Issue 47 June 2008

Grafham Gossip

Issue 48 Deadline: Midnight Thursday 19th June

Editors' note...



There's lots happening in Grafham - as usual. Remember to look on the website for info, photos and notices that we cannot fit into the Grafham Gossip.

Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Save All Saints **Association Grafham**

Tickets on sale now for...

A Swinging Summer Strawberry Serenade 21st June 2008 from 7 pm All Saints Church and Churchyard

In the beautiful surroundings of our medieval church On a blissful warm summer evening Come with your friends and enjoy

- * the sounds of Huntingdon Swing Band
- * Pablo Army jazz and vocal group
- * strawberries
- * a glass of fizz

All for £10 (students £8)

Tickets from: Karen Stewart 810961 Keith Chisolm 810694 and Robin Yeomans 812440

We expect to be in the Churchyard if the weather holds but in the Church itself if not. Please bring your own seats for outside (some chairs will be available.)

COFFEE MORNING

In aid of Save All Saints Association to be held in the Village Hall Friday 27th June 10.00am to 12.30pm



Junior Cricket Night Grafham Cricket Club

will be running a free junior cricket evening for boys and girls from ages 7 to 12 years. It will take place on the village playing field; the coach in charge will be Adam Dighton, who holds an ECBCA level 1 cricket coaching certificate. Also attending will be other members of the club, to assist and talent spot!



Should there be rain in the afternoon, the evening session will be cancelled as the rain makes the grass dangerous to practise on. Come and join us - it's a fun evening.

Grafham All Saints

1st June (1st Sunday) - 11.00 All Age Worship including Baptism 8th June (2nd Sunday) - 11.00

15th June (3rd Sunday) - 8.00am

Eucharist

11.00 - Service of the Word

22nd June (4th Sunday) - 11.00 - Eucharist with Baptism

29th June (5th Sunday) - 11.00 - No service at Grafham, Group Eucharist at Easton Celebration of Patronal Festival

6th July (1st Sunday) - 11.00 All Age Worship Everyone very welcome including visitors and holidaymakers Please don't be shy - come in and join us - we love seeing new faces!

Contacting the Clergy: Fr Jonathan Young (rector), The Rectory, Ellington PE28 0AU Tel. 01480 891695. Fr Martin Kettle (curate), The Vicarage, Alconbury PE28 4DX tel. 01480 890284 or mob. 07876 755587 Churchwardens: Jill Dighton 811862 Jill Tyack 810157

Free Compost Giveaway

Saturday 7th June from 10:00 to 11:00am

At the Village Hall Car Park Grab vourself a free bag of soil improver compost (One bag per household)



Want to help make Cambridgeshire safer?

Cambridgeshire Police Authority (CPA) would like to hear from people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough who want to help make the county safer. The Authority has launched a recruitment campaign to attract applicants for four of its Independent member posts. They want to hear from people who can represent a broad range of local communities and have the ability to challenge accepted views in a constructive way. Successful candidates will make a positive contribution to the Authority's core role: ensuring that Cambridgeshire has an effective and efficient police force. For more information, see the village website and to apply, please visit

www.cambs-pa.gov.uk/vacancies.cfm or call 0845 345 4335. Closing date is 3rd June.

Web site: www.grafhamvillage.org.uk **E-mail:** gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk **June 2008** Issue 47

Letter to the Editors...

Thoughts regarding outline planning application, 0801186OUT, for ten 2 bedroom cottages @ poultry farm.

The demise of the current poultry farm with it's hazards can only be welcomed by all in the village but despite all the negative attributes that are associated with the poultry farm; it is important that in our haste to remove the insult of the poultry farm from our environment, that the impact of this proposed development is carefully considered particularly because of various precedences that might be set.

Running the poultry farm as an eye sore, with it being a source of air, water and noise pollution will mean that we are all more ready to agree to any change of use. However all options should be considered by the village including that of the poultry farm being brought up to standard, so that the supermarkets that the farm is supplying aren't embarrassed by the association.

In summary, change of use will

- 1 set precedences for the development of agricultural land unless these are legislated for.
- 2 introduce more traffic into village and may change the rural aspect of the site.
- 3 impact on domestic amenities.
- 4 put more pressure on the water resources .
- 5 cause vermin relocation unless correctly eradicted.

All these factors need to be closely considered and caveats introduced where appropriate.

The village only has until the end of the month to respond. The application with the design statement etc is accessible from the Huntingdon District council

http://applications.huntsdc.gov.uk/Applications/Public%20Access%20Gateway/

Teresa Hollands

View from the Pew!



