

# Grafham Gossip

## VILLAGE SUMMER FETE

Sunday September 4th - Grafham Village Hall  
and Playing Field  
Starts Midday with serving of Ploughman's  
Lunches

Attractions: Games, raffles, tombola, cakes, bric a  
brac, children's bran tubs, video and CDs, treasure  
hunt, Raptor Centre, musical entertainment and  
much more!

Cream Teas served throughout the afternoon



plus  
**FLOWER FESTIVAL**  
open all day at All Saints  
Church followed by  
**SONGS OF PRAISE**  
Family Service at 6.00 pm

If you would like to help on the day, phone Jill  
Dighton (811862) or Jill Tyack (810157).

Cake stall donations to 3 Van Diemens Way. Please  
deliver on Saturday 3rd or Sunday 4th.

Donations for stalls and raffles to be left in the  
church or 3 Van Diemens Way.

All donations gratefully received - In aid of Church  
Restoration

Issue 14 Deadline: August 19th

## Editors' note...

We've had loads of news and gossip  
this month - thanks! *The Editors*  
gossip@grafhamplan.org.uk



## Grafham All Saints Church



**4th Sunday (July 24th):** 11.00 Sunday  
Worship with Holy Communion.

18.00 Patronal Festival-Songs of Praise at Spaldwick.

**5th Sunday (July 31st):** No service at Grafham.

11.00 Group Eucharist at Barham.

**1st Sunday (August 7th):** 11.00 Family Service.

**2nd Sunday (August 14th):** 11.00 Eucharist.

**3rd Sunday (August 21st):** 8.00 Eucharist (BCP).

11.00 Morning Worship.

**4th Sunday (August 28th):** 11.00 Eucharist

**1st Sunday (September 4th):** Church Fete/Flower  
Festival. 18.00 Songs of Praise

*Contacting the clergy:*

**Canon Jonathan Young** (01480) **891695**

**Dr John Hare** (01480) **453172**

## GRAFHAM PAYS TRIBUTE TO CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Jean Gowen Chairman of Grafham Parish Council passed away peacefully on Wednesday 22nd June 2005 at the end of an 8-year battle with breast cancer. Her funeral was held at All Saints Church, Grafham, which was full and overflowing, this was followed by a service at the Cambridge Crematorium.

Jean served the Parish Council for 16 years, and during her 3 terms as Chairman, her commitment, attention to detail and ability to see the wider view guided the council on many successful projects. Perhaps the one that she was most proud of was the creation of the modern and colourful children's play area, which draws many appreciative users.

Throughout her illness Jean only missed one Parish Council meeting, which speaks volumes for her dedication to the village and its population.

She also served on the Parochial Church Council for 6 years and on the Village hall Management Committee since its inception. The village was very important to her having lived here for 19 years.

Jean will be greatly missed by all who came to know her, by her loving husband Keith, daughter Helen, son-in-law Kristian and grand daughter Rachel.

Jean, Grafham bids you farewell with fondness, thanks and respect.

# Grafham Safari Supper

**Saturday September 17th**

Safari Suppers come in many forms, but all provide an opportunity to sit and chat round a dining table with friends and other village residents. The Grafham version means everyone contributes during the evening by providing one of the 3 courses and we all move around for each course.

For the starter course, 6 names (or 3 couples) are drawn out of a hat with the first lucky couple drawn providing the starter for the group at their home. A similar draw is then made for the main course, but organised such that every one meets different couples. For the sweet course and coffee we all gather at one location with those couples who have not provided food for a starter or main course bringing along their contributions.

At the end of the evening we collect a £10 contribution from each couple towards the Grafham Social Committee funds, which then finance the Village Bonfire Night and the Over-60s Christmas Lunch. A fun way of making new friends.



To take part contact Pat Watson (811166) or Philippa Patel (811656).

## PARISH NEWS...

•Grafham Parish Council has a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you would like to know more about the role and what is involved, please talk to any of the members of the Parish Council. If you would like to apply, please write c/o the Parish Clerk. All applications will be considered at a meeting to be held on 16th August.



•Changes to mobile library routes: the service currently stops in Grafham along Breach Road on Wednesday 11.05 - 11.40. It is proposed that the time changes to Wednesday, 11.45 - 12.05. If you have any comments to make please contact the Parish Clerk. A new timetable will be introduced in January 2006.

•Huntingdonshire District Council are undertaking a scheme to provide a marked bus stop in villages west of the A1. Ours would be in Breach Road, opposite Cedar Close.

•We are very sad to report that some of the plants put in along the footpath between Breach Road and Field Close/Alsyke Close have been pulled up. Is it the same person/persons who didn't like the trees along Church Hill? We have reported the matter to the Police as an act of vandalism. Does anyone have any idea who it might be?

•Following on from that, we are in need of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. If anyone is interested in knowing more, please contact the Parish Clerk.

•The Parish Plan meeting took place on 2nd July and we already have a few volunteers to set up a group to consider issues relating to youth issues, sport and the Village Hall. If you might like to know more, or perhaps get involved, please contact Lin Pressland on 810783.

•A reminder that Peter Downes and Shirley Menczer, District Councillors, hold a monthly surgery at the Village Hall on the first Saturday of each month. Their next meeting will be on 3rd September.

•Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th September at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.



## INTERESTED IN WILDLIFE?

The **Grafham Wildlife Conservation Group** meets every Wednesday evening at 6.50 for woodland walks in the local area. It is an opportunity to learn about the countryside and wildlife. For more details, contact **Sam Malt** on **810844** (daytime) or **811654** (evening).

## Fun Day

Katrina and Michele would like to thank all those who helped at the Fun Day on June 12th and everyone who came along to support it. The weather was quite cold on the day, but it didn't stop anyone having a great time.

Well done to Georgie and Rachel who raised an amazing £67.68 on their "Come and Buy" stall. With further donations they will be sending £91.87 to the WWF. They would like to thank everyone who bought from the stall and those who gave a donation.

If anyone has a suggestion as to how we can develop or improve the Fun Day please let Katrina know - 810297.

## Interested in Dancing?

Would you like to **WALTZ, TANGO, CHA CHA, SALSA OR JIVE?**

Or perhaps learn a "First Dance" for your Wedding or any special occasion?

If so, please give me a ring as I am considering offering either Group or Private lessons in the Village Hall in the Autumn. **Alan 07967 598435**

# Grafham Gen

## Glow worms

From late June and into July, glow worms can be found in some of our local woods (Brampton Wood, Westwood and Grafham Water Nature Reserve).

Glow worms are now rather rare. They are beetles. The wingless female, glows at the tip of her tail and resembles a woodlouse. The male has wings to take him to the females cold glowing light at dusk and through the night.

Glow worms feed on snails and during the day they hide away from predators.

The Victorians called them Love Lanterns.



Male glow worm (winged)



Female glow worm



Sam Malt

## The Wyvern

In spite of the name on their boarding, the road in the Bloor Homes development is to be called **The Wyvern**. But why such a name you cry! Well, all new developments within our village have all originated from our history so why change now? Some of you might remember that Grafham once had a railway station many years ago. The Bloor development is being built on the Station site. Railways have over many years played an important part in our history. In 1862 the Midland Railway received authority to construct a railway line from Kettering to Huntingdon thereby making a connection with the Great Northern Railway. The Midland Railway completed the line from Kettering through Grafham to Huntingdon on 21st January 1866 with a passenger train service in full operation on 1st March 1866. The emblem of the Midland Railway was a

Wyvern being a dragon-like figure. Today this emblem can be seen at the Midland Railway Trust at Butterley in Derbyshire and features on their publicity.

In keeping with our Village history and our railway the association is maintained hence with the road being named **The Wyvern**.



Keith Gowen

Have you lost a **silver brooch** on Church Road? Call 811668.

If you need somebody to walk your dog, ring **Jan** on 01480 **811537**.



### ANDORA Cleaning Service

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### Babysitters

**Olivia Sinfield** (studying GCSE Child Development)  
age: 15  
Tel: 811831

**Alison Young**  
age: 15  
Tel: 811577

**Felicity Jenkinson** (studying GCSE Child Development)  
age: 16 Tel: 812328

**Carly Mann** - Experienced Babysitter. Finished 2nd year of Midwifery. Qualified in Child care, CRB clearance. Available anytime between 14th July - 14th August. Tel: 812807



# GRAFHAM PARISH PLAN

## RESIDENTS MEETING - 2 JULY 2005



The purpose of the meeting was to identify priorities from the recommendations developed by the Grafham Plan Steering Group from the input of residents. Also, although some of the initiatives were already underway, it would be impossible for the Parish Council alone to bring the major issues to fruition and it was necessary to establish groups of interested individuals who could assist.

The Parish Councillors and the Chairman of the Steering Group briefly outlined the objectives and findings of the Plan. The main objectives were grouped under the six main headings:

- Community Services
- Transport and Access**
- Public Information**
- Grafham Wildlife and Conservation
- Village Hall and Sports
- Youth Council**

The Parish Council recommended that although **all** would continue to be addressed through existing arrangements or Councillor responsibilities, those highlighted in bold would have initial priority and would require additional support. From the discussion that followed it was clear that the Village Hall and Sports initiatives should be given priority, but that this could be linked to the Youth Council to form a single group. Thus the agreed priorities are:

- Transport and Access**
- Public Information**
- Village Hall, Sports and Youth**

The intention is now to form action groups to take forward a series of initiatives within these subject areas. For example, there is a strong need for youth facilities within the Village and the input of parents and teenagers will be immensely valuable in such actions. Equally, there is a significant interest in developing the Village Hall facilities and in providing tennis and other sporting activities. There are many exciting ideas and potentially the financial opportunity to bring these to fruition. What is essential is the willingness of residents to bring their expertise, skills and enthusiasm to enable us to achieve these goals. We already lead most of Cambridgeshire in the reality and quality of a Village Plan. We have a tremendous opportunity to improve the quality of life in our Village, but we do need your help for as little or as much time as you are able to give. If you were unable to register your interest at the meeting, but are able to help on one, or indeed more, of these groups do let us know. Please pass your name and area of interest to one of the following:

**Lin Pressland** tel: 810783

**David Hollin** e-mail: gpctalk@aol.com

**Madelaine Liddiard** tel: 810162 e-mail: mliddiard@hotmail.co.uk

**PLEASE DO HELP**

Grafham Parish Council