



DRAYTON PARSLOW VILLAGE NEWS



14th February



1st March



17th March

ISSUE 168

February/March 2022

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DRAYTON DIARY

February

26th Bingo – DPSSC

March

19th Bingo – DPSSC

A COMEDY BY MICHAEL AITKENS

Stewkley Players



STEWKLEY PLAYERS PRESENT

Waiting for God

Weds 23rd - Sat 26th March 2022

8pm Stewkley Village Hall

Doors Open 7.30pm - Licensed Bar

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SUNDAY BOX OFFICE AT STEWKLEY VILLAGE HALL
6th, 13th, 20th MARCH - 10am - 12pm

YOUR VILLAGE NEWS NEEDS YOU!

You may notice that this edition is quite short. We are very grateful to our usual contributors but would love to have more to share with you.



Please help us to keep your Village News going by sparing a few minutes to send us some content for future editions:

Tell us about future events, your hobbies and interests, 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 April / May issue by no later than Friday March 4th 2022 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.

Short Mat Bowls

Mondays & Wednesdays 2.30-4.30 pm - £2 per session. If you haven't played before, please come along and give it a go (coaching available). New and experienced players welcome.



Let's spend 30 minutes with...

John North

I was born in Haversham just before the outbreak of WW2. After the war my parents moved to Drayton Parslow looking for a farm to rent, after a few years my dad went into partnership with his uncle Harry who had farmed at Kingsland since 1902 approx. I started dating my late wife Eileen in 1971. We married at Holy Trinity Church in 1974 and then moved into our first house at the top of church end before moving to Villiers Farm and then to Prospect just after my children Susan and David were born.



1. How long have you lived in Drayton Parslow?

I have lived in the village for 73 years. I moved here in 1948 at the age of 9 and lived in New Road before moving into Kingsland Farm at Hogg End (Church End).

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

It is nice quiet little village with some fantastic views and scenery. I have a lot of friends that I grew up with here and you know nearly everybody in the village. You always see someone out and about to have a chat with.

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

It has to be the VPA show - seeing the whole village get together and catching up with people. It's definitely the best village show around the area as a lot of them don't have one anymore. I used to enter a lot of fruit and veg in the show before concentrating on my flowers with Dahlias and Gladiolis. I remember back in the 1960's the VPA held a "bowling for the pig" competition on the cricket pitch. The prize was a live pig!!

4. What is your favourite book / books?

It would have to be the 'Racing Post'. I love Horse racing and go on a regular basis to watch my horses run whether it's Taunton or Market Rasen. I am lucky to have a trainer who is happy for me to visit the yard on a regular basis to see the horse.



From the age of about 15 I had my own horse and rode until I was in my forties, regularly riding out with the Whaddon Chase.

5. What is your favourite sport?

I'm quite happy to watch most sports from **athletics** to **snooker**. When I was at school I was a keen cross country runner, in fact I won the school competition when I was at Bletchley Road School. In the late 1960's to early 1970's Drayton Parslow had a football team, we used to play in Sandhill Field, which is where the new Kingsland Farm House and yard now stands. We had no facilities so we would go to the Three Horseshoes pub and go upstairs to a room in order to change.

I like watching the international **cricket** from the 20/20 games to the 5 day test matches. I played for Drayton as soon as I was able to for about 30 years back in the days when cattle grazed the outfield and sometimes we had to herd them into the field before we could play. I captained the team for a while, including in 1966 when Drayton Parslow won the coronation cup. In 1990 we organised a veterans cricket match against our old rivals Stewkley with lots of familiar Drayton faces taking part.



6. The film you can watch again & again?



I don't watch many films but it would have to be **Peter Rabbit** as my grandchildren love watching it again and again! Although I'm not a film lover I do like watching **Dad's Army** and a bit of **Only Fools and Horses**.