History was made in Grafham Church on 4th May, the Sunday after Ascension Day. In Derbyshire, the passing of Ascension Day marks the beginning of the Well Dressing season. With an absence of a village well, there seemed only one option - and that was to have a 'font dressing' instead - a 'first' for Grafham. With Jill T and Hazel on the case, an idea was hatched to involve the congregation in creating some of the flower displays to deck the font. Before the service, Hazel and Jill T had assembled the main display including a framed classical picture of Christ's Ascension. Everyone was

awestruck as they entered the church to see the flowing white ribbons coming down and the already magnificent display that fittingly symbolised the white cloud of the Ascension. Emily read the story of the Ascension and in the talk we heard about how Christ told his disciples that they would be sent out in the power of the spirit to spread the word of God to the ends of the earth. It is from the font that all newly baptised are sent out in that same power of the spirit to walk as Christ's pilgrim people. The congregation put together the final floral offerings around the base of the font and Jonathan blessed the font with a beautiful prayer that encapsulated the many uses of water, including that of baptism. The ceremony was made even more special village website.



A larger photo can be found on the Home page of the

as two of the children who are soon to be baptised were with us in the congregation. If you didn't see the font in all its glory, you missed an amazing sight! But, apparently this was only a practice run! Rumour has it that next year we will be having our very own well-dressing - now we've discovered that the village well was just outside the church gates!

History continued to be made as we had our first 'Birthday Club' in this service. Five members of our congregation had birthdays in May - so our new club got off to a great start! Any member of our congregation who has a birthday during the month will be receiving a card and small gift from All Saints.

History was also made in Grafham on 10th May with the Model Railway Show in the Village Hall. The proceeds from this 'first' for Grafham have been very kindly donated to the Save All Saints fund towards repairs to the crack in the church. At the time of writing, we hear that the exhibition raised £500! Our grateful appreciation goes firstly to Keith who worked so hard to put this show together and also to all those who generously gave of their time to make it such an enjoyable event. Well done and thanks to you all.

Over the next few months several baptisms are planned with one of the youngest members of our regular congregation being baptised on 1st June within the usual Family Service. If you are new to the village or staying locally as part of a holiday we would love to share our worship with you. Please don't be shy about coming through that door - we really enjoy having visitors or newcomers here at Grafham All Saints and we also encourage 'feedback' and ideas about the services we offer. * We also welcome those exploring or questioning their faith.*

'For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened'

Matthew 7 v. 7

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Busy Time Ahead for the Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group

In October 2000 the Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group (GWCG) started to manage one woodland on the outskirts of Grafham. Over the last seven and a half years it has increased to seventeen, three of which are sites of special scientific interest. GWCG has been instrumental in setting up and managing the Grafham Woodland Corridor, the purpose of which is to allow wildlife to travel between woodlands, and also to increase the population of rare wildlife such as dormice. During the last five years GWCG has taken many people into the woods for traditional woodland management skills days, wildlife identification days, survival weekends, plants and flora identification days and guided walks.

Last year the group gained funding to set up a Historical Pictorial Display, showing old photographs of village life, buildings and more, covering Grafham and surrounding villages. This has become very popular and surpassed all expectations. We have also established a special relationship with the villages concerned and raised over £700 in donations for the village churches.

Every summer our founder Sam Malt takes evening guided walks around local woodland and has introduced a vehicular guided safari for disabled people. (Contact Sam for details.) This year with the help of a grant from "Awards for All" we have been able to purchase a tent which will allow us to set up outside displays to promote the GWCG and its activities, the first of which is at Ellington Gala on Saturday 28th June. Why not come along and see the sort of things we get up to. All the above means the we are very busy. All the work we carry out is voluntary with no charges made to landowners. The group runs solely on donations and grants raised by volunteers.

We turn out every Sunday, SO if you would like to know more about GWCG or would like to help on a work party or any of the group activities. Contact Sam on 01480 811654(evenings) or 01480810844 (days) or take a look at our website at www.grafhamconservationgroup.com

Events: Tues 20th May - Brampton RAF, promotion of GWCG. Sun 1st June - Easton Parish Church, Historical Pictorial Display. Sat 28th June - Ellington Gala. Sat 29th / **Sun 30th July -** Great Staughton Parish Church, Historical Pictorial Display. Sun Sept 7th - Grafham Church Historical Pictorial Display. Guided Walks - contact Sam for details.

The Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group works closely with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), Natural England, the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species, Anglia Water, Huntingdonshire District Council Countryside Services, Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG), Community Service, farmers and landowners.

