



DRAYTON PARSLOW VILLAGE NEWS



ISSUE 165

August/September 2021

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We are going for it!! The VPA Show will be going ahead on Saturday 14th August!

By the time you read this you should have received your show schedule. We depend on your participation, without you there is no show, so please enter. If you would like to help out on the day or have any questions, please make contact on the VPA Facebook page or message **Linda on 07851077684 / 01296728226**.

Please return all Village Show cups and trophies to Linda Fedoriw at 34 Main Road Drayton Parslow as soon as possible.

We are again asking for **cake donations for the Tea Stall**, if you could make us a cake (large or small) please contact Toni Summers on 07841 667651 All donations gratefully received.

We will be having a **children’s Fancy Dress competition** at the show, starting at approximately 2.15pm

There is also a return of the **Summer Door Wreath** competition, let us know you want to enter and then display your wreath on or near your front door by Thursday 12th August.

We will be going round the village looking at all the **front gardens** in the week leading up to the show, then picking the winner to be announced at the show.

This year there will be no charge for the **evening event**, the VPA are covering the costs. We have the fantastic **G Elvis** singing for us again and also a new young singer **Ellis Restall, plus an 80’s disco with best fancy dress competition**. Food vans will be in attendance for you to purchase your own food.

Please come and support us and let’s celebrate as a village.

YOUR VILLAGE NEWS

We hope you have continued to enjoy the Village News during lockdown even though Covid 19 has led to the absence of many of the regular features.

Please help us by sparing a few minutes to send us some content for future editions:

Tell us about your hobbies; reviews of anything you think might be of interest to other villagers (books, movies, TV, places etc); recipes; memories of the village; your answers to the usual ‘30 mins with’ feature etc. Don’t worry about the format: it can be emailed or handwritten; and we can add pictures and sort out the presentation.



NEXT ISSUE

Contributions, articles and photos for the **October/November issue by no later than Friday September 3rd 2021** please to the Village News mailbox 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.

Advance Notice of

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Tuesday 14th December

There will be more details in the next Village News but if you want to reserve a place then let Wendy Preston on 720426 or Sue Spavins on 720617 know.



Let's spend 30 minutes with...

Anne Cotton

1. What is your connection with Drayton Parslow?

I grew up in Wing and trained as a nursery nurse when I left school, I then worked as a live in nanny for a couple of years. I met my husband Matt when I was 16, but we didn't start dating until we were in our 20s. Matt moved to Wiltshire for work and after a long distance relationship, I moved down to be with him. I took a job in the local opticians, which led to me to eventually qualify as a dispensing optician. Matt and I have been married for 16 years now and have 3 wonderful sons. We have moved around quite a bit, traveling round the world, living and working in New Zealand, Manchester and Leicestershire (we had 7 homes in 7 years), but decided to move back to Buckinghamshire after our 2nd son was born to be closer to our parents.



2. What do you like best about Drayton Parslow? We have been in Drayton Parslow for 11 years now. We love it here! Everyone is so friendly, we were made to feel welcome from the day we arrived. Bringing up our children in a village community, where people know and recognise you, was something both Matt and I had as children and wanted our boys to have too. They have been lucky enough to go to **The Three Schools**, which has been fantastic. We have been particularly grateful to live here over lockdown, being able to have access to the fields and footpaths which are practically on our doorstep, has been a Godsend.

3. What is your favourite event held in the village? I love the **Christingle service**, It feels very festive and nostalgic to me, and I love to see the church so full of people. I also love the **VPA show** – entering the competitions with the children and seeing the whole village come together and take part is lovely. This year I'll be having a stand for my glass, so even more exciting!!

4. What is your favourite book / books? I particularly like sci-fi / fantasy, romance and historical fiction. My favourite book is "**Cross stitch**" by **Dianne Gabaldon**, It's a story about a woman who steps into a stone circle in Scotland, when on her honeymoon in 1945 and is magically transported back in time to 1743, to the time of the Jacobite's. It's a perfect combination of all three genre for me. It has also been made into a tv series called **Outlander**, which I also love! I really enjoyed the "**Game of thrones**" book series by **George R Martin**, Matt gave them to me one Christmas and didn't see me again til March!! Some of my other favourite authors are **Phillipa Gregory** and **Lucinda Reilly**. I loved reading the **Harry Potter** series and **David Walliams** to the kids, I think I enjoyed them as much as the boys did.

5. Tell us about your hobbies? I love to read and read every night. I used to be a very keen trampolinist, but unfortunately having arthritis has put paid to that, I love to go walking with friends and family, but only if there are no steep hills involved. I also like to **bake** and eat the fruits of my labour. But my main passion is **making fused glass**, I started a few years ago and completely fell in love with making glass art. I have recently purchased a kiln of my own which means I can make whatever I like, whenever I like. I do something glass related, pretty much, every day. I have made so much

glass that I have started a little Facebook business selling some of the art I create. I'm sure I bore all my friends silly telling/showing them all about glass, I am pretty obsessed!

6. The film you can watch again & again?

I am not a massive film fan – I'd rather read the book. I do enjoy watching the **Star Wars** films and **Marvel** films with the boys and like a nice rom com, but I prefer a good tv series such as **A Handmaids Tale**, **This Is Us**, **The Good Fight**, **Outlander**, **Orange Is The New Black**, **Broadchurch**.

