

Grafham Gossip

Issue 63 Deadline: Midnight Thursday 17th September

Grafham All Saints

30th August (5th Sunday) - 11.00 -
Group Eucharist at Barham celebrating
Barham's Patronal Festival

6th September (1st Sunday) - 16.30 - Flower Festival
'Songs of Praise' (NB - No 11.00 service today)

13th September (2nd Sunday) - 11.00 - Eucharist

20th September (3rd Sunday) - 8.00 - Eucharist
11.00 - Family Worship, 18.30 - ALM

Licensing and Re-licensing at Ely Cathedral. * See
View from the Pew*

27th September (4th Sunday) - 11.00 - Eucharist

4th October (1st Sunday) - 11.00 - Harvest Service
followed by 'Bring & Share Lunch'

Contacting the clergy:

Fr Jonathan Young (rector) The Rectory, Ellington.
PE 28 0AU 01480 891695

Fr Martin Kettle (curate) The Vicarage, Alconbury.
PE28 4DX 01480 890284 or 07876 755587

Churchwarden - Hazel Powell 810326



Editors' note...

Good luck and best wishes to all embarking on new ventures as the start of the Autumn term approaches!

In this issue, find out what the lambs are up to and how the cricket team is doing. Can you help with the Village Emergency Plan or maybe the church cleaning? September activities include the Church Flower Festival, Quiz Banger Evening and Neighbourhood Watch Evening - details on this page. As usual, lots more reading throughout!

Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk



Neighbourhood Watch Evening

Tuesday September
22nd
at 7.30pm

includes a police presentation
with question and answer session



Save All Saints Association Grafham
Presents their

Quiz Banger Evening

A fun evening of Quizzes, Bangers and
Mash and Cabaret

Hosted by your local celebrity

'The Prat in a Hat'

and featuring

'The Cabaret Kelley'

7.30pm Saturday 12th September
Grafham Village Hall

Teams of 6 to 8 people (or we can team you up)

Tickets £7 (£5 for students)

Bangers and Mash

SAS Call 812440, 810961 or 810694 **SAS**

Grafham Church Flower Festival

September 5th and 6th

The theme this year is "Dance." Come
along and see how different kinds of dance
have been depicted using floral displays.

Decided to take part at the last minute? Get
in touch with Hazel 810326 or Jill 810157



District Councillors **Peter Downes** and
Patricia Jordan are available 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



Harvesting wheat in Grafham

photo by Patrick Goldsworthy



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



The Neighbourhood Watch Evening is on Tuesday 22nd September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The police will be in attendance to give a presentation, and this will be followed by a question and answer session – if you want anything specifically discussed please e-mail or call me, and I can arrange for this to go on the agenda. I have met with the police directly to outline the evening and will be doing so again prior to the meeting. I urge you to attend if you have any concerns whatsoever about village crime, or related matters.

The Grafham Water Visitors Centre was broken into at 12.15pm on the last Saturday of July. People in a white van cut the locks of the car park barrier and then proceeded to sledge hammer the doors of the centre looking for cash and items of value. The alarms went off and the warden and police arrived – it would appear that the criminals left empty handed. A considerable amount of damage was caused.

There has been an increase in theft from motor vehicles in the Perry/Grafham Water car parks – if you attend these car parks the police advise to remove all items of value and if you see anyone acting suspiciously to call 0345 456 456 4.

On 8th August a cycle was removed from the roof rack of a vehicle whilst the owner went into the cycle shop by the visitors centre and the following week the car parking machine was tampered with.

The police have reported these car park incidents to alert us that this is happening adjacent to the village, and asking us all to secure vehicles and ensure cycles are locked.

No other matters were reported.

James Snell 07951 069 565

All emergencies 999 email: Jamie2701@aol.com
 Police control centre 0345 456 456 4
 Minicom for hard of hearing 01480 422493
 Crimestoppers 0800 555111 (anonymous)
 Anti-social behaviour 01480 388379
 To stop unwanted mail 0845 703 459 9
 To stop unwanted phone calls 0845 070 070 7

Well if you missed it ...

Then you missed a real treat when Adam Dighton held two talks at our Village Hall in July on the 'The Normandy Landings'. This young man, an undergraduate in Military History, spoke very clearly and objectively about the British Army prior to 1944 and the invasion under Operation Overload. His talk, on each evening, lasted just under one hour and by the questions posed by the appreciative audience, he certainly knows his stuff!! I was personally impressed in the way Adam replied to the questions without resorting to notes plus the way he delivered his talk.