Babysitters Anna Fozzard 15yrs 812021 Felicity Jenkinson - Grade B

GCSE Child Development 17yrs 812328 Kirsty Elliot -babysitting course 15yrs 810550 Kate Kelley -babysitting course 15yrs 812179 Jessica Homewood - babysitting course 16yrs 810867 Danielle Meyer speaks French, help with homework 16yrs 811279 Olivia Sinfield Grade B GCSE Child Development 17yrs 811831 Emma Robson Studying childcare level 3 17yrs 811701

Grafham Social

Committee are pleased to announce that the marquee is available for hire at very com-



petitive rates. For details and/or to book, please call Frances Knight tel. 811727

Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a **Coffee Morning** for retired residents 10.30am on Wednesday, June 11th at Karen Stewart's, 2 Home Close,



GRAFHAM VILLAGE HALL

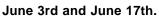
has a Public Entertainments Licence for music, dancing, performing arts and can accommodate 92 guests seated in rows or 150 at a dance/disco -

an ideal venue for children's and family parties. The hall has small changing rooms with shower facilities and a playing field for sports activities.

For more details, hire charges or to book the hall contact Pat or Alan Watson 01480 811166

The Mobile Library (route L108/120)

visits Breach Road, Grafham on alternate Tuesdays from 10.45 to 11.05. Visits are:



Renewals or enquiries call 0845 045 5225 http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/ind ex.html

Grafham Church Flower Club

Are you interested in flower arranging? Would you like to improve? Here's your chance!

Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8pm in the Village Hall we will be learning to make different floral arrangements for display and in the home. If you are interested in helping with flowers in the church for festivals, Christmas etc. please come along. There is a charge of £2.00 per ses-



Grafham Bookworms Social, Film and Debate Club

The next two meetings are 8 pm Tuesday 27 May Sue Kelly 3 Church Road 812179 and then 24 June Karen Stewart 2 Home Close 810961

sion. For details call Hazel 01480 810326



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. For details ring Sue Rice 896139 or Ann Davies 891372

Web site: www.grafhamvillage.org.uk **E-mail:** gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk June 2008 Issue 47

PARISH NEWS... May 2008 The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Tuesday 13th May. At this

meeting, the District and County Councillors, Mrs Patricia Jordan and Mr Peter Downes presented their annual reports. The full reports can be found on the Grafham Village website together with the Chair's review of the year for the Parish Council.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council that followed the APM, Philip Allingham was unanimously re-elected as Chair. Mike Tyler was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chair.

There is still a vacancy on the Parish Council as there were no candidates for the election requested on 1st May. This means that a further election is planned for 12th June 2008.

A tree survey has taken place and the report supplied has suggested that the first two rows of trees on the north side of the proposed site of the all-weather sports facility can be removed. Twenty-six of these trees can be re-sited among other trees on the boundary.

The Parish Council will be requesting a police speed check along the Buckden Road past the Grafham Water car park. This is in response to a request from a resident. In addition, regular police speed checks in the village will be requested when work on the A14 improvements commences and there is potentially an associated increase in traffic flow.

The Parish Council has received a letter from the Energy Saving Trust. The village can request a programme of activities to launch an initiative called "Village Green", which will give, among other things, the opportunity for free energy checks in homes. Cllr Tyler will be investigating the possibilities for Grafham.

Grafham Water Tower has been sold by Anglian Water and it now belongs to a company called Fields and Towers. Their main activity appears to be the siting of telecommunications equipment. However, the Parish Council will write to them to ask what their intentions are concerning the water tower. It may be time for Grafham Action Group to reform!

Cllr Goodwin has arranged a "Compost Giveaway" in conjunction with the District Council and more detail is to be found on the front page of this issue of the Grafham Gossip. Margaret Life, clerk to the PC

An extraordinary meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 20th May 2008 in order to discuss a planning application. (Chicken farm's planning application 0801186OUT for 10 holiday lodges, see 'Letter to the Editors'. contact Huntingdon District Council for details. Ed.)

Full minutes can be found on the village website. The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 10th June at 7.30 You may contact your parish councillors through the clerk or directly using the details below.