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

I've been lucky to have loved nearly all the jobs I've had. I have worked as a **nanny**, a **childminder**, at **Kingfishers preschool** and at **Drayton school**. I love young children, so always enjoyed working with them. I've worked in a couple of opticians as a **dispensing optician** and assistant manager and I enjoyed having a position of responsibility. I used to work in a bridal shop, which was a great job, helping brides choose their wedding dress and getting to try on a few myself! I love being a glass artist, but I can't say I'm making a living out of it, I spend everything I earn on more glass!! The job I love best is being a **wife and mother**, it's the most important thing I do and I wouldn't swap it for anything else.

8. What is your favourite place to visit?

I have travelled round the world, twice. Once on my own and once with Matt, so I have lots of favourites to choose from. I absolutely loved **Thailand**, stunning beaches, clear blue seas, delicious food, sleeping in little huts on the beach, I would love to go back there.



New Zealand is a particular favourite, Matt and I lived and worked there for 4 months and very nearly decided to live there- it is so beautiful and diverse and the way of life is very relaxed, it was only the fact that our parents were

here that made us change our mind. On top of any snow capped mountain, with a pair of skis on my feet and a goats cheese salad and a hot chocolate waiting for me at the bottom, is also another place that's hard to beat! A bit closer to home, I love **Stockgrove** woods and **Stowe gardens**. I love being in my glass studio and spend hours in there without noticing the time. It's my happy place.

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

I consider myself to be quite an open and friendly person, but I am quite quiet and shy and find making dinner party conversation quite tricky, so in reality my best dinner party would be with my closest friends from across the country/world. Those people I can completely relax and be myself with and know they still love me, they won't care if I burn the dinner and we end up with cheese on toast!

If I had to choose celebrities, I would have **Jason Manford**, **Michael McIntyre** and **Chris Evans**, I could listen to all of them for hours. I think they would really make the party go with a swing. **Jesus**, to hear his words, from his mouth would be a life altering experience! And finally, **Sam Heughan** because he is my celebrity crush and would be lovely to look at!!





Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club

The Recreation Ground, Main Road,
Drayton Parslow, MK17 0JR

VPA Bar Staff Wanted (Sat 14th August 2021)



We would love to open up the bar for the duration of the VPA show but need more volunteer bar staff to open for the whole day/night. We welcome anyone who would be willing to undertake a stint (1 -2 hours) behind the bar, serving drinks. Full training would be given: the till is simple to use, stock is easy to pour (no tricky cocktails involved), and during events we work in pairs so you would be fully supported by a teammate. Our existing bar team all agree that bar volunteering is a fun, rewarding role. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please either email Kirsty (kirstyfoley@btinternet.com), text Linda (07851 077684), speak to anyone on the committee (Alan, Helen and Vicky can easily be found within the village), or if you don't fancy any of those options, if you shout loudly enough, the village grapevine will surely get you in contact with us one way or another 😊

Join us!

In addition to bar staff specifically for the VPA show event, we would also warmly welcome anyone who wants to join our team, to help us with our endeavour to give something back to the village via running the clubhouse building. Contact details are as per above. We would love you to be a part of our crew.

Club Opening Times

It is wonderful to have the Cricket Club playing again, and we are delighted to be their home throughout the summer. The bar is open during key matches (staffing permitting), to refresh all those who are supporting the team.



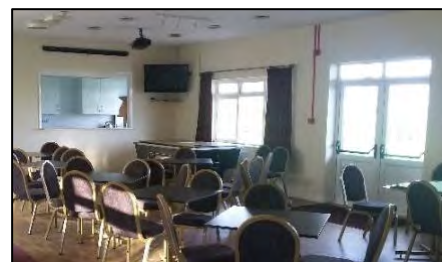
In addition to Cricket opening times, the bar is open on Sunday lunchtimes (12-2.30), with outside tables for you to enjoy a drink on the rec.



The Mobile Post Office continues to operate out of the clubhouse on a Tuesday morning (9am – 11am), serving all of your Post Office needs in a socially-distanced, well-spaced, secure way.

Hall Hire

Subject to diary availability, the clubhouse is 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 Linda Fedoriw on 07851 077684 for hire availability.



CRICKET REPORT



Drayton Parslow Cricket Club's (DPCC) 2021 season continued with its slow start with fixtures against Westcroft CC on 15th May and Elstow CC on 22nd May being a wash out.

29th May brought us sunshine and also our first win of the season. A superb all-round display from Hassan Ali (49 with the bat and then taking 4 wickets) led us to victory against North Crawley CC. Drayton Parslow CC 150 All Out - North Crawley CC 121 All Out.

5th June saw Milton Bryan CC visit us. Despite a good start with the ball and an excellent 5 wickets from Terry Dickins, Milton Bryan CC managed to post a reasonable 176 from their 40 overs, then, when it came to Drayton Parslow batting wickets tumbled at regular intervals and resulted in us being bowled out for 94.

12th June saw us travel to MK Air CC. Excellent performances from Jamie Abbott (5 wickets) & Hassan Ali (51 runs) could not prevent us from losing this controversial game of cricket. MK Air CC 240 - Drayton Parslow CC 210.

19th June was a home fixture against Open University Cricket Club. An all-round good bowling and fielding performance limited OU CC to 156. Drayton Parslow made a steady start but was unable to build one match winning partnership and ended up falling just short being bowled out for 136.

