



# DRAYTON PARSLOW VILLAGE NEWS



14<sup>th</sup> February



1<sup>st</sup> March



17<sup>th</sup> March

ISSUE 150

February/March 2019

*In this issue...*

Feature	Page
30 minutes with...	2
Reflections from the Rectory & Church Services	3
Remembrance service pictures	3
Carol singing fund raiser	3
Sports & Social Club news	4-5
Parish Council Update	6-7
Neighbourhood Planning Group Update	7
Baptist Chapel	8
Christingle Service 2018	8
Your Garden	9
Church Update	10
Village Events	11
You might like this...	12
Christmas Wreath Workshop	11
Adverts and classified listings	13-17
Local Services	18
Three Schools Update	19
Christmas Wreath Workshop Update	20

## DRAYTON DIARY

February	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bingo, DPSSC 7pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, DPSSC 7:30pm
March	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bingo, DPSSC 7pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council Meeting, DPSSC 7:30pm
Further ahead	
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Trinity plans, Greenacre Hall 7:30pm with drinks and nibbles
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Coin Jars: The team of collectors will be out and about week commencing 15th April.
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Church Summer Garden Fete



### GREENACRE HALL

For hall bookings please telephone  
Carol 01296 720741



We now have electric blinds fitted giving hirers the option for a full black-out venue any time of year for showing films etc.

### NEXT ISSUE

Contributions, articles and photos for the April/May issue **by no later than Friday March 1st 2019** 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.

### Successful Christmas Concert



The Drayton Parslow Singers put on a fabulous performance in Holy Trinity Church on the 23rd December. There was a mixture of carols, choral pieces, and secular Christmas songs like the ever popular 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'. Part of the celebration included a pantomime with a unique take on 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.

It was worth its weight in gold leaves. Complete with an abundance of mince pies, mulled wine, and good cheer it made for a classic Drayton Parslow evening.

The concert raised £410 for church and choir funds.

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

Let's spend 30 minutes with...

## Denise Trenzinger

A relative newbie to Drayton Parslow, I was born in Aylesbury, grew up in Aston Abbotts (where my mum still lives), went to school in Wingrave & Aylesbury then college in Amersham way back in 1990!



We live in Church End. There's me, husband Nathan (Scottish despite our surname!), our daughter Marnie and Ernie the black/grey labrador who likes to sit on the front step or wander around the village!

I worked in London for 20 years in TV production producing television commercials but gave it up in 2017 so I could concentrate on being a Mum. I'm keen to find a part-time local job for 2019 though (any ideas welcome!). You may have seen me running through the village, I love running most of the time! I have my neighbour Louise Stepney to thank for that - running is a great way to clear your head and appreciate all the lovely countryside we have around us.

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

Nearly 3 years now, before that we lived in Hughenden Valley near High Wycombe for ten years. We weren't actually looking to move here but Nathan found the house and that was that!

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

We love living here for many reasons. I think it's a combination of being rural and yet close to the amenities of MK plus an easy commute to London. The village is friendly and has a good community spirit, there's lots to get involved in if you want to and we are so lucky to have the primary school on our doorstep. Our neighbours are great and now I'm back closer to my family we won't be moving anytime soon!

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

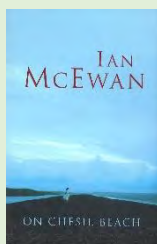
I joined the VPA committee last year so it has to be the **VPA Show!** We enjoyed going to it before and when Linda needed new people I wanted to help. Thank-you to all those that supported it last year. We also enjoy the **church fete** and Marnie enjoyed the **VPA kid's Christmas party**.

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



I'm not a great reader these days, I try to when I'm away, my last book was an easy holiday read 'The Party' by Elizabeth Day.

My next book lined up is 'On Chesil Beach' by Ian McEwan and sometimes I'll go for a bit of self-help reference, currently it's 'Make Peace With Your Mind' by Mark Coleman.