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

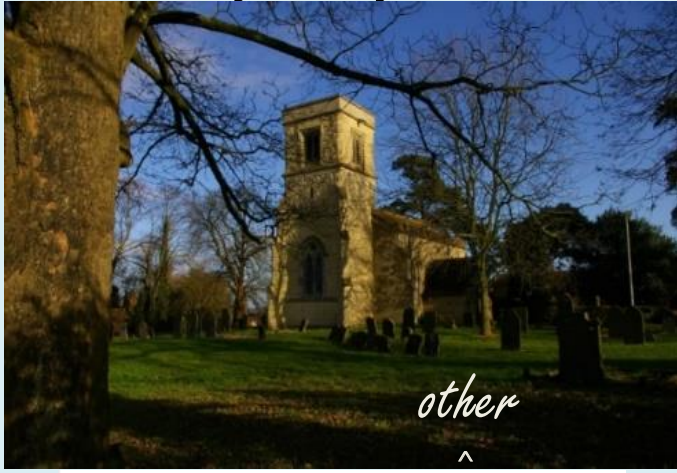
Working on the farm is all I've ever done, Apart from helping out in school holidays, I started aged 15 when I left school at Faulkners in Stewkley and then a few years later working with my dad at Kingsland. I have enjoyed the out life and it's been so rewarding (most of the time) and there's always different projects to get on with.

8. What is your favourite place you visited?

It would have to be **Canada** with its amazing scenery. We done a train trip through the stunning rocky mountains and a cruise up the coast from Vancouver to Skagway and the Yukon gold rush route, whale watching on the way.



Holy Trinity News



Reflections from the Rectory

Reflections from the Rectory

I don't know if you were given a DIY kit of hyacinths 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 space where they are placed.



Epiphany was the church season from 6th January and now just ended when we remember how Jesus was 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. I hope that we, as a church, may spread that fragrance to fill the whole area where we are placed in our community, and may those in our community be attracted to Christ, and come to know his 'fragrance' and his glory too.

David

HOLY TRINITY SERVICE DATES

January		
30 th 9:30am	Benefice Service at Mursley	
February		
6 th 9:30am	Morning Prayer	Lay led
13 th 9:30am	Holy Communion	Guy Elsmore
20 th	No service	
27 th 9:30am	Holy Communion	David Talks
March		
6 th 9:30am	Morning Prayer	Lay led
13 th 9:30am	Holy Communion	TBA
20 th	No service	
27 th 3:00pm	Holy Communion	TBA

Holy Trinity Church - Toilet/Kitchen Extension

We have now raised £102,544, including nearly £60,000 raised from grant making bodies, to provide a toilet extension for the Church. The total project cost is now likely to be £120,000, but with 85% of funds in place and approvals about to expire we have decided to go ahead and work will start in January 2022. Please contact Wendy Preston (01296 720426) if you would like to contribute or help raise the last £17,500 we need to make the church a community building suitable for the 21st Century.

Coin Jars

In October 2021 we resumed the village coin jar collection, the first for 18 months. The collection together with donations from the Just Giving site for the maintenance of the church yard raised £977.19. This, together with the contribution of £750.00 from the PCC, meant we raised a total of £1,727.19 for the year towards the £2,000 annual cost of maintaining the churchyard. The coin jar collection will continue on an annual basis in October. Many thanks for all your support and generous donations. We hope you and many visitors will continue to enjoy this tranquil space in the village.

Thanks from Holy Trinity Church Mice

Many thanks to all who ordered mice and offered them a good home for Christmas. £250 was raised for The British Heart Foundation in memory of our Church Warden, John Perry (£405 previously donated at John's memorial service). It's nice to know that our Church mice are reaching all corners of the globe and one of our Santa Mice has just taken up residence in Hong Kong! Covid permitting, our next Mousefest is planned for 1st-3rd April 2022. For info contact Susan: spiddock@john-lewis.com /Tel. 01296 728163.