26th June another home fixture against Studham CC. Early conditions made batting difficult, and Drayton Parslow limped to a below par score of 112. After a couple of quick wickets batting seemed to become easier and Studham raced to victory.

3rd July and another home match and our second win of the season. A solid 44 from Irfan Javed and some wayward bowling allowed us to build partnerships and compile a very competitive 205/5. A good performance in the field and 3 wickets a piece from Jon Adams and Brij Valambhia allowed us to bowl the visitors out for 186.

We are currently 6th in the league.

We welcome Ben Cotton to the team, Ben played his first match for Drayton Parslow on the 4th of July, and took two wickets. Drayton Parslow Cricket Club are a family-friendly and inclusive club, we run friendlies matches each Sunday during the season, and would welcome new players and new spectators.

We ask that as many people as possible come and support us on 18th September to celebrate Barrie and all he did for the cricket club and Drayton Parslow Community.

Many thanks
Alun Winney

Upcoming Fixtures:

31st July v North Crawley CC (H)
7th August v Milton Bryan CC (A)
21st August v Open University CC (H)
28th August v Studham CC (A)
18th September - Barrie Norman Memorial Match



Art Exhibition & Teas 2nd & 3rd October 2021

We propose to host an exhibition of artwork by local artists on the weekend of
2nd & 3rd October.

If you have any paintings/artworks you would like to exhibit and sell, please contact Jenny on 01296 720208 or email Jen.tell@hotmail.com, for more information.

Quiz Time #8 with thanks again to Susan Piddock

1. Which Prime Minister won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1953?
2. How many years are being celebrated at a Sapphire anniversary?
3. Who wrote the novel 'Far from the Madding Crowd'?
4. What name is given to germinated and dried Barley?
5. Which English Monarch was the first to use a flushing toilet?
6. What is the road A406 better known as?
7. Vinho Verde is a wine from which country?
8. The first five books of the Hebrew Bible are contained in what Jewish holy book?
9. Which comedian claimed 'I'm an Atheist, thank God!' and died in 2005?
10. Which famous cricketer represented Lancashire schools at chess?
11. Dundee cake is traditionally decorated with which type of nut?
12. Which planet did the Daleks come from in Dr Who?
13. In what sport is a 'flying camel' used?
14. Who invented jeans?
15. Who was the Egyptian god of the dead?