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

I love food but I'm not the cook in the house! Hard to decide here between **Tom Kerridge** and **James Martin**, both do good comfort food and desserts which are right up my street.



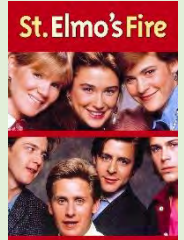
### 6. The film you can watch again & again?

I'm terrible at watching films! I can't sit still that long and prefer to be outside.



That said, having a young daughter I've not been able to escape **Trolls** (great), **Frozen** (help!) and **Paddington** (very good).

The film I loved most as a teenager was **St. Elmo's Fire** and these days if I do watch a film, I'll go for a British crime type film, give me **The Krays** or anything gangster related!



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

The best and most long-standing job was being a **TV producer**. No two days were the same, stressful at times but on the whole a lot of fun. I got to work with a lot of lovely actors/actresses, be creative and not be in an office every day.



The best **TV adverts** I worked on were for **Tango and Pot Noodle** many years ago.



I don't think ads these days are as fun and can become pretty annoying!

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

My favourite place to visit is **Ibiza**, I've been pretty much every year since 1993! Obviously less clubbing these days but the island has a lot more to it than that. The north of the island is much less hectic with some fantastic restaurants and beaches to explore.



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

**David Bowie, Jennifer Saunders, Noel Fielding & Ray Winstone.**

They're my favourite people, I think that would be a lively table!



# Holy Trinity News



## Reflections from the Rectory

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY

As I write I am enjoying the fragrance of hyacinths given to us for Christmas. Bulbs remain dormant for a large part of the year and even when they do sprout, their colour is unknown (if you don't read the label!), and their fragrance withheld until their buds burst. Then they are revealed in all their glory and their perfume fills the whole area where they are placed.

Epiphany was the season from 6th January and now just ended when we remember how Jesus is gradually revealed or manifested (the meaning of 'epiphany') for who he is. If God had appeared to humanity in his infinite power, who could stand? So, he came as a tiny human: firstly revealed as a light' to all peoples, represented by the visit of the Wise Men; then at his baptism as identifying with our humanity; then in his supernatural power by turning water into wine.

We read more about that Son in our Scriptures as the primary way in which we get to know about him, seeing his ministry blossom, and discovering an opportunity to get to know him personally.

St Paul refers to believers as the aroma or fragrance of Christ (2nd Corinthians ch 2 vs 14-16). We are responsible for revealing the glory of Jesus as he has revealed himself to us.

May we, as a church, spread that fragrance to fill the whole area where we are placed in these communities, and may those in our communities be attracted to Christ, and come to know his 'fragrance' and his glory too.

**David Talks**

## HOLY TRINITY SERVICE DATES

January		
27 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	John Saunders
February		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	David Talks
10 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service and baptism of Orla Fahy	Simon Faulks
17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>No Service</i>	
24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	David Talks
March		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 Holy Communion	Simon Faulks
10 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service	David Talks
17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>No Service</i>	
24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 Family Service	Simon Faulks/ David Talks
31 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Communion	David Talks



### Carol singing in aid of Cancer Research

Thank you to residents who live in Main road, Bates Gardens, North Close and Chapel Lane who gave so generously to a small group of carol singers on Friday 21st December, it wasn't too cold but we missed Santa who cancelled at the last moment!

However an amazing £75 was raised in aid of Cancer Research.

Thank you All and Happy New Year  
Jenny Tellwright

# Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club



## New Year New You? Volunteers are always Welcome!

New Year New You? If anyone has formed a resolution to do more in the community, then we are always welcoming to all new joiners. As a volunteer-run community building, we are always looking for extra input to help us keep events and activities fresh and appealing for a broad range of the village. We never expect much – you can do as much or as little as you feel comfortable with. In 2018 we benefited from people kindly volunteering to man the bar (both on a regular basis on a Sunday, or on a one-off basis for events such as the VPA show), help paint the external wood and fix broken doors, run the monthly Bingo and weekly Whist sessions, stock the bar, cash up takings, advertise events, write Village News updates, arrange Health and Safety checks etc etc.

