packed Church and a record **£300.41 was raised for the Children's Society**.



## FIRST FRIDAY GROUP

The First Friday group has been running for over two years now. It was set up to provide an opportunity for village people to meet up in an informal way. We now have over 20 "members", the word members being in inverted commas because this is not a club. It's open to everyone and anyone, there's no subscription, no committee, no rules and regulations – just the opportunity to meet once a month for a chat over a cup of tea (or any drink you fancy) and a piece of cake. You come if and when you want to - no excuses required if you have other things to do.

We meet on the First Friday of every month in the Three Horseshoes at 2.30pm. Steve and Denise at the pub make us very welcome and provide the refreshments at exceptionally reasonable prices. In the winter there's a cosy fire and in the summer there's an attractive seating area outside. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new ones, find out the latest goings on in the village and just relax in a friendly atmosphere.

From time to time we arrange an outing. Visits to nearby stately homes and gardens have proved very popular with regular members bringing along their partners and friends and we have had some great Christmas meals out. We aim to keep the arrangements informal and sort out car sharing if needed for these events. We're going to try out some new ideas in 2018, looking into visiting a local vineyard or the council recycling plant, for example (there are two things you don't often see in the same sentence!) Maybe you can think of something that would be more fun done as a group and all ideas are welcome, but there's no pressure.

Why not come along and give us a try? The 2<sup>nd</sup> of February is the next First Friday when we meet, followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> March and so on. See you at the Three Horseshoes 2.30 pm?

## Holy Trinity Toy Service December 10<sup>th</sup> 2017

Thank you for all who braved the snow and attended our annual Toy Service on 10<sup>th</sup> December and for the toys you donated. Please find below a letter from **John & Diana Sturgess**, (main co-ordinators for Food Cupboard) who distributed your donations.

Dear «Contact\_Name»,

We would like to thank you for your very generous Christmas donation and ask that this letter of thanks be posted on your noticeboard for all those who were involved.

Although Food Cupboard is now working with the local Lions Clubs within the MK area, it continues to be a small, independent, organisation, staffed by the same volunteer teams, to operate within the MK postcode area. We still use the same trusted operating system using referrals from Milton Keynes Children's Services to ensure that those most in need receive the personalised help we, as a small organisation, can provide. Food, delivery services and admin remains free of charge to our client families and is provided entirely on a voluntary basis to ensure that ALL donations, be it food, support or monetary in nature, is channelled entirely into provision for our client families.

Because of our recent changes within our outreach we have been unable to provide our usual 50 Christmas Hampers as we have had to concentrate in re-establishing our core provision of weekly food assistance. The Christmas donations we have received this year will be used to provide MK ACT, our local Women's Refuge with some Christmas food and the toys we have received. We understand that there were approximately 28 families with 40 children resident over the Christmas period. The remaining Christmas fair was added to each of the weekly packs delivered during December and over the Christmas period. Anything left over is being added to our January food packs. We will be examining, over the coming months, if there is a possibility of resurrecting our Christmas Hampers again for Christmas 2018.

We continue to be totally reliant on the goodwill and donations provided by our supporters without whom we would be unable to respond to the requests made to us. We cannot, therefore, emphasise enough how vital your help and support is to the continuation of our outreach to those in need.

Nearly all of the families we support tell us that the support we offer provides hope and encouragement as well as the food parcel in a situation that generates despair, desperation and a personal feeling of failure. It is on their behalf that we wish to extend our grateful thanks once again

**John & Diana Sturgess**

## Drayton Parslow Book Club

Below is a list of the books we read during 2017. As usual our preferences differed but we enjoyed a very varied selection and continue to support the local libraries.



**Good Wives** by Margaret Forster

**A Place Called Winter** by Patrick Gale

**The Muse** by Jessie Burton

**The Glass Room** by Simon Mawer

**Troubles** by J. G. Farrell

**Spell in Winter** by Helen Dunmore

**The Last Runaway** by Tracey Chevalier

**Book of Speculation** by E. Swyler

**The Husband's Secret** by Lianne Moriarty

**Dear Daughter** by Elizabeth Little

**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly** by Jean Dominique Baudy

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

<http://draytonparslowparishcouncil.org.uk/>

### **Message from PCSO Tina Hobson – Thames Valley Police**

There has been a spate of van contents thefts and shed burglaries in surrounding villages and TVP urges you to take precautions. Subscribe to their Thames Valley Police alerts by e-mailing Tina Hobson with your name, telephone or e-mail address. Contact Tina on [tina.hobson@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:tina.hobson@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk) and she will sign you up. If you see anything that concerns you call 101 for non-emergency assistance or 999 for an emergency.