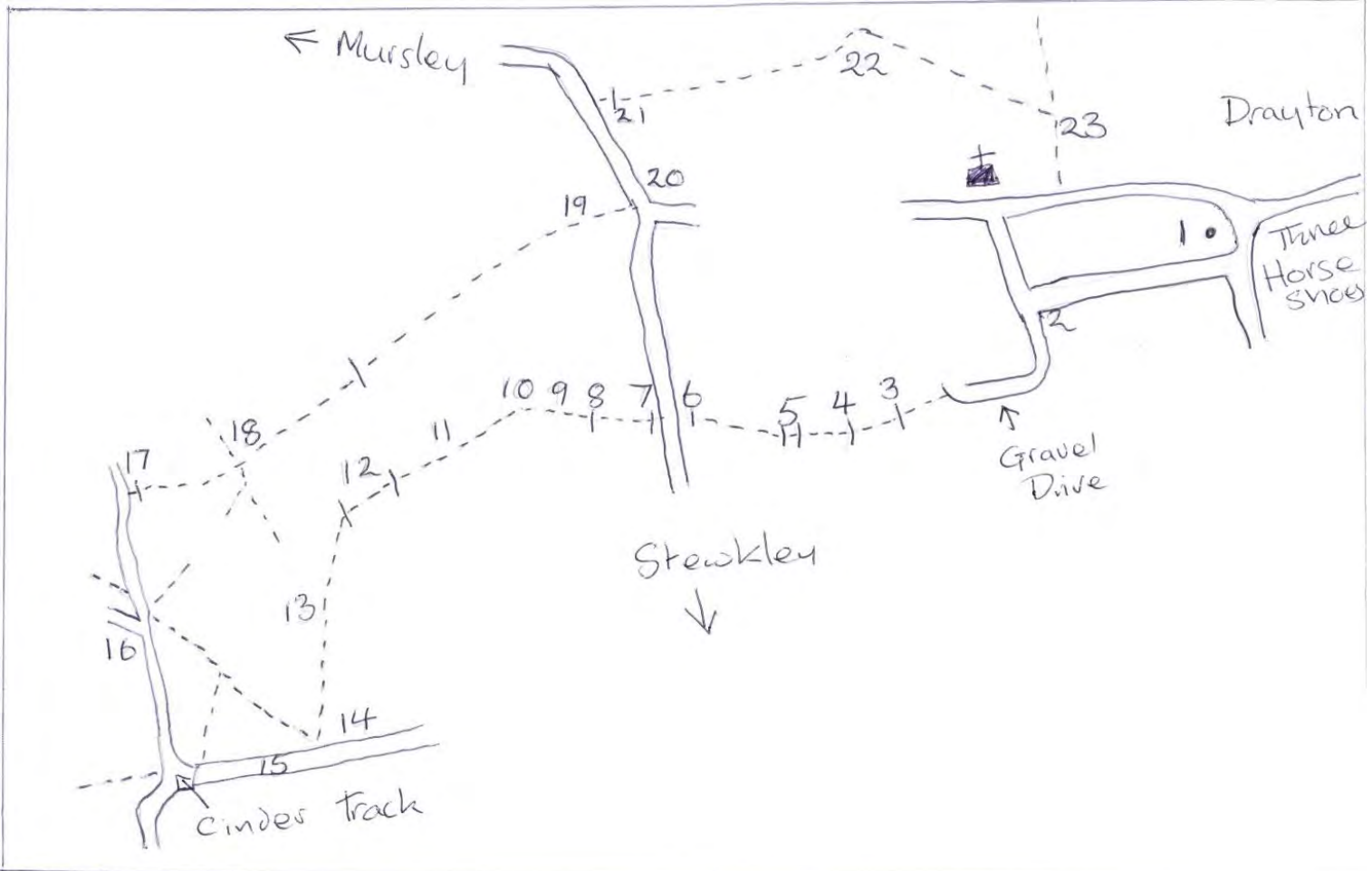


(Answers below)

- Answers to quiz from issue 165 (this issue)
1. Sir Winston Churchill
 2. 45 years
 3. Thomas Hardy
 4. Malt
 5. Elizabeth I
 6. The North Circular Road
 7. Portugal

8. Torah
9. Dave Allen
10. Andrew (Freddie) Flintoff
11. Almonds
12. Skaro
13. Ice skating or figure skating
14. Levi Strauss
15. Osiris

Jeremy's Walk Number 2: Stewkley Dean and the Green Lane - (a little under) 4 miles



This walk is relatively easy for most of the year. It is slightly shorter than walk no.1 but might take longer because of the number of stiles and at times, particularly after prolonged rain, your progress might be slower. The number of stiles might prove difficult for some people. The walk starts from the War Memorial in Drayton.

1. From the War Memorial go right and go up Church End.
2. Turn left at the top of Church End. When the tarmac runs out, follow the gravel drive round for a short distance until it turns sharp right. Then take the footpath straight ahead, sloping down between overhanging hedges. This is always beautiful no matter the weather or the time of year.
3. At the bottom of the footpath you will come to a stile. To your right is Bury Well one of the old sources of water for the village before the arrival of mains water. The word Bury is of Anglo-Saxon origin and means 'a fortified place'. This name may hint at the original, possibly pre-Anglo-Saxon, site of the village.
4. Go over the stile and down the hill towards the stream. This section can be a little boggy in winter. The stream is culverted so is easy to cross. There is a fence here with a stile, but the stile has largely collapsed. Fortunately, it is very easy to duck under the single bar gate next to the stile into the next paddock.
5. Now keep to the hedge on your left and head up hill. In the corner of the paddock go over the double stile into the next field. If there is a crop here there is usually a well-marked path heading ahead and slightly to the right, but if the path isn't clear use the house by Potash Nursery to guide you – even with a crop in the field you can usually see the chimney pots. Aim for a point about 50m to the left of the house. As you cross the field you will see a gateway in the hedge. The stile is about halfway between the gate and the house.

- 6.** Go over the stile and the plank bridge beyond. You are now standing on the Stewkley/Mursley Road, with Potash opposite and just to your right.
- 7.** Cross the road. Cross the plank bridge on the other side. If it is icy this can be exciting! There is a slight slope down from the verge onto the plank bridge which can be very slippery in cold weather.
- 8.** Once you have safely negotiated the bridge, go over the stile into the, fairly small, paddock. The next stile is easy to see, slightly to the right, in the opposite hedge. Go over this next stile into the field beyond.
- 9.** From the stile head slightly to your right towards the gap in the hedge on the opposite side of the field. The gap is quite wide, but there is a ditch, and the path crosses a culvert about midway across the gap. If there is a crop in this field, the line of the footpath can be hard to see. In which case turn left, keeping the crop on your right. Usually, the crop doesn't extend all the way to the left-hand boundary and once you get beyond the crop it is easy to cross the field and find the gap.
- 10.** From the culvert, the footpath heads slightly left over the next field. There are two gaps in the hedge on the opposite side of the field and it is the right hand one you need to head for.
- 11.** Through the gap is a triangular field. The footpath heads slightly to the right and down the slope towards the corner of the field in front of you. There is a stile along the right-hand side of the field. Again, the footpath can be difficult to follow if there is a crop. In which case, follow the hedge to your right around the field margin. The stile is between the last two groups of trees that stick above the hedge.
- 12.** Go over the stile into the next field and, bear slightly left. The next stile you is easy to see ahead. Cross into the big field beyond. Now head diagonally left towards the farmhouse and buildings on the ridge. Go through the metal gate which is secured with a chain.
- 13.** Cross the paddock to the next, wooden, gate. Go through onto the driveway between the farmhouse and other buildings. Follow the driveway to Stewkley Dean Road.
- 14.** Once you reach the road turn right. Stewkley Dean was a hamlet which disappeared (apart from a few traces of house platforms and sunken roads) at the end of the 18th Century.
- 15.** Follow Stewkley Dean Road for about 500 metres, ignoring the footpath sign on the right. The tarmac road runs out and becomes a cinder track. The track splits, turning sharply to the left and right and a footpath continues, through a gate, straight ahead. Follow the cinder track to the right. Stewkley was once a major stopping point for Drovers bringing animals, from as far away as Wales and Scotland, to market. The lush grass of the Vale of Aylesbury was particularly good for getting animals into good condition after a long walk, before their final journey to the markets of London and surrounding area. The animals needed to graze as they travelled, and they needed places to stop and rest. So, the Drovers, as far as possible, used a network of wide, grassy 'Drove Roads' to move across the country. This is one of those Drove Roads, but before Inclosure/Enclosure it was also the main Mursley – Stewkley road. It remained a Drove Road until the early 20th Century. The ditches, partly hidden in the undergrowth on either side of the bridleway mark the original width of the road.