You can join the team without ever attending a committee meeting – or you can always join our wonderful committee who meet on a monthly basis. We are from a broad range of backgrounds, are all friendly and welcoming and would love to hear from you. Either email Kirsty ([Kirstyfoley@btinternet.com](mailto:Kirstyfoley@btinternet.com)), or grab hold of any one of us in person to express your interest in helping out. Some of our team and where you can generally find us are: Kirsty Foley – at the School Bus Stop every morning waiting for the school bus to Swanbourne; Helen Harvey – playing Short Mat Bowls on a Mon and Weds afternoon; Sarah Norman – riding her Horses through the village; Vicky Arnold – at the Children’s playground most weekends.

## Thank-you!

The Committee would like to extend a huge thank-you to the wonderful Fedoriw Family, led by Superstar Linda, for all of their hard work in making Christmas in the Clubhouse so special for so many people, young and old. Feedback from those attending confirms that the children adored meeting Father Christmas, and the Christmas lunch for the more mature generation was delicious.

## 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	Mobile Post Office
Tuesdays	8-10pm	Whist Drive All welcome.
Wednesdays	AM, PM & EVE	Abbey Smith Bridge Club.
Thursdays	AM & EVE	More details can be found on <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/abbeysmith">www.bridgewebs.com/abbeysmith</a>
Fridays	PM	
Fridays	EVE	Local Cards Players Petanque
Saturdays	Monthly, 7-10pm	Bingo. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 8pm. The bar is open and the Fish & Chip van will be in attendance. Next dates are 26 Jan, 23 Feb, 23 Mar, 13 Apr.
Sundays	12-2pm	Open Bar session. Petanque Court Open All welcome.

## DPSSC Hall Hire

Subject to diary availability, the clubhouse remains available to hire. With a lovely view over the Cricket / Rec ground, we have a large, spacious hall with kitchen, ladies/gents/disabled toilet facilities, Bar facilities, and outdoor space to the rear of the club.

Hall Hire charges are fixed at £10 per hour (with an incremental £8 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.



### Three bedroomed villa to rent in Carcassonne

Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, walking distance from the medieval city of Carcassonne and Canal du Midi (both World Heritage sites).

Sleeps six, two bathrooms, fully fitted kitchen, satellite TV and Wi-Fi and private pool. All linen provided. Great golf course a 5 minute drive, airport 10 mins and 35 mins from the Med.



Contact Rona Batley on 01296 720347  
or [rona.batley@gmail.com](mailto:rona.batley@gmail.com)

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# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DraytonParslowPC/>

## **Appeal by Applicant against Refusal of Planning Application 17/01429 Land off North Close**

An appeal notice was received in December with details of the appellant's case made available on AVDC's Planning Portal on 2<sup>nd</sup> January. All comments previously made by residents and other consultees were sent to the Planning Inspectorate by AVDC. The Parish Council met on 8<sup>th</sup> January to prepare further comments to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 9<sup>th</sup> January. At time of writing, AVDC will defend its decision to the Planning Inspector who will then make a determination. Please check the Parish Council website for further updates.

## **Planning**

If you wish to receive updates regarding planning matters, please send a request e-mail to the Parish Clerk asking to be added to the mailing list. This request will need to be renewed annually to comply with new GDPR regulations.

