

Grafham Gossip

Issue 74 Deadline: Midnight Thursday 16th September

Editors' note...

Summer's almost gone and it's time for children to go back to school. We hope everyone's had a good time! September brings the Flower Festival on 4th and 5th, a "Village Meeting" where your input is welcomed to help plan for the future of our village and the annual general meeting of the GCAGA (Gardening Association); the details are on this page. Regular activities continue as normal with a couple of extra ones; you'll find most of the details on page 5 but look out for more info as you read through. We've some new adverts, several articles and "Letters to the Editors" which should be of interest. If you'd like to read the *Grafham Gossip* before it's delivered through your door, email us to join the mailing list and receive a website link by email every month. Have a good read!

Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk



Grafham All Saints

29th August (5th Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

5th September (1st Sunday) 16.30 Songs of Praise following **Flower Festival weekend**,

No 11.00 Service

12th September (2nd Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

19th September (3rd Sunday) 8.00 Eucharist

11.00 Sunday Worship

26th September (4th Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

3rd October (1st Sunday) 11.00 **Harvest Festival**

followed by **"Bring and Share" lunch**

Visitors very welcome at any service

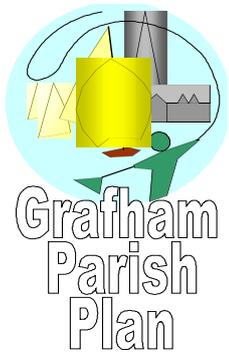
Contacting the clergy:

Rector - Fr Jonathan Young The Rectory, Ellington.
PE 28 0AU 01480 891695

Churchwarden - Hazel Powell 01480 810326



What would YOU like? What worries YOU?



Please help us plan for the future of our village

We want your ideas
We need your views

A Village Meeting

All welcome from youngest to oldest!

Grafham Village Hall

3pm Sunday 19th September

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

Grafham Community Allotment & Gardening Association AGM

**Tuesday 7th September
8pm Grafham Village Hall**

Grafham Church Flower Festival September 4th and 5th

The theme this year is "Travel through the ages." Come along and see how various forms of transport have been depicted using floral displays.

It would be lovely to have children's arrangements too, using old boots or shoes.

Decided to take part at the last minute? Get in touch with **Jill 810157.**

Tea and cakes will be served from 2pm both days, on the green outside church.

Also available, trips up the tower!



Mortgage Interest rates seem to be at their lowest and lenders ARE lending!

Do you have a high fixed rate or high variable rate and at least 30% equity in your property? I offer a no fee service and it would be worth a conversation as I may be able to reduce your mortgage term. I recently reviewed a mortgage for someone who had a fixed rate at 5.84% for a further 3 years. The early repayment charge with their current lender was £5600, I have managed to reduce their mortgage term by 4 years and they have also saved their early repayment charge within 2 years of mortgage payments.

Mark James FPC, MAQ
JD Mortgage Services

Tel: 01480 819 478 Mob: 07739 814 714
Fax: 01480 819 478 Email: mark@jdms.co.uk

Thank you!

Grafham Parochial Church Council (PCC) would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to everyone who donates plants and books to the stall at church. In 2009 the majority of the £816 collected in the offertory box was raised from the sale of plants and books. The books in particular are very popular, especially with visitors to the caravan site. Both stalls need to be restocked regularly so please continue with your very welcome donations.



Ann Wright
Secretary, Grafham PCC

Grafham Cricket Club

The away game at Pilgrims Oakley was a high scoring game with Oakley scoring 189 for 9 with Tom Chester being the pick of the Grafham bowlers with 31 for 5 off 10 overs. Grafham's reply was a 135 for 5 with Adam Dighton top scoring on his birthday with 59; ably supported by Duncan Palmer with 34. When the league results were received from the Bedford League, Grafham had been awarded the match, as apparently Pilgrims Oakley had fielded an ineligible player.

The next game which was also away was at Addison Park, which has the curiosity of several large mature trees within the boundary line. Bedford Park won the toss and elected to bat, with the agreed ruling that if the ball struck any of the trees within the boundary line it was an automatic two runs. Accurate bowling by Tom Chester 26 for 2 off 10 overs and Adi Love 25 for 1 off 10 overs limited Bedford Park's scoring. At the change of bowlers Bedford Park accelerated their scoring, but lived dangerously with Chris Dighton 50 for 4 off 7 overs being the expensive wicket taker for Grafham. Bedford Park finished on 179 for 9. Adam Dighton who for the second week running made 50 runs with Adi Love 17 and Chris Dighton 11, the only other Grafham players to make double figures. Grafham were all out for 153; 27 runs short of the total required.