16. The track heads gently downwards. Another cinder path (a second Drove Road) heads off to the left. Ignore this and the various other footpaths and keep following the track downhill. As you reach the bottom of the slope the track can be very muddy and a stream crosses under the track in a culvert. I've never found it impassable, but, in Winter, it can be challenging to get through/round the mud!

17. The track starts going uphill. After about 200 metres you will see a gate on your right, with a stile beside it. Go over the stile into the field and follow the hedge on your right. This is the route of a road/track that once connected Drayton to the Drove Road.

18. Ignore the gate, just to your right, where a number of paths cross our route. Keep following the path with the hedge on your right. Go over a stile next to a gate and continue until you come to a gate fastened by two chains. Usually these are quite simple to undo and do up, but, occasionally, the chains appear to have been arranged as puzzle worthy of Mensa!

19. Once through the gate you will see Merrymeade Farm ahead of you. The path is easy to follow and after passing through another gate, you come to one final gate, with the old farmhouse (Potash Farm) on your right and the Victorian farm buildings to the left. Go through the gate between the buildings and out to the Mursley-Stewkley road beyond.

20. At the road you can see the turning to Drayton ahead of you. However, cross over the road and turn left towards Mursley. Walk along the road for about 200 metres until you come to a stile on your right. There is a good verge beside the carriageway which you can step onto to get out of the way of vehicles if you need to. Go over the stile into the field beyond.

21. Once into the field you will see a slight curve to the hedge on your left. This is the only evidence above ground of Drayton's castle*. The hedge appears to have been set out to accommodate the remains of the castle's Motte (mound). The castle was probably thrown up in the 12th Century Stephen and Matilda Civil war. The remains of the Motte were still visible until the early 1970s. The castle was probably just a wooden tower on top of the mound. In the 12th Century the village would have come much closer to the castle than it does now, but the castle probably wasn't about the village. More likely, it was little more than a look out post for the much more imposing Bolbec Castle at Whitchurch, watching over the valleys on either side of the Mursley-Stewkley ridge. It could also control the Mursley-Drayton road(s) which, at that time, would have passed to the north and east of the castle.

22. Keep the hedge on your left and walk towards the far corner of the field. There is a stile here, but the fence has disappeared so you can walk across the plank bridge into Great Ground. In front of you is the old quarry (see Walk 1). Head diagonally right, keeping the quarry on your left, towards the gate on the bridleway near the church. If there is a crop in the field and no obvious path across the field, walk round the field edge keeping the hedge on your right until you reach the gate.

23. Go through the gate and follow the bridleway out onto Main Road. Turn left and walk down the hill back to the War Memorial.

*It is possible that the 'castle' motte was actually a mill mound. However, I have gone with the generally accepted theory that it was a castle mound. The mound has been recorded as a castle on the Buckinghamshire Historic Records Portal and there was only one mill recorded in Drayton Parish prior to the 19th Century (I think Salden Mill was – just - in Mursley). The mill that is recorded appears to be the one shown in the 1599 Salden Estate Map, roughly, opposite Stoke Road on the road (still known as Mill Way by some villagers) between Drayton Crossroads and Hollingdon/Stewkley. For those reasons I'm calling the mound a castle!

Hello, my name is Buster

and my horse mummy has just purchased a house in the village. She is loving settling into her cottage and the views of cows and sheep make her smile! Although we are both happy with me being stabled at our friends' yard in Totternhoe, it is proving a bit of a trek. It would be handy to be nearer to where my mum now calls home.

A little about me! I was born to become a racehorse and my ancestry can be traced back for many generations. My passport name is 'King of Diamonds', I was a successful long-distance runner, winning at Newmarket. My breeders loved me (and still do!) and I am good to box, shoe, bath and clip. In fact, I love being groomed and clipped so much that even to this day it can make me fall asleep!

I was retired from racing because I kept getting nosebleeds. I had a bit of a bad fall over hurdles but there is something in me that just makes me run! I was retrained to be an eventer and I excelled at the dressage but struggled with the jumping. When I returned to my breeder I was really fortunate as my horse mummy had been helping at a charity for disadvantaged children in Kent and one day the owners asked her if she'd like a horse. She'd wanted a horse her whole life and at 28 years of age with her first home and two rescue dogs she thought that the time was right. She watched a DVD of me and the rest is history. They came to see me and I went on a three week trial - this was 10 years ago!

We lived together in Kent and then moved to Bedfordshire. We hacked out, competed and we discovered I am really quite good at dressage. We moved up to Bedfordshire and I hacked and competed in a range of disciplines. I went from strength to strength with my dressage and enjoyed showing too. Eventing and show jumping were a bit hair raising but I had a go. Lots of happy memories were made.