Christmas Church Collection

It was sad that we were unable to go ahead again with our traditional Christingle service on Christmas Eve. However, the Church was decorated and many of you took the opportunity to visit, sit quietly and reflect and light a candle. £75 was donated for The Children's Society.

Happy New Year from all at Holy Trinity Church!



Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club

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

Latest News

We are delighted to welcome Kitty to the team of volunteer bar staff at the club. If anyone else is keen to help out within the village, we are always looking for additional volunteers to join our friendly team.

Don't be bored - be board!



Head down to the Sports & Social Club on a Sunday lunchtime (12-2.30pm) to take a break from technology and make use of their collection of board games. It's free and everyone is welcome. Why not organise a board game contest with friends and family? Or just spend an hour reliving your childhood or showing Dad that he really is rubbish at Monopoly? (cheating essential) Or bring out Grandma's inner Miss Marple with Cluedo?
(Games subject to availability).

We are looking to gather a collection of good condition Board Games, to store in the club for use by families when the clubhouse is open on a Sunday lunchtime (12-2.30pm). If you have any good games (with no pieces missing!) that you think could be enjoyed by others, please drop them in to the clubhouse.



As always, the clubhouse is open for all to use on a Sunday lunchtime (12-2.30pm) – the pool table remains free to use, and with our collection of board games, there will be plenty to keep you occupied.

Membership fees for 2022 are now due

DPSSC operates as a Member's club, and fees for 2022 Membership are now due (membership runs Jan-Dec). Having consistently maintained low fees over many years, the impact of the pandemic and increasing bills means that, with regret, we have had to increase Membership Fees to £2 per person for the year (£5 for a family). We very much appreciate everyone's support in becoming members – not only does it help us maintain our licence (which is a valuable addition to events such as the VPA show and Cricket, as well as those who regularly use our clubhouse), the membership fees help us pay our essential fixed costs such as Public Liability Insurance.

Mobile Post Office



The Mobile Post Office continues to operate out of the clubhouse on a **Tuesday morning (9.30am – 11am)**, serving all of your Post Office needs in a socially-distanced, well-spaced, secure way.



Bingo Dates

Forthcoming dates for bingo are:

February 26th 2022

March 19th 2022

As always, all are welcome at Bingo

Regular cards sessions

Whist: Tuesday evenings, 7pm - 10pm.

Abbey Smith Bridge Club:

Thursday Evening: 7pm - 10pm

Beginner Lessons: Friday 11.30am - 1pm

Friday Afternoon: 2pm - 4.30pm

Please contact Abbey on abbeybridgelessons@hotmail.co.uk or 07891 586410 with any questions you may have about sessions either face-to-face in the club building, or virtual sessions.



Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club

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

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 £15 per hour (with an incremental £10 per hour (per bar staff member) if the bar is required. Bar hours will need to include set-up and clearing up time). A non-refundable deposit and hire agreement form are required for all bookings. Please text Linda Fedoriw on 07851 077684 for hire availability.



Please note that, due to the impact of the pandemic and increasing bills, we have had to increase our hourly hire rates for 2022.

Parish Council Update

Neighbourhood Plan

The plan continues to develop and will soon be resubmitted following revision after feedback from BCC.

Request for Volunteers

We are still looking for Councillors to join the Parish Council. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Additional Kerbing at the top of the village

We continue to follow up on plans and an application has been submitted to BCC for partial funding for work to begin.