Up until this point in the season the weather had been hot with no sign of rain, so for the only home game in July it was decided to water and then roll the pitch. After this action the weather stopped being hot and on Friday, the day before the match against St Andrews, the heavens opened. The downpour augmented with Grafham's own watering and what had been a dry, hard pitch became a damp slow pitch with a five 'o' clock shadow of grass. Grafham lost the toss and were put into bat, losing wickets on a regular basis. The sun came out, and towards the end of the Grafham innings batting became easier with Grafham finishing 70 all out. Although a low total it looked defensible on this pitch. Adi Love 14 for 4 off 9.5 overs and Adam Dighton 23 for 2 off 10 overs were Grafham's best bowlers, with St Andrew's 71 for 7; being the close winners.

Only two overs were bowled in the away match to Smiths Arms before a torrential downpour stopped and ended play for the day.

As I write this article there are only two games to go before the end of the season. Hard to believe that summer has gone so quickly.

Chris Dighton Club Chairman



Do you struggle to understand why?

We live in a hectic world now, where sometimes there seem to be more questions than answers, and people don't always have time to listen and talk.

You are invited to join us for a meal and discussion. Subjects to be tackled include:

1. Why suffering? - can there really be a God with so much hurt in the world?
2. Why creation? - dinosaurs or made in 7 days?
3. Why should I forgive? - so why is it a big thing about forgiving others?
4. Why Jesus? - what's the difference between Christianity and other religions?



We cannot promise to answer all your questions, but we do promise a home cooked meal and some lively discussion. You don't need to attend all 4 if you are busy. We aren't planning to "ram God down your throat", but we are a small group of Christians, who want to try to promote thoughtful discussion. We plan to meet on Tuesday evenings for a 7.30 start. Dates are September 21st and 28th, and October 12th and 19th. Please book with us so we have ideas of numbers, (and let us know any special dietary needs).

Contact for more information: Rob and Jean Clark 01480 890033 or Sarah Woodruff 01480 891496.

View from the Pew!



As September arrives, with the summer weather and holidays now behind us, we still have much to look forward to. In particular our Flower Festival, on the weekend of 4th and 5th September celebrating Travel through the Ages, is an event worth attending. Not only will you see floral depictions

of various forms of transport but also a team of ladies will serve tea and cakes on the green outside church on both days from 2pm. At 4.30 on Sunday Jonathan will lead us in Songs of Praise but please note there will be no 11am service that day.

Last month we said farewell to Martin Kettle our curate as he and his family move to Oxfordshire. We at All Saints said our own goodbyes to Martin following the Eucharist on 8th August. On 22nd August there was a special service at Alconbury church when presentations of gifts were made from each parish, our own being a framed reproduction of a water colour of All Saints.

You may have noticed the men working on high inspecting the tower and spire recently. We await their report and also that of the bell restoration experts who are costing work to bring the bells back to proper order. All important jobs to begin bringing our church back to "fitness for purpose" as in the message of Ann Allsop's inspiring talk on 15th August regarding our lives in God's world.

On 14th August Angela and Jason celebrated their marriage at a lovely service in the afternoon. Thankfully the rain held off and the sun came out to welcome the bride and groom and their guests for photographs in the churchyard. We wish Angela and Jason many blessings in their life together.

We thank Lesley Mathias who kindly stepped in to lead our Eucharist service on 29th August following Martin's departure.

Our Harvest Festival will be on 3rd October followed as usual by a "bring and share" lunch to which all are welcome. We have been very happy to see new faces at our services recently, both visitors on holiday and those planning to get married at All Saints next year. Keep coming, we love to see you.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

July /August

Anti -social behaviour appears to have returned to the village.



On Thursday July 1st and again on July 5th, unknown offenders tampered with the red cash tin in the church. Our PCSO Gemma Clark is asking us all to be vigilant in the

area especially around the church and to report any suspicious activity.

A vehicle had fruit thrown at it whilst passing by the village hall on Sunday 25th July at 6pm. Two youths were chased across the fields and later identified as living in the village. They have been spoken to and it is hoped they have learnt their lesson.

On the evening of July 30th a person/s entered the rear garden of a house in Church Road and urinated into the bird bath.

On the night of Thursday 12th August between 01.50 and 02.00 the Grafham Water Activity Centre was broken into and an untidy search carried out, although nothing appears to have been taken.

If anyone has any information on the above incidents please contact either the Police Control centre or Crimestoppers anonymously.

For the fifth month running I am appealing for residents to agree to display a Neighbourhood Watch sticker - I estimate that at least 110 properties don't have one, and it is not helping to highlight the scheme. Thank you to those people that contacted me last month - 20 of you!