One day when out at a hunter trial I had an un-coordinated landing and ended up with a tendon injury. I was on box rest for a very long time and vet Peter Harding planned my recovery programme with the use of the horse walker. We loved living up on the Dunstable Downs and with patience and good care I made a full recovery. Vet Peter Harding recommended I retire from jumping because my tendons wouldn't be able to cope and this was a blessing in disguise as far as I was concerned because I am not very brave when it comes to jumping and was quite happy to call it a day! When a job opportunity came up in Dorset we moved! I am really lucky that circumstances changed again. With a job as a special needs teacher in Milton Keynes we found we were both very happy at our friend Janice's in Totternhoe. We had been friends for some time. Christmas 2020/2021 was quite challenging for us. I had a head cold that just wasn't clearing. Vet Orla was very worried about me. I was prescribed anti-biotics and warned that the infection was making the heart murmur I'd had for a long time to become worse. Luckily the anti-biotics helped, but my heart murmur only improved marginally, and I can only now take part in light work. We used to love competing. I was such a talented dressage horse and we have many a dressage score card of judges commenting about just how elegant I am.

I like it in Totternhoe. We've regularly been mistaken for the Police by passers by and we have been approached by rural Police to be a part of Beds Horse Watch. But I do have problem you see. I am terrible for walking in hand. I can do Join Up in the round pen or menage to a high standard - following left and right, forwards and backwards - but when it comes to moving between the field and stable, I can be placid or I can just need to run quickly straight away. Luckily Janice just laughs at my impulsive behaviour. It's just part of me being me!

I am 20 now, I have a glossy coat and look amazing. I am a kind, good natured and gentle soul. I like my individual turnout with stable. I need to have a stable and paddock very much close by to one another. If you think I'd fit in well at your stables, I'd love to join you, please contact Jodi on 07817351020. I have a Youtube Channel where you can find out more about our adventures (type Jodi Smith hacking into YouTube).

Hope to stop to share a sweet with you in the village soon!



Drayton Parslow in 1901 - Child Boarders Part II

By Ann Lynch

The last edition of Village News introduced you to the 8 'boarders' who were in Drayton at the time of the Census on 1st April 1901. These were boys aged between 6 and 9 who were in the care of Dr Barnardos, a charitable society which helped vulnerable children, and still does today. I'd like to tell you a bit more about one of these children, James Dodd or Jimmy as he was known in the village or, as I knew him, Grampy.

Before Drayton

James was born in Devonport, Plymouth in September 1893. His father (also James) was a ship's boilermaker in the Royal Dockyard where he was in business with Robert Peed. His mother was Mary Cordelia, but on the 1891 Census she is simply called 'Minnie'. James has a brother, Albert (4) and a sister Kathleen (2). Just 13 months after James is born his mother has another daughter, Ellen, who lives for only 3 days and dies of 'Natural Causes - Imperfect Expansion of the lungs'. Things get worse and his mother dies 4 weeks later from 'Pneumonia and Exhaustion'.

4 years later in 1897 tragedy strikes again and his father dies of 'Cardiac disease and Dropsy' leaving 3 orphans: Albert (8), Kathleen (6) and James (4). In the 1901 Census we can see Albert in the Royal Dockyard Orphanage, Kathleen now living with Robert Peed's family in Liverpool, and James, via Dr Barnardos of London, in Drayton Parslow.

Canada and back

Jimmy settles into life with Henry & Mary Bates (who are 53 and 57 in 1901) attending the village school - where the photograph shows more than 70 pupils! The next detail shows him in 1904 aged 11 heading to Canada with his brother Albert and another of the boarders, Joseph H Smith. They have been taken to Liverpool to board the SS Southwark for a 12-day crossing to Portland, Maine on the US east coast, then transferred to Toronto in Canada. Whether this was a great adventure or an ordeal I cannot tell, but Grampy never spoke about it.



Jimmy at Drayton School

Meanwhile, the Bates's were missing Jimmy and managed to find the money to pay for his return. They certainly weren't rich people and I have heard rumours of an inheritance, but I'm not sure of the facts. So, Jimmy came home and Albert stayed in Canada, never to meet again. They did write, and we got a posh British Columbia calendar every year, so I think that's where he settled.

Jimmy comes back from Canada to Drayton and after leaving school he works, as so many villagers do, as a farm labourer.

World War I



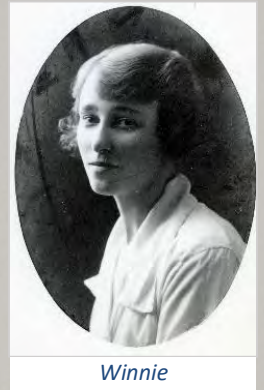
Jimmy enlists into the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry in Aylesbury in November 1915. On the Army Form he puts 'James Dodd Bates' and names Henry Bates as his next of kin. At 22 years old he is 5ft 2in with a 33in chest.

He joins the Indian Expeditionary Force and is shipped to Mesopotamia (now Iraq). The War is officially over in 1918, but there's quite a bit of clearing up to do. In January 1919 he is transferred to the Salonika Front as part of the Army of Occupation in the Balkans and around the Black Sea.

He finally comes home in September 1919, disembarking at Purfleet in Essex.