The respective evenings were rounded off by "a cup of tea or coffee" with informal chatting plus fund raising for the Cricket Club and All Saints Church Restoration Fund, which made the whole event very worthwhile.

Well done Adam, and perhaps this might be the first of several evenings in which young people in our village might consider similar events to give back their interests to our society.

Keith Gowen

Buckden Surgery Patients Association (BSPA)

A precis of an article by Sue Paul

The summer holidays have seen a welcome decline in Swine Flu cases, however, it is predicted there could be another surge as we go into Autumn. It is now widely recognized that Tamiflu can have unpleasant side effects so if you do get swine Flu with no other underlying medical conditions, it might be worth considering treating the symptoms as with other flu viruses, namely bed rest, plenty of fluids and paracetamol to reduce the fever. Tamiflu must be taken within the first 48 hours to significantly reduce the course of the illness. The collection centre is in Huntingdon at the Oak Tree Centre.



The Swine Flu vaccine will probably not be available before our usual 'Flu Jab day' on 10th October and there are suggestions that 2 vaccinations a month apart may be required but more information should be available by next month.

On behalf of the BSPA, I should like to offer my sincere thanks to Brenda Steadman for all her help, advice and kindness in the years since we started publishing a monthly letter - it has been such a pleasure! Enjoy a well deserved retirement Brenda.

For complete article see www.bandlp.co.uk Editor

Thank you...

to everyone who came along to either or both of my Normandy Landings talks.

The donations given amounted to over £80, therefore I have been able to share this equally between the Church Restoration Project and Grafham Cricket Club. For those who requested their donations should be sent to the Royal British Legion, this has been done. I have now had some requests to give another talk during the winter - when fewer people are on holiday - so watch this space for details!

Thanks again for your support. *Adam Dighton*



The Normandy Landings

Wanted!

Do you have any unwanted books at home?

Grafham All Saints Church is looking to re-stock the book-stall in the church porch and would be pleased to accept donations of books; preferably those in good condition.

Please leave any books in the church porch.

Many thanks!



A Shepherd's Tale - 11

Having moaned about the lack of grass in the last edition, the recent wet weather and unused nitrogen in the soil has stimulated the grass growth and greened up the paddock at home. Watching the sheep graze you can clearly see their biting action. I can best describe this as "nibble, snip and tug" because of this biting action they prefer the short grass rather than longer apparently lush grass.

I have now weaned all the lambs and tagged them with fetching circular pale blue tags. Legal requirements are that all sheep have to be tagged by the time they are 6 months old, lambs destined for breeding or living beyond 12 months have to have a tag in each ear. Next year, a new Directive courtesy of our Brussels eurocrats, will require sheep to have electronic tags. For what benefit, it is not entirely clear but it has irritated a lot of sheep farmers. I suppose we should be grateful that they have not (yet) stipulated that these tags need to be solar or wind powered! I will also be interested to see how our goat-keeping Southern European colleagues comply with this requirement.

While weaning the lambs, I took the opportunity to weigh and worm them. They seem to have grown well, and the biggest ram lamb weighed in at 42Kg (just over 6½ stone in old money). In fact, this fellow has now made his way to our freezer and we had our first new seasons chops last night. Traditionally ram lambs are castrated as male hormones, although helping them grow quicker, can make the flavour too strong for public taste. However I could taste no difference in this 6month old lamb but I remember a fifteen month old ram having a much stronger taste.

Fetching Blue Tags



Patrick Goldsworthy

The Village Emergency Plan

Update on the Village Emergency Plan

The Grafham Village Emergency Committee had their first meeting and in attendance were:

Michelle-Lee Whitlock (Convenor), Frank Cannon (Huntingdon District Council), Clint Thomas-Morgan (Grafham Parish Council) and James Snell (Neighbourhood Watch).

The overall aim of Grafham Village's Emergency Plan is to be able to - Support the village of Grafham in any emergency situation that threatens the health, safety or welfare of its residents in conjunction with the relevant Emergency Services and Local Authority.

It will achieve this by -

- Identifying and rating any risks that could be faced by the village of Grafham and surrounding areas.
- Writing an emergency plan with full support of the local emergency services and local authority that outlines basic emergency roles and procedures.
- Appointing a Village Emergency Coordinator and Deputy
- Identifying and training a group of volunteers that would be willing and able to help others in any emergency situation that affects the village.
- Identifying any resources the village has that could be useful in an emergency situation.

Why is this necessary?