MK Watling Rotary

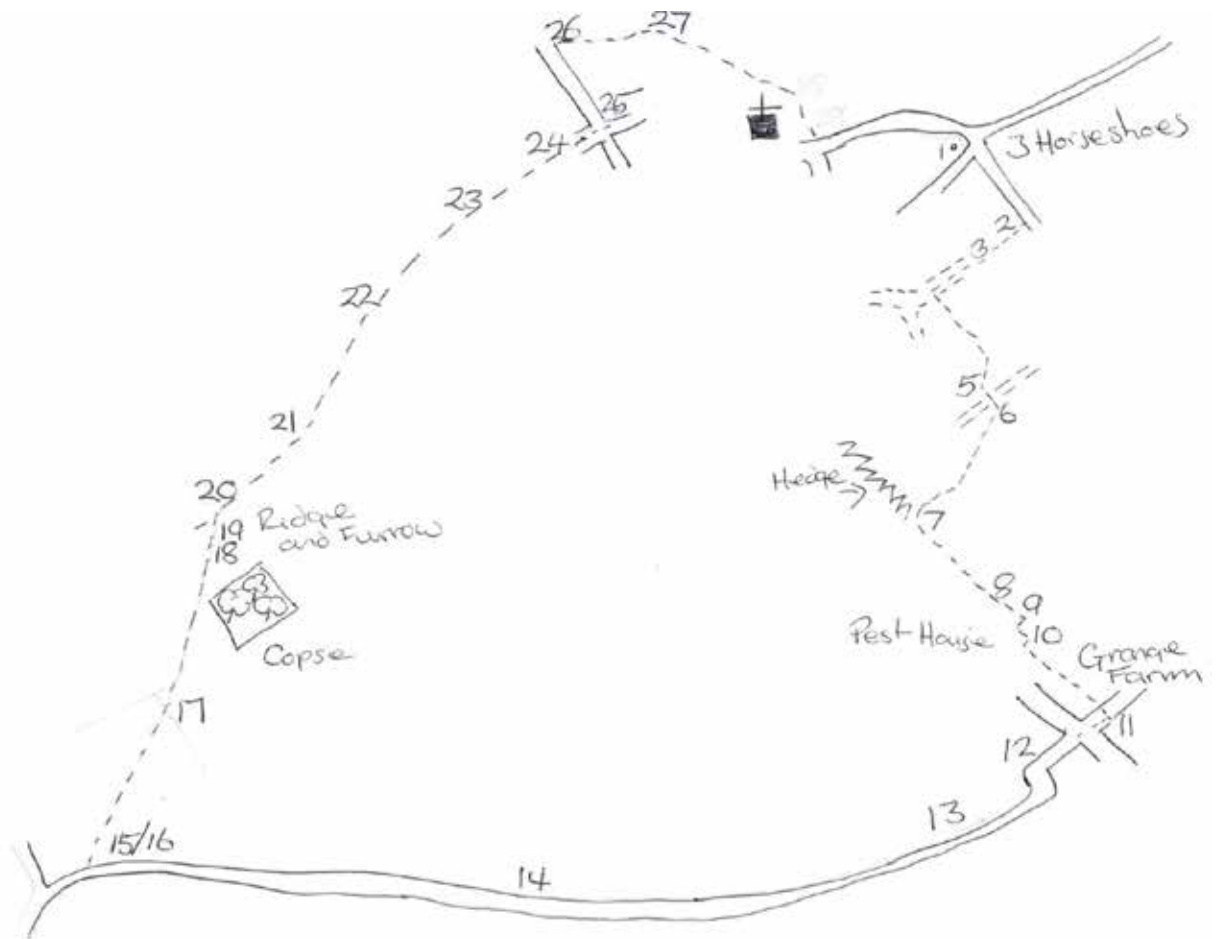


On Saturday 13th November 2021 MK Watling Rotary club held a charity fun casino in Greenacre Hall in aid of the Medical Detection Dogs based in Great Horwood. We would like to thank all of you that supported the event which raised over £400.

If anyone would like to know more about the club then please visit our Facebook page or our website: www.mkwatlingrotary.org.uk for more details. We are a young club (in Rotary terms) with most of us still working and although we are small in number, we are an active club with both social and community events throughout the year.