Please re-consider putting a sticker in your window - I have a supply and am very happy to get one to you - just e-mail or call me.

James Snell 07951 069 565

email: Jamie2701@aol.com

All emergencies **999**

Police control centre **0345 456 4564**

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**

To report anti-social behaviour in Grafham **01480**

388379 / 387097 or e-mail:

Barbara.gowling@huntsdc.gov.uk or

tracey.guinea@huntsdc.gov.uk

PARISH NEWS...

There was no August meeting. The next meeting will be held on 14th September at 7.30pm in the village hall.



Margaret Life, Parish Clerk

01480 819477 margaret_life_grafham@yahoo.co.uk

You may contact your parish councillors through the clerk or directly by using the details below.

Philip Allingham Chairman **01480 811516** philip_allingham@sky.com

Mike Tyler Vice Chair **01480 811244** mt Tyler@bedford.gov.uk

David King **01480 812430** davidking@hawkeyesystems.com

Ian Gardener **01480 812821** idg@asc-geomatics.co.uk

Tracey Ibbett **01480 812310** TraceyIbbett@talktalk.net

Helen Breakspear **01480 810787** helenbreakspear@btinternet.com

Send your news and gossip to gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Website: www.grafhamvillage.org.uk

E-mail: gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Letters to the Editors...

Dusts and Dursts

My eight times great grandfather JOHN DUST, born 1697, was a bricklayer and was buried at Grafham on 11 May 1784. (John DURST in the Grafham Parish Records.) He married Elizabeth Childs on 2 July 1731. She was buried 3 Oct 1759. Their son John was baptised 21 May 1732 and died 9 May 1787.

This John DUST/ DURST married Elizabeth CARNAL/CADRINAL 5 Sept 1756. She died 13 Dec 1791.

Their children were John DUST baptised 20 Nov 1757, died 16 Sept 1759; and William DUST baptised 9 Apr 1759. John and Elizabeth moved to Buckden about 1761.

All this information is from Grafham Parish Records 1581-1851. Is there evidence of the DUSTS/DURSTS in the village? I am to visit Grafham on Monday 6th September - all the way from Scotland. Is there anyone who can tell me what to see in the village ?

Yours aye, Ruari Halford-MacLeod

Money Stolen from Honesty Boxes

I live in Breach Road and have for a number of years sold plants, fruit and vegetables from a trolley outside the house.

About 3 weeks ago, on a Saturday afternoon, I had my honesty jar stolen which contained about £6. I had noticed, early in the afternoon, a small black car (Renault Clio size) drive away quite quickly. It was driven by a young, blond haired person and I remember thinking at the time that it wasn't the sort of person who would stop for a bag of carrots etc. I didn't think too much about it until a week later when I was speaking to a friend whose family had recently had their honesty box money stolen from Church Hill Road - again a black car was seen to drive away quickly. Has anyone else seen this car?



A Grafham Resident

Proposed Wind Farm

Dear Grafham Residents,

I received a plain envelope through my door this week, addressed to the occupier; normally envelopes addressed like this to our house would be put into the bin... for some reason I opened this and enclosed was a community newsletter detailing the proposed development of a wind farm at Grafham Water.

Firstly I would like to draw your attention to this proposal. Secondly I would like the Parish Council to raise the following objections:-

- the inappropriate method of notification, in plain envelopes rather than the flier direct through the letter box (not environmentally friendly!) meaning a large percentage of residents are unlikely to have opened the notification
- the timing of the notification with meetings arranged prior to the posting
- public consultation at Buckden arranged less than a week after notification during peak annual holiday period
- notification delivered during the month that our parish council has no meetings, meaning that we are

unable to respond as a community through our council meetings.

For those of you that would like to have a better understanding of the concerns of other communities several website links are included in this letter.

These give you background on:-

- impact on local roads, widening etc needed to build the turbines
- effect on public right of ways such as The 3 Shires Way
- environmental impact on a site of scientific interest
- the inefficiency of energy generation.



Whilst I am sure that Grafham residents support the generation of renewable energy, preservation of our natural environment and a reduction of our reliance on fossil fuels, we want to be certain that these wind turbines have been thought about appropriately, that they have no effect on the natural habit of Grafham Water, that they are able to operate at an efficiency of more than 35%, that they will not impinge on our bird population, tourism, property prices, right of way, noise levels, visual environment, roads and that the excavation for the grid does not effect underground habits of voles, harvest mice and other endangered species.

In order for us to have a proper understanding of the impact, we need to be given sufficient time to gather evidence and this current notification fails to provide us with this.