As a small village with few facilities, we rely on many networks to conduct our day to day living. These networks for example our roads, in an emergency situation could be cut off. This could be many things; a recent example would be snow and ice as seen earlier this year. For some of us this might not matter, for others like those needing regular home care this might pose a

whole host of problems.

This is just one example; others include any prolonged loss of power (as most of us don't have gas as a backup), disruption to the telephone network or water supplies. These can be for any reason, from a storm with high winds to human error.

What's next?

The Grafham Emergency Planning Committee is seeking a villager to take on the role of the Emergency Coordinator (and a deputy):

This resident will provide a vital link between the community and other organisations planning and responding to an emergency.

Their role will be to;

- Help with the the completion of the community emergency plan.
- Provide a link to the District Emergency Planning Officer.
- Call a community meeting during an emergency, if deemed necessary.
- Provide a focal point for the community response to an emergency.

If you would like to volunteer for this position or think you have a skill that would be useful in an emergency situation please contact us on the details below.

Also feel free to contact us if you would like to generally be involved in the writing of the plan or have any questions or queries.

The contact for the group is Michelle-Lee Whitlock who can be contacted on 01480 819448 or e-mail:

Chelli.whitlock@gmail.com

The next meeting is on Thursday 17th September.



View from the Pew!

At the time of writing, the holiday season is in full swing. The Bible tells us that Jesus advocated taking time out to relax; 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest' he told the apostles. Comments left in our visitor's book show that many use the church as a quiet haven. The church building offers a wonderful opportunity to find some moments of peace, as well as shade, from the heat of the day. Why not take some time out - especially at the weekends, to go along to the church, choose a good book from the book stall in the porch and enjoy a few moments of peace? If the book turns out to your liking, you could always make a donation and take it home with you! (By the way, we would very much welcome more books for our stall - please see advert!) We are presently having a flurry of wedding activity at All Saints! We send our love and congratulations to Julia and Chris - married on 8th August; the sun shone and Julia looked gorgeous. The flowers in the church were glorious. We are also in the process of hearing the banns for two more forthcoming marriages. We are now looking forward to the Flower Festival which will take place over the weekend of 5th and 6th September.



The theme of the Festival this year is 'Dances'. Please come along to the church and see how the members of the Flower Club and their friends have interpreted this theme. There will be a short service on Sunday 6th at 4.30pm to conclude the weekend.

On 20th September, two members from our group of parishes will be attending Ely Cathedral for a special service. Jill Dighton of Grafham will be re-licensed as an Authorised Lay Minister Worship Leader - this time for a 4 year period and Martin Thompson of Barham will be licensed as a Pastoral ALM. Everyone is welcome at the Cathedral for the 6.30pm service.

Over the next few weeks, preparations will be under way for our Harvest celebration. There will be a service on 4th October at 11am followed by a 'Bring & Share Lunch'. Please come along and join us if you can. This celebration is a great opportunity to re-kindle relationships with your local church; and there is no better setting than the beautiful rural surroundings of Grafham's All Saints to do this! Finally, our thanks go to Adam Dighton for donating half of the money he raised at his D Day talks to the church restoration fund. The final total of £80 raised was shared with Grafham Cricket Club. Well done Adam and thanks. We're looking forward to your next talk already!

The Plant Stall



in the church porch has a fine selection of herbaceous perennials and other plants at very reasonable prices. Offers of plants for sale and spare plant pots, please 'phone Jill Tyack on **810157**



Open from 7.30am

Breakfast club 2 ½ -11yrs
Playgroup 2½ - 5 yrs
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www.playtimesplaygroup.co.uk

URGENTLY NEEDED

CLEANERS FOR OUR VILLAGE CHURCH

Please come and join our existing friendly team!



Two hours six times a year. If you clean with a friend you can have a chance to chat at the same time!

All equipment is provided.

Many visitors comment on our well-cared for church, so please help us to keep it so. If interested please contact Jane Stewart - **01480 810841**

Grafham Cricket Club

The first match in August was at home to Little Staughton: a team with a strong batting line-up. Their openers put on 63 for the first wicket against tight bowling from Adam Dighton and Adi Love, who broke the partnership with a wicket in his last over. Change bowler Duncan Palmer proved to be the bowler with the magic touch, taking 5wkts for 48, leaving Little Staughton on 175 for 7wkts off 32 overs. The number of overs per innings was shortened from 40 to 32 due to the forecast of rain.

Grafham's batting was soon in trouble at 52 for 5 wickets; brightened only by a lively cameo of 18 runs from Rob Forsdick, and as Zac Seaman was walking out to bat the forecasted rain arrived in a downpour, which soon meant the match was abandoned as drawn. Grafham were a bit lucky here.