Jeremy's Walk Number 5: : Stewkley Dean 4.9 miles



I've chosen this walk for mid-winter because it makes use of lightly trafficked tarmac roads and fields which are generally used for pasture to try and avoid muddy ploughed fields as far as possible. I walked this route twice at the beginning of January. Once after a sustained period of rain and once early on a cold and frosty morning. There were no really difficult sections either time. However, there were places where the ground was very wet and slippery/muddy (particularly Grange Farm yard) and on the frosty morning you had to watch out for icy patches along Dean Road and on the plank bridges.

1. From the War Memorial, walk down Chapel Lane, and continue to follow it once it becomes New Road, towards Kingsland Farm.
2. As you reach Kingsland Farm you will see a footpath marker on the right pointing through a gateway. Follow this marker and go through the gate, keeping the hedge on your right. The first part of the walk roughly follows the route of a private road which, at the time of Inclosure/Enclosure in 1798, went to Grange Farm on the edge of Stewkley.
3. Go through another gate and head downhill. You will see caravans and camper vans stored to your left and the path widens out into a track.
4. As you get to the bottom of the hill, just before the track branches off to left and right, you will see a stile and footpath marker on your left. Go over the stile and follow the ditch and hedge on your right. The ditch contains the stream running down from beyond Bury Well.
5. Go through the gate and cross the track in front of you. Head slightly to your left, across a swathe of grass, towards the hedge in front of you and to a stile.

- 6.** Go over the stile into a large field and head diagonally to your right and head towards the remains of a field hedge which runs downhill from right to left (the hedge stops short of a ditch on the left and doesn't quite reach the crest of the hill on the right). Aim for the left of the hedge.
- 7.** When you get to the hedge you will see to your left a footpath sign and beyond the stile a plank bridge, with a metal handrail, that takes you over the ditch. Go over the bridge and another stile. The footpath goes up the bank in front of you and then up the hill. You will see a large, open-sided, barn at the top of the hill. Aim a little to the left of the barn as you walk up the hill. This area is named Gunners Moor on 19th Century maps. It is not clear if this is a reference to activity in the Civil War (mid-17th Century). There are signs of Civil War entrenchments further to the east and there is evidence of platforms in this field. However, it is believed that these are the remains of a 'Pest House' which was sited here, possibly from the late Tudor period and it was still in existence in the early 19th Century. Pest is short for Pestilence. A 'Pest House' was a building where people with infectious diseases (such as plague) were quarantined.
- 8.** As you near the top of the hill you will see a stile to the left of a gate in front of you. This is Grange Farm. Go over the stile and keep that barn you saw from the bottom of the hill on your right. A modern (1970s ish) house is ahead of you. Once you have passed a second barn turn immediately right and go through a gate into the farmyard.
- 9.** Once through the gate go diagonally left to the far side of a low, open fronted, barn and go left through a gate marked with a footpath sign and then, beyond another barn turn sharply right, keeping the white, half-timbered house on your left.
- 10.** Turn left immediately you have passed the half-timbered house and follow the driveway out to the road.
- 11.** When you reach the road, cross to the footway on the opposite side and turn right, towards the crossroads at the northern end (Tag End) of Stewkley.
- 12.** At the crossroads, cross over High Street North and start walking along Dean Road. The houses around this part of Dean Road are mostly modern (some of quite interesting design), but on your right, just before the first bend there is a small house (Old Wood Hall) of 17th Century origin. Although it has been altered over the years it is a Listed Building.
- 13.** Apart from the collection of houses near the crossroads, these days Dean Road only serves a handful of farms (mostly modern), but at one time it served a significant hamlet of Stewkley Dean. However, by the late Victorian period it had shrunk to just 3 farmhouses. Dean Road serves more houses than that these days, but it is relatively quiet, with few vehicles using it. However, particularly when the weather is bad and people are looking for somewhere dry to walk, the number of walkers and horse riders using it can make it feel like the M1! The number of footpaths and bridleways that link to it betray the importance of the old hamlet and its role in the drover's road network.
- 14.** Keep walking along Dean Road, past Upper and Old Lower Dean Farms and Dean Tithe Farm where a number of footpaths cross the road.
- 15.** Just before you reach the point where the road bends sharply to the left, there is a footpath sign on your right beside a gate.