Love & Marriage

Somewhere around this time Jimmy meets Winnie Thornton. She has come to Drayton from Bushey, near Watford with her brother Arthur. During the war Arthur had a 'pen-friend' who wrote to him while he was away, a Miss Wenman of Drayton whom he came to visit. Jimmy & Winnie must have hit it off because in 1921 they are married at Winslow Register Office, with Henry Bates as a witness. Winnie's family do not attend: they cannot understand why she wants to marry a farm labourer in a small village and move into a house without any running water. The house nicknamed 'The Mansion' (see photo below) was opposite the lane to Sawden where there are now allotments. Postman Pratt is in the picture delivering the mail. Grampy works on the land all day and comes home every night to tend his vegetable garden and collect all the water they need from Berry Well.



Winnie



However, village life seems to suit them pretty well, and in 1922 James junior is born, followed by Muriel, Jean, Ann, Dora and finally Norman in 1933.

At the onset of World War II Jimmy sends for a copy of his Birth Certificate, we think to prove his age, and only then, aged 47, finds his name is not 'Dodd', but 'Dodds'. All the children have Dodd on their Certificates too.

In Drayton, several new council houses are built in 'New Road' and the family move to number 11, so they now have the luxury of running water and only 2 children in each bedroom! Newton Longville Brickyard opens and many village men, including Jimmy, choose a steady job there instead of farm work.

Later years

Then in October 1951 Norman, aged 17, dies in a motorbike accident on the Swanbourne turn of the Mursley Road. The family say Winnie, aged 53, became an old lady overnight. She couldn't attend the funeral and never visited his grave in the churchyard. This was a long time before the days of therapy, and she was prescribed pills which she took for the rest of her life. All of the other children were married, so Jean gave up her career in London and came back to look after Winnie & Jimmy.



Gran & Grampy with Norman

I was born in 1958 and only remember them as very old people - they were 65 and 70 when I was 5. Grampy used to go to his allotment and down to the Rec and watch the cricket matches, but neither of them went out very much at all. They had the bungalow 21 New Road, and we were in No. 20, but they hardly ever came to our house, though family members were always popping round. Grampy died of shingles in 1970. He had the illness quite some time before a doctor was called - he did not want to 'make a fuss'.

Some of this information has come from talking to family, some has come from researching my Family Tree. It's possible even Grampy did not know the early years: I just wish I had been able to talk to him about it.

Anne Hall (nee Horner)



Ann Lynch and Anne Hall

A note from Ann Lynch who wrote the original Child Boarders piece:

"I was so pleased when Anne, Jimmy Dodds' granddaughter, got in touch after the May issue. What a difference a simple 's' missing from a surname (see above) can make when you're doing research - unless you know the people involved! Anne and I met over a cup of tea and discovered a shared interest in tracing our family trees, and Jimmy's history is very moving. Thank you, Anne!"



Beautiful poppies at the War Memorial—thanks to Hannah Nash

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WheelPower

British Wheelchair Sport

I work for a charity called WheelPower (The National Charity for Wheelchair Sport, based at Stoke Mandeville Stadium) and have been made aware of your brilliant village magazine by one of my colleagues who lives locally.

I am getting in touch to introduce you to the upcoming **2021 MKFM Tour de Vale**, which you may be aware of already. After last year's cancellation we are so excited that this great local event will be returning to **Stoke Mandeville Stadium on Sunday 19 September** and we can't wait to celebrate with all the cyclists, and in turn raise vital funds to help disabled people to stay active across the UK.

Over 13 years The Tour de Vale has raised over £800,000 and is by far our biggest fundraiser of the year. Over the years it has become well known as Buckinghamshire's Biggest Charity Bike Ride and we hope you will be able to support us in reaching new audiences and spreading the word about this family friendly cycling event.

Matthew French

Marketing, Communication and Engagement Officer

Tel: 01296 395995

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Your Garden in August *with many thanks to Gill Gallon*

August is often one of the hottest months of the year - making watering essential. Water butts may be running low so use grey water where ever possible. August is traditionally holiday-time, so you might need to enlist the help of friends and family to look after the garden while you are away.

Jobs for the garden

- Pick herbs for fresh use and for drying. Harvesting will keep them growing longer.
- Trim and feed hanging baskets to prolong their beauty.
- Keep deadheading and harvesting.
- Remove any diseased foliage now, so it doesn't get lost in the autumn leaves.
- Cut back the foliage of early bloomers like Brunneras and hardy geraniums to revitalize the plants.
- Prune summer flowering shrubs as the flowers fade.
- Sow a late crop of peas and spinach and keep harvesting.
- Start saving seeds and taking cuttings. Leave some annual seeds to self-sow.
- Begin dividing perennials. Start with the bearded iris.
- Check that your mulch hasn't decomposed and add more as needed. Spread a mid-season layer of compost or manure.

Plant of the Month – Penstemon

Penstemons are one of the most valuable summer-flowering perennials and are generally easy and reliable. Flowering until the first frosts with elegant spikes of small, tubular, foxglove-like flowers there are about 250 varieties to choose from.



They will grow quickly to form large, leafy clumps and will add some great colour into your border. Penstemons thrive in sunny positions and tolerate dry conditions once established, on heavy clay soil, add coarse grit to aid drainage.

Do not cut them down in the autumn. Leave all the growth intact and wait until late April or early May when you start to see the new growth appear.