### **Facebook**

Drayton Parslow Parish Council has set up a Facebook group for residents to join. It is hoped to be used as another means of disseminating information within the community. To join, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DraytonParslowPC/> and click on the 'join group' button. Please reply to the questions you will be prompted to answer – these are to ensure legitimate group membership and avoid spammers. This is not a group for advertising/selling but rather where you can find out about issues affecting the parish and where you can ask for information. The group will be moderated and we hope it will be useful. At present it is still a work in progress. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk. As always, information is also available on the Parish Council website at <https://draytonparslowparishcouncil.org.uk/>

### **Christmas Lights**

Many thanks to the Spavins family for lighting up the trees at the War Memorial and to the Stepney family for supplying the electricity.

### **Playground Sign refurbishment**

Thank you also to David Wise for refurbishing the playground sign– it looks brand new again!

### **Planning**

There still has not been a decision made relating to 17/01429/APP Land adj to North Close – proposed 24 homes. AVDC has extended the decision expiration date several times to allow for more reports to be submitted. We will let you know when a decision has been made.

### **Equestrian Warning - Road Signs**

We have been advised by Transport for Bucks (TfB) that these can be installed. However, at present winter conditions and potholes are taking priority. So nothing will be done by TfB until the weather improves. We'll keep you posted!

### **Allotments**

We still have four vacant allotments available. Rent is incredibly cheap – well under £1 per month, so why not grow your own this year? Contact the Clerk for details. [draytonparslowpc@btinternet.com](mailto:draytonparslowpc@btinternet.com)

**Next Parish Council meetings:** 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018 & 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 7:30 pm Sports & Social Club

## Visits to Greatmoor Energy from Waste

Do you ever wonder what happens to the things you put in your waste bin? Your recycling is sorted and passed onto recycling companies, but what about your non-recyclable waste?

So far over 2500 visitors to Greatmoor Energy from Waste have found out.

All of the residual (non-recyclable) household waste generated in Buckinghamshire is now processed at the Greatmoor Energy from Waste facility, at Woodham, near Aylesbury. Greatmoor is operated by FCC Environment, in partnership with Buckinghamshire County Council.

Greatmoor has the capacity to treat up to 300,000 tonnes of waste a year (approximately 900 tonnes a day), waste which would otherwise have gone to landfill. As a result, it generates a minimum of 22 megawatts of electricity to the national grid – meeting the energy needs of around 36,000 homes.



This alternative treatment of waste will result in a saving to Buckinghamshire County Council of approximately £150 million over the 30 year life of the contract.

Guided tours of Greatmoor are available by prior agreement and at no charge. Visiting groups have included WIs, U3As, Rotary Clubs, Scouts, Cubs, Primary Schools, Colleges and lots of others.

A group visit to Greatmoor can be tailored to your requirements and will include a tour around the facility, which includes the control room (where you will be able to see the cranes loading the waste), a visit to the viewing hatch providing an exciting view into the heart of the fire, the turbine hall and the huge condenser fans, which is an experience not to be missed.

The maximum group size for a tour is 15. School visits are available for Key Stage 2 upwards.

Cllr Bill Chapple OBE, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Planning & Environment, said: "Greatmoor is a great asset to Buckinghamshire, and I'd really recommend that people take this opportunity to see the plant in operation and find out how it helps us reduce the environmental impact of our waste while at the same time saving money."

Feedback from visitors includes "The tutor had a really good knowledge and explained it all well. The tour was such a good experience and really interesting. I think that all the general public should have an opportunity" and "Very informative but not too much sitting around so the children got bored or disruptive - they were kept engaged throughout"

If you aren't a member of a local group but would like a tour, why come to one of our open tour days?

Greatmoor is holding four public open tour days in 2018. These are on the following Saturdays - March 17th, June 30th, September 22nd and November 24th.

On each day there will be tours, at 10am, 12.30 and 3pm. Please note that places are available on a strictly booking in advance basis only. There is a minimum age limit of 12 on open tours.

For more information about Greatmoor please visit [www.Greatmoor.co.uk](http://www.Greatmoor.co.uk)



## Your Garden in February

## Gardening Advice from Gill

Gallon, Potash Nursery [www.potashplants.co.uk](http://www.potashplants.co.uk)

### What to do with your Christmas Plants



You may well have been given plants for Christmas, or maybe you treated yourself and it is such a shame just to throw them away. With hyacinths and narcissi, these can be deadheaded and the leaves allowed to die back before planting them up in the garden. Next spring you will have those highly scented hyacinths and bright narcissi to enjoy.


