

Grafham Gossip

Issue 22 Deadline: April 21st

Editors' note...

It is now possible to subscribe to the *Grafham Gossip* electronically--ideal for those of you who work away during the week! If you are interested, visit www.grafhamvillage.org.uk and click on the link 'subscribe'.



We are very grateful to all the numerous villagers who help to contribute, regularly or sporadically, to the *Grafham Gossip*. Of course, without these contributors, the newsletter would not be nearly as long, as informative or as useful. Though we can sometimes accommodate late contributions, we do not promise to print those received after the deadline.

The Editors gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Buy a Beautiful Bag Day!

Tina Theodorou is hosting a 'Buy a Beautiful Bag Day' on Sunday April 2nd between 3 and 7 pm, 'Kalostone' 5 Home Close.

She has a selection of beautiful beaded bags imported from China at very reasonable prices.

Join Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group

on the first and second Sunday of the month to carry out woodland conservation. For more details, contact **Sam Malt** on **810844** (daytime) or **811654** (evening).



District Councillors **Shirley Menczer** and **Peter Downes** are available at the Village Hall between 11.15 and 11.45 on the first Saturday of each month. At other times they can be contacted: Shirley.Menczer@huntsdc.gov.uk tel.436769

Peter.Downes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk tel.398082

Grafham All Saints Church

1st Sunday (April 2nd): 11.00 Eucharist 18.00 Evensong at Buckworth.

2nd Sunday (April 9th): 11.00 Palm Sunday Family Service 18.00 Evensong at Ellington

3rd Sunday (April 16th): 11.00 Easter Eucharist

4th Sunday (April 23rd): 10.30 Group Eucharist at Spaldwick

5th Sunday (April 30th): 11.00 Group Eucharist at Barham

On **Sundays** in Lent there is an opportunity to worship with other churches in the 'Leightonstone' area at 18.00.

April 2nd Buckworth **April 9th** Ellington

On **Fridays** in Lent there will be a lunchtime Eucharist at 12 noon followed by a frugal lunch:

April 7th Buckworth

Welcome and Farewell

On Sunday April 2nd we shall welcome our new curate, the Reverend Martin Kettle. At 18.00 the Archdeacon of Huntingdon will license him at the Evening Service at Buckworth.

On Sunday April 23rd at 10.30 there will be a farewell service for Dr John Hare after nearly four years as our curate. The service will be at Spaldwick.

Contacting the Clergy:

Canon Jonathan Young (01480) 891695

Dr John Hare (01480) 453172



Did you know or see this man?

The Pasque Harmony Ladies Choir
present

THE COLOURS OF MY LIFE

A concert in celebration of the life of the late
Ron Andrews

Don't miss out on a truly happy and memorable evening with wonderful music for everyone.

Come to **Grafham All Saints Church** on **May 13th at 7.30pm.**

Tickets: £6. Phone 812153.

All proceeds to be split between MacMillan Cancer Research and Grafham Restoration Fund. Concert will last approximately 2 hours.

DO YOU WISH YOU WERE RELAXED, FIT AND HEALTHY?

GRAFHAM HEALING CENTRE

Alison Tyler - Registered Nurse, Rieki Master,
Complementary Therapist

Back, Neck and Shoulder Massage *Rieki Healing*

Indian Head Massage *Reflexology*

Counselling Skills

FREE Initial Consultation

20% OFF THE FIRST TREATMENT

Tel: 01480 811244 - Mobile 07896 371 222

GIFT VOUCHERS



ANGELS

Frances Knight

Delicious home cooking for every occasion- parties, buffets, dinner parties, christenings, weddings and funerals

Phone: 01480 810457

Mobile: 07759438178

E-mail: Frances1.Knight@virgin.net

The Ironing Shop



Do you enjoy ironing and live in Grafham?

2 Day Service

01480 811441

Free Collection & Delivery

No Fuss - Leave it to us
Reduced Rates for Senior Citizens

The ironing shop is looking for an ironer from a non-smoking household call 01480 811441

Babysitters



Alison Young -

Age: 16. Tel: 811577

Jessica Homewood -

successful in babysitting course.

Age: 14. Tel: 810867

Kirsty Elliot - successful in babysitting course. Age: 14. Tel: 810550

Danielle Meyer - speaks French and able to help with homework.

Age: 16. Tel: 811279

Olivia Sinfield - Grade B GCSE Child Development. Age: 16. Tel: 811831

Felicity Jenkinson - Grade B GCSE Child Development. Age: 17. Tel: 812328

Bem Estar

Feeling tense, stressed, over-worked, aching muscles?

In need of relaxation, pampering, revitalising?