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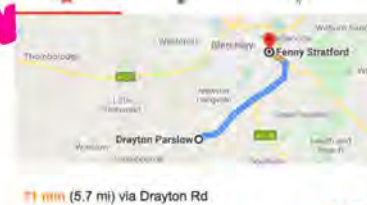
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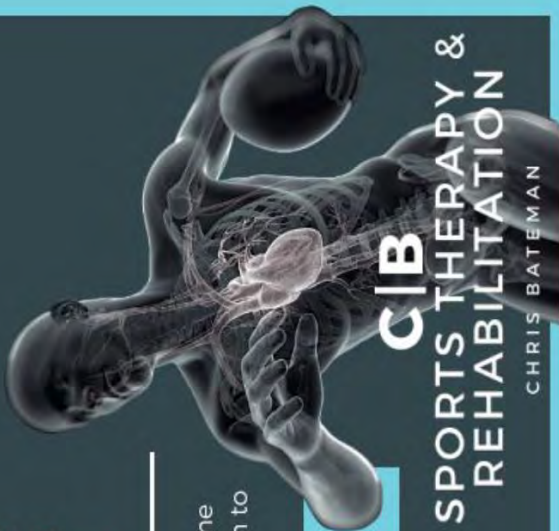
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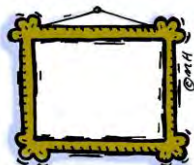
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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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

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Since our last update, we have received feedback on the **draft Neighbourhood Plan** from Bucks. The comments are mostly related to fine-tuning the policies and the correct use of language, changing references from AVDC to the new unitary authority, some suggestions for additional content on our listed buildings and also details regarding wildlife in and around the village. Those of you who receive emails will have seen a recent request on this topic which is reproduced below. The team are working on completing the updates to the plan so that it can be sent back to Bucks for examination by a planning inspector.

Meetings: A reminder that meetings are now back to face to face at the sports and social club with details available from the clerk and the Parish Council website www.draytonparslowparishcouncil.org.uk

Neighbourhood Plan Wildlife Survey

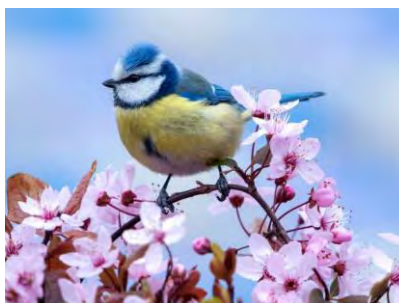
As part of our Neighbourhood Plan and to preserve our local environment and its unique character for future generations it is important that we have a record all of the wildlife that lives alongside us in our village and the surrounding fields.

We have contacted the local Environmental Record Centre for a copy of their archive but would like to update the records of both protected and common species. We are therefore asking all residents if they can share their sightings of any birds, animals and wild plants within the Parish.

There has been plenty of time during lockdown to walk our beautiful countryside paths, so please tell us what you've seen both in your gardens and the surrounding countryside. If you can give an approximate location for the sighting it will help us greatly – particularly if you have spotted the nest site for birds and wild animals.



All reports are useful even if they are of common wildlife species.



Please send your sightings to:

Liz_carter-gates@hotmail.com (01296 728343 - 8 Bell Close) or
Helen290@btinternet.com (01296 720756 - 24 North Close)
by the August 14th.

We appreciate your help, thank you.
Liz and Helen x



Holy Trinity News



Reflections from the Rectory

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY

As I write we are waiting to hear more details about the lifting of restrictions which by the time you read should have come into place on 19th July.

But as we look ahead as well as back over these last 18 months or so, what have we learned? One of my favourite quotes about looking back is "The one thing we learn from history, is that we learn nothing from history!" (Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, German Philosopher). Maybe I'm revealing something of my more cynical side but I think there is something helpful in this statement within the current climate! We hear people talking about "getting back to normal" but is getting back really what we should be aiming for? Shouldn't we instead be aiming to move forward in the light of what we have experienced and learned.

I have spoken to several people who have been amazed at what they have found on their doorstep, local walks etc; stunned by the beauty they discovered by only having the option of a holiday in our own country. People who have discovered they don't have to always take their young family out on exciting trips or to see family and friends, but they can just enjoy time together, playing at home.

Businesses have had to learn new models of working and so has the church. We have had to look at how we can be church without physical meetings. It has given us an opportunity to connect with some housebound people (as we all were for a while) and to be able to relate to their situation better.

Dare I say it for some it has been a reminder that the church is about the people and not about the building, as beautiful and valuable as they are. If the building were to burn down that doesn't mean the church ceases to be.

If there is to be any truly lasting positive outcome from this worldwide situation, we need to forget about returning to normal and focus on moving forward!

So, where are you going?

God bless you.

Simon

HOLY TRINITY SERVICE DATES

August

1st 9:30am Morning Prayer – Lay Led

8th 9:30am Holy Communion – Simon Faulks

15th 9:30am Morning Prayer – Lay Led

22nd 9:30am Holy Communion – Simon Faulks

29th 9:30am Holy Communion – David Talks

September

5th 9:30am Family Service – Simon Faulks

12th 9:30am Holy Communion – David Talks

19th 9:30am Morning Prayer – Simon Faulks

26th 9:30am Holy Communion – David Talks

October

3rd 9:30am Family Service – David Talks

Congratulations to

Adam Dare and Amy Spavins on their wedding at Holy Trinity Church on Saturday 22nd May.



The marriage service was conducted by Rev. Simon Faulks.



After the wedding, the happy couple were pictured outside the Church with pet dogs Flo and Nellie!