

Grafham Gossip

Issue 29 Deadline: Midnight Thursday November 16th

Editors' note... Once again things are happening in Grafham this month! There are some special church services - see dates and times below, Grafham Fireworks Night - see last page, as well as the usual conservation group meetings, coffee morning and so on. We have an advance warning of the Five Parish Advent Fair which is to be held in Grafham Village Hall this year on December 4th.



Thanks for all your news - keep sending us those emails! **Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk**

Grafham All Saints Church

5th Sunday(Oct 29th): 11.00 Group Eucharist, Barham

16.00 Service for Remembering Our Loved Ones

1st Sunday(Nov 5th): 11:00 Family Service. Patronal celebration of All Saints Day.

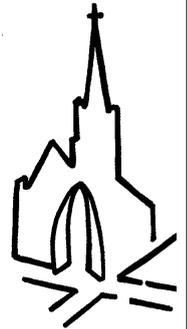
2nd Sunday(Nov 12th): 10:55 start.* Service of Remembrance with Eucharist. * Please note that this service will begin 5 minutes early - to incorporate the 2 minutes silence. All Serving or Ex - Forces personnel very welcome. We will remember those killed from Grafham village.

Also on Nov 12th: 18.00 Service of Remembrance at Ellington.

3rd Sunday(Nov 19th): 11:00 Sunday Worship.

4th Sunday(Nov 26th): 11:00 Eucharist.

1st Sunday(Dec 3rd): 11:00 Family Service. Advent begins - see below. 😊



Contacting the Clergy:

Canon Jonathan Young **891695**

Rev. Martin Kettle **890284** or

mob. **07876 755587**

Churchwardens: Jill Dighton **811862**

Jill Tyack **810157**

The first Sunday of Advent is when we will be sending the Pasada Travelling Nativity on its journey again! **CALLING ALL CHILDREN!** Come along and hear all about what Pasada is - it's a lovely story and chance for you to get involved in its journey! Don't miss out! 😊

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Harvest Festival celebration this year. At the service we heard about the Biblical origins of Harvest Thanksgiving and this was followed by lunch. Thanks to Diana for co-ordinating the lunch, and to everyone who donated food and gave of their time and efforts. It was a very enjoyable occasion and it was good to see new faces joining us. The lunch and sale of produce raised in excess of £187.

FIVE-PARISH ADVENT FAIR (New Venue this year)

Grafham Village Hall from 1.00pm - 4.00pm on Saturday December 2nd

Stalls, games, refreshments and raffle

If you'd like to help call 01480 455080 and start looking out for bric a brac, toys, gifts, presents, craft items, raffle prizes, bottles etc., also chutneys, jams, and donations for our wonderful cake stall. It is useful to have contributions in advance so they can be priced efficiently. Do you have any ideas for games and entertainment?

Please call 01480 455080 for more information.

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.**01480 436769** **Peter.Downes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk** tel.**01480 398082**

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

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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).

**The Ironing
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Babysitters



Alison Young -

Age: **16.** Tel: **811577**

Jessica Homewood -

successful in babysitting course.

Age: **15.** 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**

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Sue Rice **896139** or Ann Davies **891372**

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Advert size depends on available space

Letters to the Editors

Have you any questions about Grafham? In many national newspapers questions are posed that concern or puzzle people. So why not ask through the Grafham Gossip? For example, the following questions have been sent in by Grafham residents:

On the first Wednesday of every month, a siren sounds at 08:00 am. It appears to come from across Grafham Water. What is its purpose and where does it come from?

How many Public Houses were there in Graham? What were they called, and where did they stand?

E-mail your letters, ask more questions or send your answers to gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2006 Just a reminder - please

hand in completed shoeboxes, donations for boxes or monetary donations to:
2 Meadowground, Grafham Tel: 01480 811577 by Sunday 19th November.
 Last year, we were able to donate 32 completed shoeboxes (which were distributed to underprivileged children in Romania and Russia.) Hopefully this year, my car will be overflowing with more boxes to take to the local drop off point at Huntingdon Methodist Church. Many thanks for your support. **Moira Young**



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I am pleased to be able to report that there have been no incidents in our area for the last month from the Neighbourhood Watch section of Cambs Police. Countryside Watch has asked me draw your attention to a white van driven by two young Irish males in their mid twenties who are attempting to sell farm machinery, tools and equipment at knock-down prices – obviously all items are stolen property. Three approaches have been made to premises in Grafham. The police are anxious to obtain the registration number.

Be aware of a scam involving letters from Spain informing individuals that they have won a prize in a Spanish International Lottery, you are invited to pay into a bank account the tax due. The office of Fair Trading's advice is to send the letter to: Loterias y Apuestas del Estado, Legal Advice Section, C/Guzman el Buerno no 137, 28003 Madrid, Spain. Fax no. 00 34 91 533 51 36. The police have for some time had a scheme known as "Immobilise" in operation and have been mobile phone coding and cycle postcoding. They have now added the facility to include laptops, ipods, sat navs and in-car music systems.