Not so the second match in August away to Lidlington. Adam Dighton was captain for the match, and in line with Grafham tradition proceeded to lose the toss. Lidlington put Grafham into bat. Adam and Chris Brown opened for Grafham and put on an opening stand of 118, before Adam had the top bail of his leg stump removed for 51.

Chris during this opening partnership rode his luck when he spooned an easy catch back to the bowler, who haplessly watched as the ball pin balled through his hands to the ground. Chris ended up 88 not out with Grafham 168 for 4 at innings close.

When Lidlington started their innings they were soon in trouble with Tom Chester taking 4wkts for 21 runs off 7 overs; Chris Brown 2wkts for 9 runs off 8 overs, and Tom Clayton wiping up the tail with 3wkts for 2 runs off 2.2 overs. The bowling was backed by excellent fielding and catching leaving Lidlington all out for 72 runs; a victory for Grafham by 96 runs.

Grafham to date have won 4 matches in Division 1, and have accrued 132 points, 10 points more than last year at the same time with the same number of games won. Although this year Grafham are near the foot of Division 1 rather than third place in Division 2!

The final game of the season is at home on September 5th 2009 to Brickhill.

Chris Dighton Club Chairman 01480 811862





ALL SAINTS CHURCH
GRAFHAM

HARVEST SERVICE
SUNDAY 4th OCT
11.00

FOLLOWED BY A
'BRING AND SHARE
LUNCH'

EVERYONE VERY
WELCOME

Five Parish Advent Fair 2009

This year's Fair will be held on **Saturday 28 November** and as an experiment we will hold it in Ellington Church.

Could you start thinking of what you can do to help?

There is no reason why the same people do the same stalls each year so could you offer to coordinate a stall? Can you start making jams and pickles, collecting bottles, items for the raffle, craft and bric a brac etc.

Offers of help to Sue on 453350.



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The Mobile Library route L108/120 visits **Breach Road, Grafham** on **alternate Tuesdays from 10.45 to 11.05** Visits are: **September 8th and 22nd**
Renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225**
<http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/index.html>



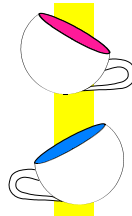
Come and join us for a stroll in the countryside



on evening walks with Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group. Please contact Sam for details
01480 810844 daytime or **01480 811654** evenings.

Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a Coffee Morning for retired residents 10.30am on Wednesday, **9th September at Philippa Patel's 3 Field Close**. This is purely an informal social occasion for retired residents of the village. Please come along for a cup of coffee and a chat.



Ellington and Grafham W.I.

Join the growing team! We meet on the **first Tuesday** in the month. For details ring: Sue Rice **896139** or Ann Davies **891372**



Grafham Church Flower Club

We meet in the Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month learning to make floral arrangements for display and in the home. This month Karenza will demonstrate 'Being Resourceful' using items that cost nothing or very little. Please call if you are interested in joining us. We make a small charge to cover funds. **Hazel 810326**



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01480 811654 evenings

<http://www.grafhamconservationgroup.btik.com>

GRAFHAM VILLAGE HALL has a Public Entertainments Licence for music, dancing, performing arts. It has changing rooms/showers and a playing field for sports activities. For more details, including hire charges or to book the hall **contact Pat / Alan Watson 811166**



Send us your gossip! Email gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Babysitters

Anna Fozzard 15yrs **812021**
Georgie Goodwin 14yrs **810297**
Felicity - Grade B GCSE Child Development 19yrs **812328**
Jessica Homewood - babysitting course 17yrs **810867**
Kirsty Elliot - babysitting course 17yrs **810550**
Kate Kelley - babysitting course 15yrs **812179**
Emma Qualified level 3 childcare worker 18 yrs **811701**
Danielle speaks French, homework help 19yrs **811279**
Marie-Claire studying child development 15yrs **811279**
Olivia Grade B GCSE Child Development 18yrs **811831**



**Grafham Bookworms
Film and Debate Club**



The Grafham Bookworms, Film and Debate Group meets at 8pm on the last Tuesday of every month. If you're an avid reader and would like to meet like-minded "bookworms" we'd be delighted for you to join us at our informal, entertaining evenings. For details, please contact **Tina Theodorou 01480 811366** or **Karen Stewart 01480 810961**. New members always welcome.

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Deadline Dates

for the *Grafham Gossip* are midnight on the following Thursdays:

17th September
15th October
19th November
10th December

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

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