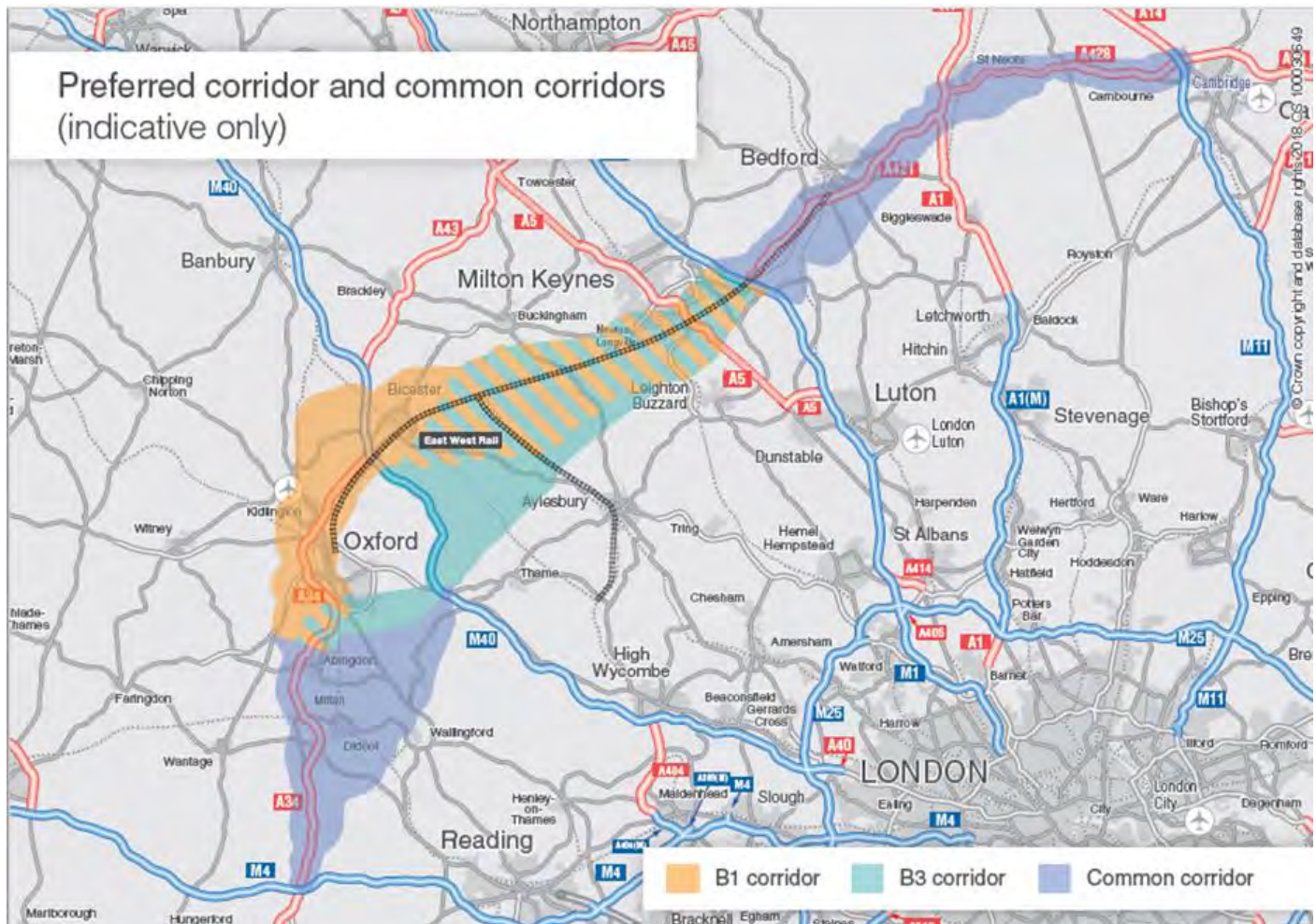
[draytonparslowpc@btinternet.com](mailto:draytonparslowpc@btinternet.com)

## **Oxford-Cambridge Expressway Corridor**

The Expressway is a proposed strategic road between Oxford and Cambridge (via Milton Keynes). The scheme is managed by Highways England.