Why not try the many benefits gained from the following:

Aromatherapy

Indian Head massage

Reflexology

Swedish body massage

Holistic facial & pressure point massage

Thermal auricular therapy (hopi ear candles)

Pamper parties (i.e. Hen Parties/Birthdays) available for small groups in your own home by a team of therapists.

Call Maggie, Bem Estar Holistic Therapies

Tel: 01480 812668

Mobile: 07952994320

(RGN, IHHHT, MIGHT, FHT)

Client Confidentiality Assured

Ellington and Grafham W.I.

Join the growing team!

We meet on the first Tuesday in the month for interesting talks, lively discussions, social evenings and outings in amicable company.

For more details ring:

Sue Rice 896139 or Ann Davies 891372



A Deep Down DRY Clean



Immediate use as soon as cleaned!

Substantial benefit to Asthma sufferers!

No colour run and

No shrinkage!

Recommended and

Approved world-wide!

Upholstery & Rugs Also Cleaned

For a Free Quotation Phone:

01480 890648 or 07734 698705

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A person or persons using a red saloon car and pretending to sell "duvets" are working in the area and are known to use force to gain entry on occasions. One is aged 30 – 35 years old and has greying hair. They have been active in Wisbech, Yaxley and the Brampton area and any information that can be supplied will be treated in confidence. Contact the Police immediately if you are offered goods.



The good news is that the police have halted the Tarmac scam that has been happening in neighbouring villages and arrests have been made on those responsible. Most problems seem to have happened in Eaton Socon.

We have been asked to be aware of opportunist thefts from parked cars and particularly not to leave items of value in unattended vehicles.

Cambs Police are launching an initiative to crack down on crime and urging members of the public to help by passing information on about suspicious, unusual activity in their immediate area. This will be done with specially designed postcards being distributed and giving a phone number to call where you make an observation.

Burglaries have been reported from properties in Great Gidding and Sawtry.

Thank you to those of you that have requested Neighbourhood Watch stickers for your windows – last month was the first time that interest was shown. If you do not have a sticker and need one please contact me via e-mail: jamie2701@aol.com

James Snell

PARISH NEWS...

During February, further progress was made to plant a horse-chestnut tree in the grounds outside the Village Hall in memory of Jean Gowen who was for many years a member and Chair of the Parish Council. Thanks to all who contributed to the collection for this memorial. Funds in excess of the cost of the tree and its railing will be donated to the Marie Curie Cancer Care fund, of which Jean was particularly fond.



The council is now back to full strength and all new contact details will be posted on the Village Noticeboard. There was a turn-out at the poll of approximately 30% and the Council are pleased to feel that they have the support of a good percentage of the villagers.

The Mobile Skate Park came to Grafham on Friday March 10th and a very wet evening it was. However, undeterred, the skaters turned up and made good use of the facility. Let's hope that the weather improves for next time.

Councillor Sam Malt and his volunteers in the Grafham Wildlife and Conservation group work very hard on conservation in the woodlands and countryside around Grafham. Their hard work has been recognised by the BTCV as a Community Group of the Year and they are awarded a Green Heroes award which will be presented at Buckingham Palace by HRH Prince Philip.

Sam is always looking for new volunteers, so if you want to join the group, give Sam a call on 811654.

The council are keen to be seen as open and accessible to all villagers. There is an open forum before the start of each ordinary council meeting. This is approximately 15 minutes during which you can come and have your say about issues which are affecting you. Please watch the notice board, read the *Grafham Gossip* and check out the website for details of all upcoming meetings.

Next meeting is April 11th at 7.30pm - Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Mobile Library (route H103) visits **Breach Road, Grafham from 11.35 to 11.55 on alternate Wednesdays.**
Visits are on: 5th April; 19April.

For renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225**

<http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/index.html>

Website: www.grafhamvillage.org.uk **E-mail:** gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

FOR SALE!

One girls bike -18" wheel £15
 One push a-long tricycle £5
 One girl's scooter £10
 Free to a good home -
 one fish tank
 12"x12"x24"



Call Carole - 810043

JEAN GOWEN

The money collected from the residents of Grafham has been used to purchase a horse chestnut tree, surrounded by a wrought iron tree guard and a plaque in Jean's memory. It has been planted at the entrance to the Village Hall car park and we hope everyone will enjoy watching it grow over the years ahead.

Holiday Property to Let

Two bedroomed traditional stone built village house with a garden. Set within the walls of the beautiful spa village of Alet les Bains in the foothills of the French Pyrenees. The village boasts an open air pool, tennis court and plenty of other activities. Just 30 minutes to Carcassonne and less than an hour to great skiing or to the beaches of the Mediterranean. Great for walking and watersports, near to freshwater lakes.



Available all year. Prices range from £200 to £400 a week (however the property is owned by Grafham residents so a 10% discount is offered to fellow villagers and friends).

