

# Grafham Gossip

## Note of Thanks

I should like to express through the *Grafham Gossip* my gratitude for all the kind words & tributes paid to my family by friends and folks of our Village.

I am sure Jean would have been overwhelmed to know how much her commitment to our village had influenced so many folks, as she quietly went about her duties as a Parish Councillor.

Jean is now at peace, her ashes now interred in the Garden of Remembrance in All Saints Church Grafham.

As a family we take comfort from the affection and respect shown of those who knew our Jean, Mum, Nanna, Neighbour and Friend. We thank you all.

Keith Gowen

## 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).

We would be grateful for lots of donations!

Cake stall contributions to 3 Van Diemens Way.

Please deliver on Saturday 3rd or Sunday 4th.

Donations for raffle and bric a brac to be left in the church or 3 Van Diemens Way. Items for tombola to be delivered to Val (812390) 10 Church Road.

All donations gratefully received - In aid of Church Restoration

Issue 15 Deadline: September 16th

## Editors' note...

We are continually receiving more and more entries from villagers, which is great. We are now beginning to get little bits of real gossip too, such as the 'Twoharts' story this month. If you have any news, let us and the village know!

The village website is also being gradually updated. Keep looking at the developments and don't forget that you can view current and past issues of the *Grafham Gossip* in colour. If you have anything that you want to add to the website or if you have any suggestions for it, please do let us know.

We hope that you have enjoyed the summer (!) and good luck if you are going back to school!



The Editors

[gossip@grafhamplan.org.uk](mailto:gossip@grafhamplan.org.uk)

## Grafham All Saints Church

**1st Sunday (September 4th):** No 11.00 service. Church Fete/Flower Festival. 18.00 Songs of Praise



**2nd Sunday (September 11th):** 11.00 Eucharist.

**3rd Sunday (September 18th):** 8.00 Eucharist (BCP). 11.00 Morning Worship.

**4th Sunday (September 25th):** 11.00 Eucharist

**Advance Notice:** The **Harvest Festival** will be celebrated at 11.00 on **October 16th**.

Contacting the clergy:

**Canon Jonathan Young** (01480) 891695

**Dr John Hare** (01480) 453172

# Safari Supper

**Saturday September 17th**

A chance to meet and eat with fellow residents. To take part please leave your name with Pat Watson (811166) or Philippa Patel (811656) by Wednesday September 7th.



## Grafham Football Club returns to the village

After a gap of 2 years our village football club returns to the playing field for its first home match on Sunday morning September 11th. We hope to play some pre-season friendly training games before then and anyone interested in joining the club should contact Sarah/Craig on 01767 677029.



## PARISH NEWS...

- Mr Chris Shurlock was elected to the vacancy of Parish Councillor
- Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th September at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.
- Soon, meeting agendas and full minutes should be available on the website. *Grafham Gossip* will continue to include summaries.



## Live Theatre in the Village Hall

The 'Opera on the Run Company' will be performing *The Perfect Picnic* on Wednesday 9th November 2005 at 7:30pm – light, amusing and entertaining opera for newcomers and buffs alike.



'Circus Berzercus' will be bringing us a pantomime called *Funny Business* on Friday 10th February 2006 – entertainment for all the family starting at 6:30pm.

More details next month.

## 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** (day-time) or **811654** (evening).

## Twins to celebrate double twins joy

After getting married at Grafham Church 6 years ago, Richard and Faye Hart named their renovated side of Model Farm Cottage on Buckden Road, 'Twoharts' -- yet could not have imagined their unintentional prophecy. This house name was used by Richard's grandparents, Barry and Dorothy Hart when they retired from Hill Farm to a bungalow at Perry in 1978. The name was appropriate at the time for the couple, and too for Richard and Faye as newly-weds.



They are now delighted to announce the safe arrival of twins, another 'Twoharts', Emily Louise (6lb 3oz) and Jason Luke (5lb 5oz) on 7th July. In doing so, they would like to thank Grafham villagers for the many good wishes, cards and presents, and the prayers for Jason who, after a tricky start, is now back on track. Amazingly, Faye's family are about to get a whole lot bigger -- a rare medical occurrence in that Faye's identical twin sister Andrea is due to have twins in October. Here's to double blessings all round!

**Richard Hart**

## CHILD'S BIKE FOUND!

Did you, or anyone you know, leave a small child's bike in the Car Park at the bottom of Church Road on Sunday 17th July? If so, please ring 01480 812356 where it is being cared for.