## **What do we currently know?**

In September 2018 it was announced that corridor B had been selected as the preferred corridor for the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. This was the central of the three proposed corridors. Two sub corridors within the preferred corridor are being taken forward to develop viable route options (corridors B1 and B3). There is currently no route. The preferred corridor runs through Aylesbury Vale, a map showing the preferred corridor can be seen below:



Note: the detail of the corridors doesn't show up particularly well on the black & white printed version. Please refer to the electronic 'PDF' version if possible.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS continued

### Where can you find information?

As a way of providing the public with information Highways England has developed a webpage for the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway.

[www.highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/](http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/)

The webpage is being updated by Highways England as the Expressway project continues.

### What are the timescales for the project?

Highways England's indicative timescale for the Expressway are shown below:

- September 2018 – Corridor decision
- Autumn 2019 – Route options for public consultation
- Autumn 2020 – Preferred route announcement
- 2020 – 2025 – Consultation and preparation of orders, Development Consent Order application, Examination by Planning Inspectorate and decision.
- 2025 – Start of construction
- 2030 – Indicative date for road opening

### Unitary Decision

You may have heard that the Secretary of State has made a decision regarding Unitary government in Buckinghamshire. The County Council and four District Councils will become one entity as of 1 April 2020. Obviously, this requires a lot of advance planning and structuring and the various councils are working on the details to achieve this. Normally 2019 would be an election year for town and parish councils. However, with the advent of the new Unitary structure, we received the following confirmation from Angela Macpherson, Leader of AVDC on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018: *"we have now had confirmation from MHCLG that there will not be any local elections in 2019 and that a statutory instrument will be laid today to that effect. This means that district councillors will now continue until 2020 and that elections for the new unitary council will take place in May 2020. Town and parish council elections have also been postponed until May 2020."*

### Traffic Calming

The Parish Council met with Transport for Bucks/Highways team at its January meeting to further review their proposals and designs for traffic calming measures. Further information will be made available via meeting minutes displayed on notice boards and the PC website.A

**Horse Rider Safety Signs** These have been installed at last!

**Next Parish Council meetings:** February 25<sup>th</sup> 2019; March 25<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 pm Sports & Social Club

## Drayton Parslow Neighbourhood Planning Group

On Monday 10 December the Neighbourhood Planning Group held the final information evening of 2018. Approximately 80 villagers met in the Sports and Social Club and enjoyed mince pies and mulled wine whilst members of the Planning Group shared their updates - together with an overview of its next steps for the New Year and beyond. The group confirmed that its key priority in January was to complete their response to the feedback from AVDC on their first draft. Members of the village also had the opportunity to respond and to ask questions - and views expressed from the floor confirmed the desire for more starter homes and / or homes to support 'down-sizing' and that further building of larger detached houses would not meet the needs of the village or of potential home owners in the future. There was also a clear desire for the Planning Group to continue to work with maintained pace and vigour to ensure it was able to meet the targets outlined in their time line - also on display during the evening.

The meeting also offered an opportunity for those attending to have an update on the proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway - although it has to be said that information at this stage could be described as scant! Finally, a public thank you was made to the Planning Group by Richard Wemyss on behalf of the village - which was highly appreciated by the group.

## DRAYTON PARSLOW BAPTIST CHAPEL



Thank you to Liz Carter-Gates for taking our Carol Service on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Grateful thanks to the Drayton Parslow Singers, Anne Sherry who played for us, Sophie Titmuss who played the flute and Sheila Marlow who played the recorder. Also, we were entertained with an amusing sketch featuring Kevin and Pat plus members of the choir. The tree looked beautiful as ever thanks to Vera. We had an abundance of mince pies and cakes for the buffet following the service – many thanks to all the cooks.

The afternoon collection of £220 was donated to the Childhood Cancer Research Fund at Oxford Radcliffe Hospital.