Poinsettia and Christmas Cactus can last for several years if kept in the right conditions. Poinsettia need to be kept at about 21°C, away from draughts and cold with plenty of direct sunlight. Around October make sure they get a good 12 hours of darkness for them to redden up again. This also applies to your Christmas cactus, darkness from October to allow the buds to form and prior to that make sure not to over water.

### Jobs for the garden

- Prepare the ground for spring planting, weather permitting. Place protective covers over the soil where you are going to plant or sow seeds to assist in warming up the earth.
- Complete pruning fruit trees and it is your last chance to complete winter spraying with tar oil wash. Spray outdoor peaches, apricots, and nectarines with a fungicide to control peach leaf curl. Do this as a 'preventative' measure rather than to try it later as a 'cure'.
- Cut back autumn fruiting raspberries to about 15cm of the ground and trim the tops of canes of summer fruiting raspberries. Prune figs now.
- Roses can be pruned towards the end of the month. A number of summer flowering shrubs can also be pruned. Winter Jasmine should be done as soon as the flowers fade
- Lightly trim winter flowering heathers as soon as flowers fade.
- Cut down faded foliage on herbaceous perennials before new growth starts. Now is the time to divide and replant snowdrops. Plant lily of the valley crowns.
- Winter and spring bedding plants need to be dead-headed to encourage a long flowering period with many more blooms.
- Spike lawns with a fork if surface drainage is poor. You can even give the lawn a light trim towards the end of the month - if weather conditions permit!
- This is a good month for a dressing of bonemeal to shrub borders and beds. It takes a few weeks before it starts to break down in the soil, so it will be a ready source of plant food when the plants need it in a few weeks' time.

Happy Gardening in 2018

P.S. Although we are closed in February, if you would like to visit the nursery, just give us a call and we will open up for you.



## Drayton Parslow Neighbourhood Planning Group

It was a cold and wet December Evening when we held our information / social event in the Sports and Social Club. Never the less we had a better turn out from the village than we expected. The free mulled wine, mince pies and free raffle may have been the draw - but we like to think that those who supported were there out of genuine interest in the latest news and developments apertaining to the neighbourhood plan – so a huge thank you to all who came along.

It was an opportunity for those who came to see the detailed feedback from the village questionnaire and to ask questions of the members of the planning group – as well as give us further and more detailed feedback on some of the key issues identified in the original questionnaire.

We asked more questions about:

- housing – what type of housing and where would it be?
- a village shop – where woud it be and what would it sell?
- a village café – where would it be and when would it open?
- a business centre – what do we mean, what woud it offer and where would it be?

We had 22 detailed responses from people on the evening and they told us:

### Housing:

- yes to more starter homes and a say in where they are built and how they will be allocated
- not be built all in one location but be within the village
- how many can the village can support? Roads, school, shop broadband, social and sporting facilities are all impacted on by new build

### Village shop:

- is still a high priority but many doubt its viability
- the pub is seen as the best means of delivering a shop type of service that could be sustainable and this option should be explored
- needs to cover essentials and not necessarily cover everything

### Village café:

- is popular theory but again the sustainability was an key issue

### Business centre:

- questions were raised about need and sustainability – many citing broadband and wider infrastructure issues i.e. roads traffic management are real concerns.

There were a number of wider to questions raised by respondents e.g. what would the village like from its pub? How many social areas can we realistically make space for – and where?

Of course, the above represents the views of those who attended the evening – but many of these opinions do reflect the findings of the initial survey. This information not only helps us further meet the requirements of the planning process but it gives us valuable additional information that will inform our next steps. We will keep you informed of any forthcoming events and opportunities for you to engage with us in this important work that endeavours to protect what we value about our wonderful village. We look forward to your continued support and urge you to continue to feedback your thoughts when opportunities are offered.



# Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club



## Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club - News

The clubhouse remains busy, with the building being used almost every day for various events and activities. We are hoping to build on our facilities by building a Petanque court at the back of the clubhouse using S106 monies. We will keep you updated on how this progresses in the next issue of the Village News.

We are still hoping to increase the number of Volunteer Bar Staff on our team, either to help out at events (such as the VPA show in the Summer) or ideally to help man the bar on Sundays (12-2pm) – the rota is currently such that we do approx. 1 shift every 5 wks. Anyone willing to help should contact Kirsty on 07789 511264 / [kirstyfoley@btinternet.com](mailto:kirstyfoley@btinternet.com). Full training would be given.