You can log onto www.imobilise.com for more information. To find your unique code on the mobile phone enter *#06# and your number will appear, then register.

I have also been asked to draw your attention to the BOBBY SCHEME which is community funded scheme to assist anyone of the age of 60 with the following free services: new locks, bolts, door chains and peep holes. The number to call for further advice and help is 07866 602 100.

Finally, an apology: I referred to Westwood Lodge as a Caravan Park and most people know that the premises have lodges. Sorry.

Any enquiries, e-mail jamie2701@aol.com or telephone James Snell on 07951 069565



The Mobile Library (route H103) visits **Breach Road, Grafham from 11.35 to 11.55 on alternate Wednesdays.**
 Visits are on: November 1st, 15th and 29th.

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

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

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

PARISH NEWS... The vacancy on the Parish Council is to be filled by election, as requested by ten village residents. However, there are still no candidates. If one candidate does come forward, that person will be elected unopposed. However, if more than one person is nominated, there will be a poll of the electors. This process has to be paid for by the parish. Please watch the notice board for further information.

The annual litter-pick around the village is set for Sunday 26th November. If you would like to help, please come to the village hall at 2pm.

There has been huge support for the petition concerning the plans for Hinchingsbrooke Hospital which the councillors have brought round to you for signature. When submitting these papers to the House of Commons, the Council will include its own letter expressing strong opposition to any form of closure or reduction in service.

Neighbourhood Watch has reported no incidents over the previous four-week period. Leaflets containing some very important and useful information are being delivered to everyone in the village. The council hopes to be able to invite our local PCSO to a future council meeting in order to discuss safety and security issues for householders, in particular the more elderly residents of the village. Margaret Life



Full minutes on village web site. Date of the next meeting is Tuesday 14 November 2006 at 7.30 pm.

THE FULL MONTY

Six men with nothing to lose dare to bare all! See this smash hit musical based on the film

St Neots Priory Centre
All Seats £10

31 October - 4 November
7.45pm & 3pm Saturday Matinee
Wednesday 1 November - Ladies
Night!

Priory Centre
box office:
01480 388922

Warning: This show explores themes of an adult nature

Grafham Social

Committee invites you to a
Coffee Morning for retired
residents at 10.30am on

Wednesday, November 8th
at Frances Knight's,
18 Church Road



Grafham Cricket Club



RACE NIGHT

The funds raised for the Club on Race Night in September was a generous £681.50p. Once again all the members of the Club would like to thank all those who attended the Race Night, and to those than gave donations.

AMERICA AND CRICKET

I expected to put away my word processor now that the cricket season for this year is over, but the *Editors* have asked if I can continue writing some cricketing features for the *Grafham Gossip* throughout the winter. So here goes: America and cricket, ideas that do not readily go together, but to the late Victorians or early Edwardians this idea would not have seemed so strange. America in fact played the first International cricket match against Canada in 1844; thirty years or so before the first England and Australia game.

Cricket in America centred on and around the city of Philadelphia which had club sides who had a standard of player, cricket grounds and pavilions not far short of the English county game. The "Gentlemen of Philadelphia" as the touring side named themselves, undertook five tours of England, three of which were major tours playing English county teams in 1897, 1903 and 1908 and in some instances beating them. Also touring sides would play the "Gentlemen of Philadelphia" in America including the Australian teams on their way home after a series in England. Remember this is the era when inter-continental travel was by ship and train, not jet travel as it is today and touring teams could be away for months from home.

On one occasion in 1893 the Philadelphians beat an Australian team by an innings and 68 runs, which resulted in great excitement throughout the cricketing world, something akin to Peterborough United beating Brazil at London Road. Nevertheless, in the return match the Australians won by 6 wickets.

After the 1908 of England the "Gentlemen of Philadelphia" appeared not to have toured England again, and other sports to quote the New York Herald of 1897 " are more suited to the American temperament, which prefer the individual and personal clash involved in tennis or golf... Cricket is too slow for the average American."

I wonder what that New York Herald reporter would have made of 20/20 cricket; Limited Overs cricket or even the 2005 Ashes series.

Chris Dighton Club Chairman 01480 811862 Adam Dighton Junior Cricket Coach 01480 811862

Grafham Gen

A Brief History of the Grafham Rifle Range

The Grafham Rifle Range started with correspondence between the War Department and the Duke of Manchester's Estate Office at Kimbolton in Huntingdonshire in 1904. The range was then to be used by the Hunts Militia, Northampton Depot and the local yeomanry, with firing halted for harvesting. On firing days, red danger flags were raised at the range entrance on Breach Road, the gamekeeper's cottage on Brampton Road and at Redwood Farm. Brampton Wood formed the back safety zone behind the butts to the East.