### Services for February & March 2019

February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11am	Keith Silverthorne
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Birgitte Grace
March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	11am	Nick Lingard
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Alan Bird
April 7 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Songs of Praise by the congregation

Any enquiries concerning the Chapel, please contact:

Mrs J McCall 720486 Mrs E Mallick 720666

## Christingle Service 2018





## Your Garden in February

## Gardening Advice from Gill Gallon, Potash Nursery

[www.potashplants.co.uk](http://www.potashplants.co.uk)

It's a joy to see the garden wake up after winter, seeing the spring bulbs, tree blossom and flowering shrubs. Whether we will have the extremes of last year is as yet unknown – that's the joy of gardening.

### Christmas Plants



They may have been gifts or treats to ourselves but it is such a shame just to throw them away. Hyacinths and narcissi can be allowed to die back before planting them up in the garden. Next spring you will have scented hyacinths and bright narcissi to enjoy. Poinsettia and Christmas Cactus can last for several years if kept in the right conditions. Keep them away from draughts and cold with plenty of direct sunlight. Around October make sure they get a good 12 hours of darkness for the poinsettia to redden up again and your Christmas cactus buds to form.

### Spring Garden Planning

This is a good time to start planning your garden with the full summer growth in mind. Be sure to read the final height and spacing of the plants and make sure there is sufficient room for them. Your garden may look sparse at first, but you will be glad in summer as the plants fill out. If you didn't prune back your perennials in autumn, they're probably now looking pretty ugly. Many perennials actually prefer to be left standing throughout the winter, for extra protection. Once you start to see new growth at the base of the plants, it's safe to prune. If you left your ornamental grasses up for winter interest, you can cut them back to within a few inches of the ground, you don't need to wait for new growth. They'll come back up when they're ready.

### Working in Your Garden



It is a good time to prepare and enrich the soil, so the plants have the most nutrients available right from the start. Now is the ideal time to start dividing or transplanting. Try to do this as soon as possible after the plant emerges. Staking can be a tedious task. It's tempting to wait, but the sooner you stake, the easier it is on your plants. They may look ugly for a few weeks but think of the headaches you'll avoid by letting your plants grow into the stakes rather than trying to squeeze the plants into them later.

So, take advantage of the sunnier days and get back out in your garden.

Happy Gardening in 2019

PS 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.

Gill Gallon

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



# HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

It was good to see the church so well used on three consecutive days, the annual Drayton Parslow Singers Christmas Concert, the Christingle service (attended by over 100, including over 40 children, raising £161.76 for the Children's Society), and finally for Communion on Christmas day.



We have had feedback that these events would be even better attended if the Church had a toilet! The absence of a toilet is inconvenient for all who attend our Church, but for the Choir who meet and rehearse regularly in Church, and for people who travel some distance to attend weddings, funerals and baptisms etc., the absence of a toilet can be a real issue.

## Toilet Extension update

We have obtained planning permission and approval from the Oxford Diocese to extend the Church on the North side to incorporate a disabled toilet and kitchen. This is an estimated £75,000 project for which we have now raised nearly £32,000 and includes:

- £16,000 from Drayton donations and fund-raising events
- £5,000 from Roger and Jean Jefcoate
- £5,518 from The Listed Places of Worship
- £2,500 from St Faiths, Church Newton Longville, who have recently installed a toilet and kitchen
- £2,000 from the Oxford Diocese

Now we are approaching the larger grant awarding bodies for funding which we hope will enable us to build in 2020. However larger grants rely on demonstrating community support. We are grateful to have letters of support from various Drayton Organisations, but the larger grant giving bodies require a greater demonstration of community support from **individuals** before approving grants.

We are planning to have a meeting at the Greenacre Hall at **7.30 pm on Wednesday 17 April 2019** to share with you the details of the plan, update you on our fund raising and to hear your thoughts. Beer, wine and nibbles will be available.