## Regular Events

There are lots of clubs and activities running out of the Sports & Social club. Key sessions are:

Day	Time	Event
Tuesdays	9-11am	<b>Mobile Post Office</b> Serving all of your Post Office needs PLUS Tea, Coffee & Cakes on sale by the Church PCC.
Tuesdays	8-10pm	<b>Whist Drive</b> All welcome.
Wednesdays	AM, PM & EVE	<b>Abbey Smith Bridge Club.</b> More details can be found on <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/abbeysmith">www.bridgewebs.com/abbeysmith</a>
Thursdays	AM & EVE	
Fridays	PM	
Fridays	EVE	Cards Players (closed session).
Saturdays	Monthly, 7-10pm	<b>Bingo.</b> Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm. The bar is open and the Fish & Chip van will be in attendance. Next dates are: 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr.
Sundays	12-2pm	<b>Open Bar session.</b> All welcome.

## Hall Hire

Subject to diary availability, the clubhouse remains available to hire. We have a large, spacious room, with kitchen, garden and bar facilities, overlooking the Cricket ground.

Hall Hire charges are fixed at £10 per hour (with an incremental £7.50 per hour if the bar is required). A non-refundable deposit and hire agreement form are required for all bookings. Please contact Sarah Norman on 07970 820342 for hire availability.



## DRAYTON PARSLOW BAPTIST CHAPEL



With regret our carol service on December 10<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled owing to the severe weather conditions.

We would like to thank everyone who had made preparations to take part in the service, to Liz Carter-Gates who was to preach, the Drayton Parslow Singers and the organist. Special thanks as always to Vera who decorated the beautiful tree.

The Baptist Chapel have donated £200 to the Childhood Cancer Research Fund at Oxford Radcliffe Hospital.

### Services for February/March/April 2018

February 4 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Ruth Jones
February 18 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Nick Lingard
March 1 <sup>st</sup>	4pm	Women's World Day of Prayer
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Viv Cooling
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Glen Beck
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	11am	Ivy Nash

Any enquiries concerning the Chapel, please contact:

Mrs J McCall 720486      Mrs E Mallick 720666

### WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 4pm 1st March at the Baptist Chapel

Please join us for tea and cake followed by a short informal service to celebrate Women's World Day of Prayer.

All are welcome.

For further details please call  
Liz on 728343 or Jenny on 720208

## Anyone for Whist?

Bessie Fenables has been playing Whist on Tuesday evenings in Drayton Parslow for the last 80 years, first in Carington Hall then in the Sports & Social Club.

Bessie who lives in Stewkley celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in December. She is pictured below with Doreen who runs Whist every week.



Bessie is among 30 players who enjoy a game of Whist every week in Drayton and she has made many card playing friends over the years.

Whist runs every Tuesday in the Sports & Social club from 8 pm – 10pm – why not join them for a game and enjoy tea and biscuits and the weekly raffle. For more information contact Doreen on 01296 720517.

Congratulations to Bessie and we hope she continues to enjoy her Whist in Drayton.

## Drayton Parslow Short Mat Bowls Good News!



We are nearly there. The equipment has been ordered and we await delivery. If you have registered an interest we will contact you directly; if not, you can still let us know by emailing: [s.piddock@tesco.net](mailto:s.piddock@tesco.net) or telephone Susan Piddock 01296 728163  
All profits will go to Florence Nightingale Hospice.

## Local Dog Lovers Help Change and Enrich Lives

Local dog sitters, Barking Mad Milton Keynes, are asking fellow dog lovers to join them in helping to change lives. The dog holiday specialists have officially partnered with Dogs for Good, a life transforming charity which creates partnerships between people living with disability and specially trained assistance dogs.

Sue of Milton Keynes enthused:

"We are so proud to announce that [Dogs for Good](#) is Barking Mad's chosen charity for 2018! Dogs for Good train assistance dogs to support adults and children with a wide range of disabilities and also children with autism, in order to enrich and improve lives. This is particularly relevant to the work which we undertake with our own dog sitting [Host Community](#). We offer the opportunity to care for someone else's dog whilst its owners are away and through this initiative, we witness the amazing difference that canine companions can make in terms of improving social interaction and fitness every day."

Cathryn Simpson, Corporate Partnerships Manager for Dogs for Good said,

'We're absolutely delighted to be working with Barking Mad in 2018, there's obvious synergy between the two organisations in respect of the dogs but more importantly the ethos of both organisations is closely matched and this is important to ensure a successful partnership. Thank you to everyone for getting involved!'