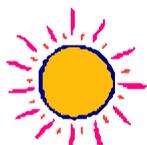
Plenty of cheap flights available, nearest airport - Carcassonne just 30 mins away ! We are happy to help with any arrangements.

For more info (photos etc) contact Paul or Nikki Spicer of Cedar Close on 01480 812497 or by e-mail at paulspicer2@aol.com

Grafham Social Committee invites you to a COFFEE MORNING for retired residents at 10.30 am on Wednesday: April 12th with Pat Watson 10 Field Close



Grafham Annual Summer Fun Day
 Will take place this year on:
Sunday September 10th
 12pm to 4 pm



All the usual fun activities plus lots, lots more this year!

Put the date in your diary now. . .more will be revealed later!



GRAFHAM CRICKET CLUB

We are holding pre-season cricket nets at St Ivo Leisure Centre starting on April 2nd 2006.

We are looking for new players to come and join us. ALL are welcome: those that would like to see if Freddie Flintoff made it look too easy, to those who feel they retired too early. **Now is your chance!**

There will be a small contribution towards the cost of the hire of the nets.

If you are interested you can find out more from me:



CHRIS DIGHTON
 (Club Chairman)
 01480 811862

Grafham Bookworms



Host: Christine Batter
 Date: Thursday April 25th
 Time: 8pm
 Venue: Hill Farm Cottage, Church Road Grafham
 RSVP: 01480 812356
 Current Book : After You'd Gone - Maggie O'Farrell
 Next read: The Return of the Native -Thomas Hardy
 (ISBN 0140435182)

The GB's look forward to welcoming existing members plus NEW Grafham "bookworms"!

You might qualify for a Concessionary Bus Fare!

A copy of the leaflet is available to read on the website (www.grafhamvillage.org.uk) or if you require a hard copy send your postal address to:

Stephanie Wade
 Customer Relations Officer
 Passenger Transport Communications Team
 Cambridgeshire County Council

You can get a bus pass from Huntingdonshire District Council, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon: 01480 388167

Letters to the Editors

The Phantom Camel Flipper of Brampton Lane

In reply to Steve Booth's letter in the March issue of the *Grafham Gossip*, I feel that I need to just put some of the issues mentioned straight.

Firstly, I agree with Steve that litter dropping is on the increase, in fact the number of black plastic bags dumped along the lane have also increased; I travel along it daily on the way to work, but to the matter at hand, I would like to point out that even though Camel cigarettes are a 'foreign' brand they are easily obtainable in any supermarket or newsagents in the area.

I therefore think that trying to infer that it could be "One of our American guests from a local base" is an assumption, which could easily cause offence to the American citizens that live in our village. It is not only people from the village and local US bases that use the lane, it could, may I suggest be anyone from one of the surrounding villages.



Yours,
Jane Melton

Heating Oil

Ref. the small note in the March's newsletter, we would be very interested in buying heating oil in a group. We are in 3 Alsyke Close.

Heather Brown - hbrown5470@aol.com

E-mail your letters to gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW SATURDAY JULY 8th 2006

Coach departs Tempsford Hall 9am prompt and will leave Hampton Court at 4.30pm
Price for coach & flower show entry ticket is £28.00 per head



Contact Tina Theodorou 01767 640111 Ext. 3729 or email: tina.theodorou@kier.co.uk



DAY TRIP TO CITE EUROPE CALAIS FRANCE Saturday October 14th 2006

Coach leaves Tempsford at 8am and leaves at approx 8pm
£20 per Adult member and immediate family
Add £2 for non KSSC members.

Contact Tina Theodorou 01767 640111 Ext. 3729 or email: tina.theodorou@kier.co.uk

Please note there is a minimum requirement for this trip to run. Should the minimum not be met the trip will be cancelled and all monies refunded.



Other upcoming trips:

Kew Gardens and the Palace June 3

BBC Good Food Show, NEC Birmingham November 25.

MK Theatre trips:

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers May 18

My Fair Lady June 22

Rick Mayall New Statesman July 26

Strangers on a Train August 1

Slavas Snow September 28

London Theatre trips (please note no transport available):

Sinatra at the London Palladium Theatre October 7

The Classic Story of Dirty Dancing on stage at the Aldwych Theatre November 17

KSSC in conjunction with Collette Worldwide Holidays:

Mozart's Musical Cities Salzburg, Vienna & Prague 10 days trip Depart September 14

Beijing & Xian (Visiting the Great Wall, Peking Opera, Wild Goose Pagoda, Terra Cotta Warriors & Rickshaw Tour 8 days) Depart March 10 2007

All KSSC profits are split between the Keech's Cottage Hospice for terminally ill children and the MS Society. If you would like flyers or a brochure on the overseas trips please contact the KSSC contact Tina for more information preferably on 01767 640111 Ext. 3729 or 07711 01295.