## How you can help make this happen

- Letters of support from individuals and village organisations
- Signature of support at the meeting on 17 April 2019
- Names of grant making bodies that you think we should approach for funding

**If you have any questions, comments or are able to help in anyway please contact Wendy Preston 720426 or Richard Wemyss 720741 who are leading the fund raising on behalf of Holy Trinity, Drayton Parslow. Letters can be sent to Holly Rise, 8 Main Road, Drayton Parslow, MK17 0JS.**

**We thank you for your support.**

## Village Events

### **Our Church Mice have raised over £3000!**



Following the Mousefest in April last year, we have continued to raise funds through the sale of knitted mice and 2019 calendars and have now exceeded £3000! This total includes a £1000 donation to the **Alzheimer's Society** and £200 for **Cancer Research** as well as much needed funds for the Holy Trinity Church toilet extension. Thank you to everyone who helped make this such a huge success!!

### **A Date for your Diary**

Our Church Summer Garden Fete 2019 is booked for June 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Short Mat Bowls**

Two sessions per week Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-4:30pm  
£2 per session. New and experienced players welcome.



**Stewkley Players** will be staging  
**'Stepping Out'**, their 121st  
production, in March.

**Stepping Out** is a comedy play by **Richard Harris** about the attempts of amateurs who attend the same weekly [tap dancing](#) class in a [North London church hall](#). Despite the students at first treating the classes as social occasions, and showing little co-ordination they are encouraged by Mavis, a former chorus girl, to learn some dancing skills for a recital at a charity benefit. But before the dancing begins, Mavis must mediate the minor dramas that erupt among this loveable crew on their way to the show.

A fabulous fun night out with a real  
"feel good" factor!



## **STEWKLEY PLAYERS**

*present*

# **Stepping Out**

A comedy

by Richard Harris

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
MARCH 2019**

8pm in the Village Hall, STEWKLEY  
Doors Open 7:30pm      Licensed Bar

**TICKETS £6.00 ON SALE FROM 25<sup>th</sup> February**  
**Box Office Telephone : 07845 489 167**

**Sunday Box Office at the Village Hall**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> March from 10:00 to 12:00**

## You Might Like This...

Here are reviews and suggestions by local residents of things you might like to try:



### A Good Read

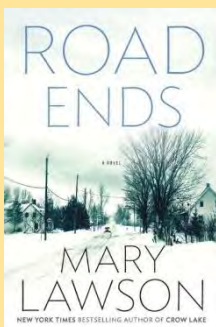
#### Drayton Parslow Book Club Recommends...

Three of our favourite books from 2018.

*We continue to support the local Libraries.*

#### Road Ends by Mary Lawson

A harsh but compelling family saga set mostly in a remote town in snow blasted, Northern Ontario. The bleakness of the landscape and the weather seem to affect the lives of every member of the dysfunctional Cartright family but they struggle to leave as their lives twist and turn through past and present.



#### The Stranger in My Home by Adele Parks

A fast paced, moving psychological, contemporary, domestic thriller which revolves around the discovery of a baby (15 years old when the story starts) who was switched at birth and all of the implications this has on the families it concerns.

#### Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman

This book was a breath of fresh air and a very popular choice. As well as being humorous and it had some very dark moments but also great softness. Most characters showed compassion and warmth to Eleanor, a young woman who has had a very troubled past. A good life lesson and a story that will stay with you for a long time.



## Lyla Foley Recommends...

### Origami

I think origami is a great pastime. It combines meditation strategies with art to make a calming and relaxing activity which has a beautiful end result.

Another good thing about it is supplies are very easy to get and there is a wide range of things you can make.

We started off using this book, with origami paper from The Range.

\*\*\*

Why don't try your hand at a review of something you would like to share with other villagers?

It might be a book, a film, a day out, an activity, an exhibition, a recipe or anything else you think people might like to hear about as after all its your village news. You can email, call or drop a note through one of our doors and we will include it in the next edition - See page 1 for contact details



## General Garden & Tree Services

We are a small, reliable family run business based in Leighton Buzzard. We specialise in all General Garden & Tree Services including hedge cutting and lawn maintenance. We also do strimming, leaf blowing and other general garden and smallholding services.