**Grafham Social Committee invites you to MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS for retired residents from 10.30 am on Wednesday September 14th with Philippa Patel 3 Field Close**



## Babysitters

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

**Alison Young**  
age: 16  
Tel: **811577**

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



# Grafham Gen

## The King's Visit to Grafham and Brampton Wood



The Lovat Scouts, a Highland regiment, were billeted at Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire for training in August 1914. Two months later, King

George V paid a visit to Huntingdon along with Lord Lovat to inspect these troops at Portholme. At about 12.00 on the day His Majesty left Huntingdon on the road past Hinchingsbrooke to witness field training at Grafham and Brampton Wood. The 'enemy' were advancing on Huntingdon and some had disembarked at Buckden Railway Station. Brampton village was full of people, but spectators were not allowed near to the King. The King was said to be impressed by the day's events.

Sam Malt

## The Wyvern - Our Railway

So Grafham used to have a Railway Station back in 1866, I hear you cry!

In those days there were four trains in each direction to Kettering in the west and Cambridge via Huntingdon in the east. In March 1866 goods trains were introduced

and one local coal merchant, Messer Clark & Co., Coal Merchants of Huntingdon, took full advantage by advertising in the St Neots Chronicle Newspaper that the company had commenced to sell coal in Grafham Railway Station Yard at the lowest possible prices for cash! Best Derby Hards, Ditto Softs, Silkstones, Stavely, and other house coals were on offer.

The station on the south side of the single-track railway line had one siding with cattle pens and a passing loop just to the east of the actual platform, which to start with was very short. In the 1930s the platform was extended to the east, although photographs show a definite drop in the level of the platform. A level crossing allowed vehicles using Breach Road to cross the railway with a signal box adjacent to the road, which controlled both forms of traffic.

In 1906 there were six trains in each direction on weekdays with no passenger trains on Sundays. By changing trains at Kettering you could get from Liverpool to Grafham in just over six hours!

However, by the time the railway closed to passenger trains in September 1959 the train service was back to four trains on weekdays.

Sadly another form of public transport leaves our village; where did I leave my car keys?

Keith Gowen

**Tip of the month:** When you change the seed in your pet budgies' food dish, throw the old seed out for the wild birds. Chances are your birds didn't eat every last seed, and the wild birds will be glad to eat what the picky indoor birds leave behind.

### S.M. Motors

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### OUSE VALLEY DIAL-A-RIDE

We operate a door-to-door service with pre-booked seats in wheelchair accessible minibuses for the community and pre-arranged trips to places of interest. For information please phone **Noel** or **Gillian** on 01480 **411114** or call volunteer **Ann** who lives in Grafham on 01480 **810223**.

### ANDORA Cleaning Service

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## TRAFFIC CALMING - BRIEF UPDATE ON RESIDENTS MEETING

The objective of the meeting, held in the Village Hall on 23 August was to gain the residents' views of the level of success of the new traffic calming measures and to assess the scale and impact of the resulting noise issue on some residents. 45 residents attended to present their views to the Parish Council (PC). After a brief resume of the background and current position by the Chairman of the PC, residents were invited to make comment.

There was little disagreement that in general, the traffic calming had reduced both the average speed, and the percentage of vehicles that exceed the speed limit through the Village. There were however some concerns that the speeds had not been reduced inside the immediate boundaries along Breach and Buckden Roads. Overall, limited technical monitoring has shown that the average speed has reduced from 37mph to 27mph and that those drivers staying within the 30mph limit has dramatically increased to over 80%.

These improvements have however been gained at significant cost to some residents close to the 'thumps'. This is the issue of noise created by vehicles crossing the thumps, in particular but not exclusively, heavy vehicles and trailers. It was to how the PC might seek to relieve this problem that the majority of the meeting was directed. There were naturally many concerns, opinions and proposals expressed, some of which were not feasible or highly unlikely to be accepted by District or County Council. Most were constructive and will form the basis for our representation and hopefully a way forward. A petition from residents was handed to the PC.

This will be used to seek authority from the County and District Councils' 'Area Joint Committee' for a formal re-evaluation of the scheme. The AJC meets next in the second week of September and your PC is hoping to present the case at that time.

The PC will of course keep residents informed via the *Grafham Gossip* and PC minutes etc.

**David Hollin**



**District Councillors Shirley Menczer and Peter Downes are available in the Village Hall Car Park between 11.15 and 11.45 on the first Saturday of each month.**



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