Margaret Life clerk to the Parish Council 01480 819477 margaret life_grafham@yahoo.co.uk Philip Allingham chairman 01480 811516 allinghams@bramblecott15.fsnet.co.uk

lan Gardener 01480 812821 ig@ascgeomatics.co.uk Katrina Goodwin 01480 810297 goodwinkatrina@hotmail.com Dan Hart 01480 819086 dchart.hart@btinternet.com

David King01480 812430 davidking@hawkeyesystems.com

Mike Tyler vice chair 01480 811244 mtyler@bedford.gov.uk

Grafham Cricket Club The Cricket Season has started, and Grafham's first game was against newly

The cricket season has started, and promoted Bedford 1 at Grafham. The

weather played its usual game of hide and seek; first showers then sun, would the square be dry enough to play on? It was. Following Grafham's tradition, vice captain, captain for the day Ben Dickson duly lost the toss, and Grafham was put into bat. Nobody was sure how the batting pitch would play, but a confident opening partnership by Ian Dickson and Adam Dighton put on 37 for the first wicket. Although Grafham steadily lost wickets, the innings was built around Adam's confi-



dent innings of 64, which was ended by a difficult catch taken on the square leg boundary. Grafham's innings closed on 134 for 9 after 40 overs.

Grafham's opening bowlers of Adam Dighton and Chris Brown bowled a tight line and length and restricted Bedford 1 to fewer than 50 runs; off 20 overs, Adam finishing 19 for 3 off 10 overs and Chris 23 for 1 off 10 overs. Ben Dickson took over the bowling and continued the good work finishing 14 for 4 off 7 overs. Bedford 1 finished their innings on 84. Grafham won by 50 runs.

The second match also at home against Great Barford, a team relegated from the division above. On a hot and humid afternoon Grafham batted first. A majestic 58 by Colin Grundy, loose bowling by Gt Barford which piled up the extras and contributions from the rest of the team meant that Grafham were all out for 178 off 34 overs. Grafham's opening bowlers Chris Brown and Ben Dickson bowled well, with Chris finishing 21 for 3 off 9 overs, and Ben for the second week running on a hat trick, which like last week he was not able to achieve; finished on 27 for 3 off 7 overs. The Great Barford tail was bowled out by Jack Sene and Chris Dighton, with Jack finishing on 14 for 1 off 5 overs, and Chris Dighton 11 for 2 off 3 overs. Great Barford's innings finished on 77, with Grafham winning by 101 runs. A memorable start to the season.

Next home fixture is against Riseley on 31st May 2008. Please find the time to come and watch us. We do not Chris Dighton Club Chairman 01480 811862 have any home games in June.

Send us your news, views and gossip! Email: gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk Please remember to check with the people in your photos that they are happy for the pictures to be put on the website and printed in the Grafham Gossip.

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

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH May 2008

I am pleased to report that no incidents have been reported in the last month within the village.

Our neighbouring villages have not been quite so lucky: **Brampton** 1st May A black Audi A3 left locked and secured had its windows smashed and items were stolen.

Hinchingbrooke Park A popular place for youths to gather in the evening, but resulting in damage, litter and rowdy behaviour. Broken glass has caused many dog owners to report to the rangers that their dogs have had badly cut paws due to bottles and glass being smashed. Also cars racing around causing a disturbance.

The police are again going out to crackdown on underage drinking through the whole area covered by our scheme. **Huntingdon and Godmanchester** An increase in bike thefts and bin fires throughout.

If you are going on holiday you can register jewellery and other items of value free on www.imobilise.com and improve your chances of getting it returned.

Huntingdon Police have a range of leaflets available to give guidance and you can obtain these from the main Police Station or call 0845 4564564 and ask for NPT Office Huntingdon.

Finally, I have been asked to remind everyone about where you leave your car keys - this should never be by a window or door, which apparently is the most common place.

Phone numbers for reference: All emergencies 999

Police control centre 0845 4564564
Minicom for hard of hearing 01480 422493
Crimestoppers 0800 555111 (anonymous)
Anti social behaviour 01480 388379
To stop unwanted mail 0845 7034599
To stop unwanted phone calls 0845 0700707

James Snell 07951 069 565 email Jamie2701@aol.com

Grafham Fun Day

The Fun Day this year will be on Sunday 7th
September 12 pm til 5pm. If you would like to
help any way please ring Jill 811516 or Katrina 810297

Put the date in your diaries now!

If you are able to donate any raffle prizes - maybe vouchers for local services or anything suitable please contact Julie julie@luxuryholidaysabroad.co.uk or tel 01480 819326

Flower Festival

The theme is

'Proverbs

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th September Interested? Call Jill Tyack 810157 or Hazel Powell 810326 Remember though 'More haste, less speed!'

Also in the church over the weekend Trips up the Tower



... and for one day on **Sunday 7th September** a historical photographic display by Sam Malt and Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group.

More details to follow!