The 900 yard range saw service in two world wars and in the sixties and seventies when the Territorial Army (TA) used it regularly with an open day for the public. Firing days were Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. In the sixties a 25 yard pistol range was added to the rear of the butts. The Falklands War brought the Grafham Range back to life for a short period as bus loads of military personnel arrived for firing practice.

In 1990, the range was reviewed by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and the lease terminated in 1992.

The Grafham Rifle Range formed an important part in Grafham's history for nearly 100 years - only a few now remember.

Sam Malt

Did you know in Grafham? Compiled by Keith Gowen

A **milkman** delivers milk 4 times a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday - Blunham Dairy **01234 376006**

The **Royal Mail** collects post on a Sunday at 11:00am from the post box in Breach Road.

Two separate **paper boys** deliver newspapers to your door - seven days a week - Perry Stores **01480 811743**.

A daily **bus service** comes to our village, Route 401 being operated by, Huntingdon & District Bus Company. On Wednesdays there is a service to certain places throughout the month as follows:

First	Wednesday	Route 404	Bedford
Second	Wednesday	Route 405	Peterborough
Third	Wednesday	Route 406	Kettering
Fifth	Wednesday	Route 407	Peterborough

Full details call Travel office: **01480 453159**

A **Dial-a-Ride Mini Bus Service** fully accessible door-to-door transport operated by Nene & Ouse for people in rural locations. A membership fee gives you access to: Doctors Surgeries, Weekly shopping trips, Holidays, Half & Full Day outings. Call The Volunteer Centre for details **01832 733336**

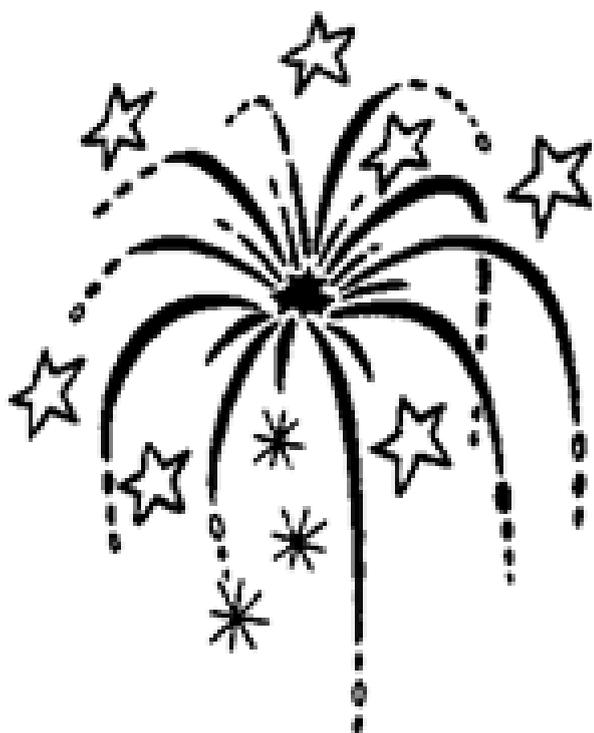
Our **village church, All Saints**, costs £500 a month to run and this money is raised from the congregation and donations. Contrary to what many may think no money comes from a "Church of England central board" or the Bishop. You can help by sending a donation to either the Churchwardens or the Treasurer. Contact them on 811862 or 811518. **There must be more "Did you know?" for residents of Grafham, so please tell us!**

Buckden Surgery Patients Association (BSPA) Appointments can be made to get Flu jabs on the following dates: **Tuesday 7th, Thursday 9th, Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th November** Please **contact the Surgery Reception to make a booking**. Some patients may find it easier and more efficient to book online, but before you do so, **please register with Reception in order to receive an individual pin number**. We want to expand the medical library in the Waiting Room, to include CDs and DVDs. **If there are any medical or surgical topics that you would find helpful in this format, please leave your requests at reception or contact Sue Paul.**

The fight to keep all the services at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital continues. The March through Huntingdon on Saturday 7th October attracted some 1000 people and there are plans to repeat it in November. Meanwhile you can add your support by signing the petition and **writing to the following address to express your opposition to any reduction of services**: Dr Paul Watson - East of England Strategic Health Authority, Victoria House, Capital Park, Fulbourn, Cambridge, CB1 5XB *Precied from an article provided by Sue Paul BSPA.*

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

Grafham Fireworks Night



Saturday
November 4th

Admission: Adults - £3
Children under 16 yrs - £1
(includes **free** sparklers!)

Food served **from 6:30pm**

Soup

Hotdogs

Baked

potatoes

Mulled wine



Free squash for children