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- aid general relaxation

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Christopher Bateman BSc (Hons)  
Sports Therapist  
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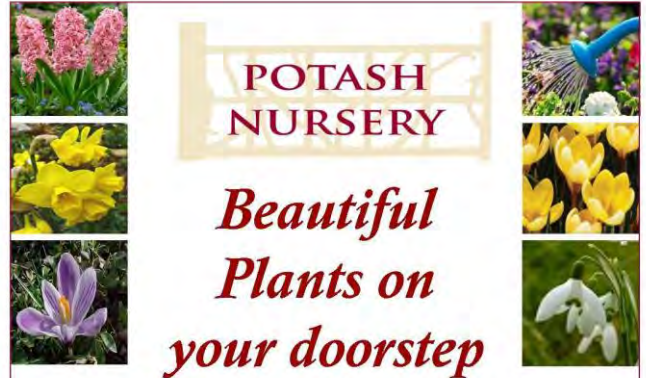
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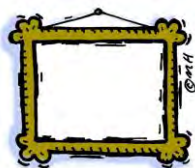
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## Three Schools News

### EYFS Visit to the Green Dragon Farm Nativity

Mursley and Drayton Parslow Foundation Stage enjoyed a wonderful day at Green Dragon Eco Farm on **Friday 30th November**. We spent the morning learning about all the animals on the farm, beginning with meeting the sheep, goats and watching the hungry ducks and geese receive their breakfast.

We loved stroking the pygmy goats and watched a very thirsty pig having a long drink. We were also lucky enough to see some more unusual farm creatures including; a Silver Fox, Iguanas, Reindeer, Poison Dart Frogs and a Tarantula!

After lunch, we all dressed up as characters from the Nativity story ready to act out the very first Christmas. We followed the two donkeys to 'Bethlehem' and dropped pennies into a pot to pay our taxes. We then gathered in the stable with the real animals and sang our Christmas songs. Before we left, we went to see two lovely reindeer who were waiting for their big day! It was a very special day and we were very proud of the children who behaved beautifully throughout the visit.

*Mrs Sandmann (EYFS Leader)*



### Key Stage 1 'Skip to be fit' Festival

A group of children from Key Stage 1 from Drayton Parslow and Mursley, took part in the 'Skip to be fit' festival after school at Sir Thomas Freemantle on **Tuesday 4th December**. They participated in a range of skipping activities that were timed. All of them worked really hard and encouraged one another. Mursley came 3rd in the competition and Drayton came 4th. A special mention to **Bethan D** from **Mursley** who got the award for **determination** and **Lilly M** from **Drayton Parslow** who got the award for **great self-belief**.



*Mrs Wheeldon and Ms Oliver (Year 2 Teachers)*

### Amazing Architecture—Roman Villa construction

On **Thursday 6th December**, Year 4 went to Mursley Hall where we enjoyed working together to make a Roman Villa from only canes and elastic bands. The children really enjoyed this experience and were taken aback at what they had created.

*(Mrs Fisher—Year 4 Teacher)*



## WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

In December, for the third year running, a workshop was held in the Village Hall with 29 people attending. What a lovely social event it was with coffee to start - great tuition from Sue Milner which led to such creativity on all tables - then sitting down for a lunch of homemade soup, freshly baked bread and mince pies from Sue North's Farm Deli in Winslow.



It ends with everyone taking home their individual wreaths, many of which brightened up our village.

All proceeds, after costs, went to the Holy Trinity fund for a new Toilet/Kitchen extension. If anyone would like to join in this year then watch out for a December date later in the year. For the first time a man from the village came and the wreath he produced was just splendid, and yes, he did enjoy it, more men would be very welcome!

Wendy Preston and Sue Spavins