District Councillors **Peter Downes** and **Patricia Jordan** are at the village hall from **11.15 to 11.45 on the first Saturday of the month**. At other times contact:

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

Patricia.Jordan@huntsdc.gov.uk tel 457802

Model Railway Show takes Church Fund over £2000

On Saturday 10th May over 200 people visited a Model Railway Show to raise urgent

funds for Grafham's Parish Church. Not only were there five working layouts on show, but also Val Hunt and her team provided a "buffet car" service. The ladies of our village had been asked to bake cakes and with the extra bonus of cakes from the Ellingtonand Grafham WI, a total of £180 was raised without a railway sandwich in sight! The show had been organised by Keith Gowen, whose own layout was also on show and kindly supported by St Neots Model Railway Club. Those who visited found a friendly, happy atmosphere for many had never been to such a unique event before, particularly in our village. Publicity had been far and wide including Jane Smith mentioning the event on her Radio Cambridgeshire programme early on Saturday morning.

Both Keith and Val would like to sincerely thank all those who helped in many ways and particularly those who attended as a wonderful, grand sum of over £500 was raised and sent to the Save All Saints Association.

A photograph can be found on the village website - 'Gadding about in Grafham'. Ed.

sAs

Save All Saints Association Grafham

Huge thanks and congratulations are due to **Keith Gowen**, ably supported by **Val Hunt** and an impressive team of cake makers, for a very successful **Model Railway Show** held in the Village Hall on 10th May. Over 200 people enjoyed the displays and a very impressive £510 was contributed towards the SAS Association Fund.

Please note elsewhere in this *Grafham Gossip* details of a **Coffee Morning on 27th June.**

New Treasurer

Following the notice in last month's Grafham Gossip, we now have a new treasurer to manage the accounts of the Village Hall Committee.

ELLINGTON GALA - JUNE 28TH

June 2008 Issue 47

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Aromatherapy Massage

Massage is a very practical way to relax, help the body to function better, to de-stress and to improve sleep.

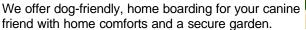
I am trained and qualified in aromatherapy massage and a member of the International Federation of Professional Aromatherapists; I use a short consultation to choose oils to suit the person's needs at the time and combine this with Swedish massage.

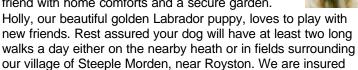
Gift Vouchers now available for any of the treatments

Shoulder, neck, back and arms £12 Whole body £17

Carole Baber (M.I.F.P.A) 01480 810043 or 0776 666 2197

'My Love For Dogs'





and police checked. Call Amanda Bishop 07903 806 750



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TT TOURS & GREYS OF ELY OFFER YOU AN AUTUMN SPECIAL OVERNIGHT BREAK To Calais Citie Europe Shopping complex on the Saturday, overnight in St.Omer AND Beer & wine warehouse & coastal restaurant for Sunday lunch! Coach & Eurotunnel Sat 22nd Nov & Sun 23rd Nov 2008 2 days /1 night £60 per person. To reserve your place please contact: Tina Theodorou TT Tours Tel: 01480 811366 or 07711 012957 (after 6pm please) or email tina.theodorou@tiscali.co.uk Minimum of 30 needed. Please advise by 30 May and please leave a contact number for info about the £30 deposit required.

Grafham Gossip deadline dates for the next two months are midnight Thursday June 19th and July 10th

To advertise e-mail us: gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk Advert size depends available space. Community notices are free, business adverts cost £3.00 per advert, 50p of which goes towards Grafham All Saints Restoration Fund.

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TT TOURS & JAG TRAVEL HAVE COMBINED TO OFFER YOU THE FOLLOWING EXCITING WEEKEND TO THE CHRISTMAS MARKETS IN BRUSSELS 2 nights 3 days

Luxury coach departs Friday 5 December - Returning Sunday evening 7 December 2008
Pick ups TBC: Grafham village hall car park
Tempsford Hall South Mimms Services
Tunnel crossing at 11.55am (times for pick ups to be notified and confirmed with full itinerary prior to departure)

Excellent price at £145 p/p includes return luxury coach and Euro Tunnel crossings 2 nights in 4* Bedford Hotel (Rue du Midi close to city centre - 5 minutes walk from Grand Palace)

Reserve your places now by sending a deposit cheque of £60p/p payable to the organiser Tina Theodorou and send to "Kalostone" 5 Home Close

Grafham Cambs PE28 0UW For more info please get in touch

with me on tel (H) **01480 811366** or (M) **07711 012957** - **after 7pm please** or email

tina.theodorou@tiscali.co.uk

Deadline date for deposits - 30 June

Monies will only be banked if minimum number of 30 people is reached and trip goes ahead.