### How can you get involved?

Barking Mad Milton Keynes's ultimate wish would be to raise enough money to fund the training of a Dogs for Good puppy and would really appreciate your help! Throughout 2018 they plan to hold fundraising events and would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved. Sue can be contacted on 01908 410908 **email** and you can also visit [www.barkingmad.uk.com/franchisees/milton-keynes/](http://www.barkingmad.uk.com/franchisees/milton-keynes/) to find out more.

### Going for dry February?

#### Try this recipe for **Mango Lassi**

Takes about 10 mins, makes about 2 cups and can be kept refrigerated for up to 24 hours.

- 1 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup chopped very ripe mango, frozen chopped mango, or a cup of canned mango pulp
- 4 teaspoons honey or sugar, more or less to taste
- A dash of ground cardamom (optional)
- Ice (optional)



Put mango, yogurt, milk, sugar and cardamom into a blender and blend for 2 minutes.

If you want a more milkshake consistency and it's a hot day, either blend in some ice as well or serve over ice cubes.

Sprinkle with a tiny pinch of ground cardamom to serve.

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Stewkley Players' 119th Production will be 'Dick Barton Episode III: The Tango of Terror'.

Dick, 1940's Secret Agent and tea-time radio celebrity, faces his toughest test as a ruthless Latin love lothario has set his sights on the women of London; stealing their most precious jewels while plotting to undermine the entire British Secret Service.

Can Dick and his doughty sidekicks Jock and Snowy, save the day?

Directed by Chris Mills and featuring a large cast comprising many audience favourites from previous productions, Dick Barton is a musical comedy (with strong emphasis on comedy) reminiscent of the Players' recent '39 Steps' – but with a bit of ballroom thrown in.

Definitely not to be missed – the future of the Empire may depend on your presence!

Production dates are March 21-24th, with tickets on sale from the usual places from 26th February (Box Office: 07845 489 167).

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## "FEDORIW" ROUND-UP!

2017 ended with a very hectic few weeks, so here is a quick (or not so quick!) round-up of events.....

### **VILLAGE PRODUCE ASSOCIATION**

In November the **Village Produce Association** was in crisis with only two members on the committee, it was touch and go whether there would be a village show in 2018! I am very pleased to say that **the village rallied round and we now have a committee with over ten members**, which is fantastic, so please look forward to an awesome village show on August 11th. Book it into your diary and show your support for this annual event, which was very nearly a thing of the past!! Look out for details of the evening event nearer the date. Thank you to all the committee volunteers and to everyone who has offered to help. THANK YOU!

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

On December 2nd the Fedoriw family held their annual **Christmas light switch on**. After a rainy and damp start the weather improved and a large crowd soon gathered. Once again Drayton Parslow's very own **ELVIS** entertained the crowd. Thank you Graham, we really appreciate you giving up your time (and missing the start of your team's football match) to make the "switch on" so special, hope you didn't get too cold!!



In total £350 was raised for the **Florence Nightingale Hospice** at Stoke Mandeville hospital. **Garry Duncan from WJ Products Ltd** and **Barrie Norman from LYNTONROSS Ltd** have both matched this amazing amount bringing the **grand total to £1,050**. A truly fantastic amount going to a very deserving charity.

A huge "THANK YOU" goes to three exceptional men. Graham, Garry and Barrie, THANK YOU!

### **FESTIVE LUNCH**

On Saturday 9th December we held a **festive lunch** which was attended by 14 people, who I hope, enjoyed a three course festive meal in the Sports and Social Club. There was a raffle in aid of Florence Nightingale Hospice which was won by John Wheeler. Well done John! My thanks go to Marian Sutherby and Laura Fedoriw for their help on the day.

Saturday 16th December was a very busy day in the Sports and Social Club. Starting with a children's **Christmas party** which was attended by 48 very excited boys and girls, who all enjoyed biscuit decorating, crafts, party food and a special visit from Santa who gave each child an early gift! Thank you to ALL the helpers on the day.

### **PRIZE BINGO**

This was followed in the evening by a **prize bingo** session. The number of players at this event was lower than in previous years but **£170** was raised for **the Helen and Douglas House Children's Hospice** in Oxford, including money from the donations bottle on the club bar, **£200 has been sent to the charity**. Thank you to everyone who supported this event and came out on a very cold night.

**Future dates for our cash prize bingo are 17th February, 17th March and 21st April.**

Eyes down at 8pm, bar open and the fish and chip van calls during the evening. All welcome, come and have some fun!!

The Fedoriw family would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2018

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