16. Go through the gate, into the large field beyond, heading diagonally right. Although you cannot see it when you first come through the gate, because of the fall in the land, you are heading for the far, right-hand corner of the field. As you get to the brow of the slope you will see two gates at right angles to each other in the right-hand corner of the field. Head towards the right-hand gate.
17. When you reach the gate, go through and head diagonally left (so you are roughly on the same bearing that you were on before you went through the gate) and keep to the left of the small copse ahead of you.
18. As you crest the slope the Ridge and Furrow pattern to the ground becomes very pronounced. Ridge and Furrow was formed by the actions of the plough (the Furrow is where the crop was planted and the Ridge is the mound of earth thrown up by the plough) in the old, open field system of farming that was swept away by Inclosure/Enclosure (generally in the 18th and 19th Centuries). In the open field system individuals farmed narrow strips of land set out within huge fields causing these mounds of earth to be thrown up by the repeated ploughing of the same strips. Although Ridge and Furrow is evident in a lot of fields around Drayton, the example in this field is particularly prominent suggesting that this ground hasn't been ploughed since Inclosure/Enclosure.
19. When you get to the bottom of the slope, go over the stile onto a plank bridge across a ditch and then over another stile, heading towards the gateway in front of you.
20. At the gate turn right and follow the hedge line on your right.
21. Go over a stile and keep following the hedge line on your right.
22. If you've done some of the previous walks, you may recognize the next gate and its interesting collection of chains (although only one of these was in use when I went through last).
23. Then you come to a double gate. It doesn't seem to matter which one you use. Keep following the footpath towards the Victorian House and farm buildings ahead.
24. When you reach the house, go through the gate between it and the, now disused, old farm buildings and follow the driveway out to the road.
25. Cross the road and, ignoring the road back to Drayton, turn left.
26. Walk along the road for about 200 metres to a footpath sign on your right. Go over the stile into the field and follow the hedge on your left, past the site of the old 'Castle' mound.
27. In the left-hand corner of the field go over the plank bridge into Great Ground and head diagonally left (keeping to the right of the old quarry).
28. When you reach the gate on the bridleway, near the church, go through the gate and follow the bridleway out to Main Road.
29. Turn left and head down the hill to the War memorial.



Quiz Time #11 with thanks again to Susan Piddock

1. *What is the colour 'Y' in the Ebay logo?*
2. *Where did the Prophet Muhammad live and die after he fled from Mecca, making it a holy city second only to Mecca?*
3. *"A week is a long time in politics" is a much beloved quote of journalists and politicians, but which Prime Minister said it originally?*
4. *The guillotine will forever be associated with the French Revolution, but when was the last execution by guillotine in France? Was it 1969, 1971, 1975 or 1977?*
5. *How many British Prime Ministers have been assassinated?*
5. *Johnny Depp allegedly based his performance in 'Pirates of the Caribbean' on one of the Rolling Stones – which one?*
7. *In Roman numerals, which number is represented by the letters D C L ?*
8. *Which British Institution has the motto 'my word is my bond'?*
9. *What is the literal meaning of 'Eskimo'?*
10. *What is the title of the wife of an Earl?*
11. *Which newspaper cartoon married couple live at 37 Durham Street?*
12. *Which two Chinese words symbolize dark and light, male and female, and sun and moon?*
13. *Named after a cheese, what was the Fleet Street pub of which Samuel Johnson was a regular?*
14. *Which area of central London is named after an old hunting cry?*
15. *What was the previous name of Ho Chi Minh City?*



Answers to quiz on this page:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 15. Saigon | 7. 650 (D = 500, C = 100, L = 50) |
| 14. Soho | 6. Keith Richards |
| 13. The Old Cheshire Cheese | 5. One. (Spencer Perceval - shot in 1812) |
| 12. Yin and Yang | 4. 1977 |
| 11. Andy Capp and his wife Flo | 3. Prime Minister, Harold Wilson |
| 10. Countess | 2. Medina |
| 9. Eater of raw meat | 1. Green |
| 8. The London Stock Exchange | |

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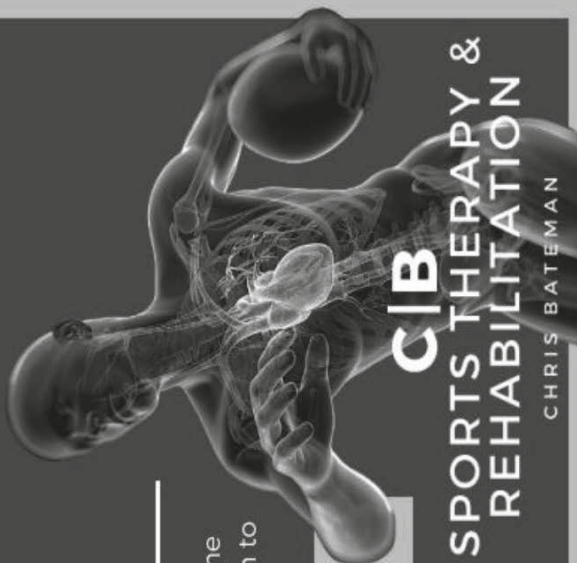
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VPA News

The Christmas Fayre was another success this year. We did limit the number of stalls attending to make it more COVID compliant, but I think we still had a good variety of items on display. Thank you to all the stall holders for supporting us in such uncertain times. Thank you to everyone who came to look around and do some Christmas shopping, we hope there was something to interest everyone. We look forward to a (hopefully) COVID free Fayre in 2022.



The children's Christmas party was again well attended this year, over 30 children came to visit Santa in his Grotto. They also enjoyed biscuit decorating, picture colouring and of course their party food.

We would like to thank "SANTA" for making time in his busy schedule to visit us on that day. The children really loved it.

After an enforced COVID break in 2020, 2021 saw the return of the **Seniors Festive Lunch**.

Twelve lovely people came and enjoyed a festive lunch in the Sports & Social Club.

Thank you to the Club for letting us use their venue again and also thanks to the Greenacre Hall who let me use their oven to keep everything warm as the Club oven was out of action. Many thanks to my helpers on the day Hayley Adams and Nigel Fedoriw. Looking forward to Festive Lunch 2022!

A big THANK YOU to Drayton Parslow Sports & Social Club who allow us to use their facilities free of charge for all our events.

Couldn't do it without your help. Thank you.

The VPA would like to thank you all for your continued support in all the activities we put on throughout the year.

We hope you all have a Happy and Healthy 2022. We look forward to seeing you at our events this year.

If you would like to join our small friendly group, please speak to Linda Fedoriw (07851077684) new faces always welcome.

Other news.....

The **Christmas Bingo** in the Sports and Social Club at the beginning of December raised **£130 for Helen House Children's Hospice** in Oxford.

Thank you to everyone that attended and for the very generous raffle donations.

This year the **Fedoriw Christmas lights** raised **£300 for Hectors House suicide** charity based in Berkhamsted.

This amount is very generously being **matched by WJ South Ltd** (the white lining company based in Newton Longville), so Hectors House will be receiving a grand total of **£600**.



Thank you to everyone who came to the switch on and who donated while the lights were on through December.

Very special thanks go to the wonderful and generous **'G ELVIS'** who performed for us all (in the snow !!) free of charge.

The switch on just wouldn't be the same without you. Thank you.





Christmas Wreath Workshop



Having missed the workshop in 2020 due to Covid, this was a very welcome social event and much enjoyed by all who came.
Thank you to everyone who contributed and we are pleased to announce that we raised £828.43 which has been donated to the toilet/kitchen extension fund.



This is a selection of wreaths that were made on the day