If you are fairly relaxed because you see this as a Perry problem, then please peruse this website...

<http://www.stophewindfarm.org.uk/links.htm>

If the wind farm is accepted at Perry, then we will be next... think wind farm at Grafham Water not wind farm at Perry;

AS IT WILL EFFECT ALL OF US! <http://www.cloud.org.uk/pages/cloudTheProposal.htm>

<http://www.ftexploring.com/energy/windenrgy.htm>

Teresa Hollands

(For more information on the proposed windfarm visit <http://www.highfieldfarmwindfarm.co.uk/> Editor)

Kimbolton Mandeville Hall

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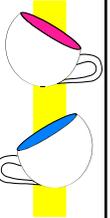
Yasmin Chopin BA Hons, DipInch

To book your place & for more information contact Yasmin by phone 07831 231 664 or email ycid@yasminchopin.com

Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a Coffee Morning at 10.30am on **Wednesday, September 8th at Philippa Patel's, 3 Field Close.**

This is an informal social occasion for residents of the village. Please come along for a cup of coffee and a chat.



The Mobile Library

route L108/120 visits **Breach Road, Grafham on alternate Tuesdays from 10.45 to 11.05.** Visits are: **Sept 7th & 21st**
Renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225**
<http://hipweb.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/mobiles/index.html>



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01480 810844 daytime
01480 811654 evenings

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

Grafham Church Flower Club



Flower Festival and Harvest

During September our focus will be on the Flower Festival with the theme "Travel through the Ages." Many of you have agreed to join us with a chosen method of transport but those willing to participate who have not yet come forward are welcome to do so up to the last minute!

Please contact Jill Tyack 810157 who will be delighted to hear from you.

Later in the month we'll be thinking about decorating the church for the Harvest Festival on 3rd October.
Hazel 810326

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. There is a playing field for sports activities and the hall has small changing rooms with shower facilities.



Contacts: Pat or Alan Watson 01480 811166

Do you enjoy reading?

Come along and join us for informal social evenings (and a glass of wine or two!)

For September venue details please contact:
Tina Theodorou 01480 811366

Date: **Tuesday, 28th September** Time: **8pm**

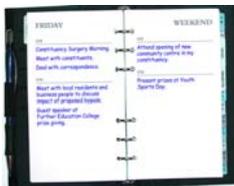
Current read: **The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters**

We would love to welcome new readers and those new to the village too! So if you like a good read, socialising and want to meet fellow Grafham residents, please join us. If you'd like to know more or need collecting to go along with someone, please contact

Tina on 07711 012957

Do you have any events to advertise?

Email the details to diary@grafhamgossip.co.uk (or gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk) We'll add them to the Village Diary on the web site.



Ellington and Grafham W.I.

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



Babysitters

Harriet 16yrs - **810043**

Livvy 14yrs - babysitting course **819708**

Georgie 14yrs- babysitting course **432688**

Kate 17yrs - babysitting course **812179**

Kirsty 18yrs - babysitting course **810550**

Caroline 14 yrs **812179** Danielle 20yrs **811279**

Felicity 20yrs -Grade B GCSE Child Development **812328**

Marie-Claire 17yrs -GCSE Child Development **811279**

Olivia 20yrs - Grade B GCSE Child Development **811831**

Jess 19yrs - babysitting course **07743709764/810867**



Proposed Wind Farm

TCI Renewables Limited (TCIR) is proposing to install four wind turbines on land at Highfield Farm, Perry.



Based on average household electricity consumption of 4,478kWh per annum, the proposed wind farm could generate enough clean electricity for approximately 5,000 homes, roughly the same number of homes as in the parishes of Perry, Buckden, Grafham, Little Paxton, Hail Weston and Brampton and could save some 10,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide annually from being released into the atmosphere.

The area in which the chosen site for the wind farm is located has been identified in the Huntingdonshire Wind Power Supplementary Planning Document as having a high capacity to accommodate a small wind farm of 2 to 12 turbines.

TCI Renewables Director, Bruce Hutt, comments: "We have started site assessments at Highfield Farm including some ecology studies, and are looking into aviation and communication links. We are now seeking the opinion of Huntingdonshire District Council on the level of information required for a full planning application.

Highfield Farm is owned by the Ellerbeck family, who have lived in the area for many years. They will be able to continue to farm the land around the turbines whilst making a valuable contribution to the much-needed renewable energy supply; something which is vital given that the UK is well behind meeting its national renewable energy targets."

For anyone wanting to find out more about the project and leave comments, a dedicated website has been set up: <http://www.highfieldfarmwindfarm.co.uk/>

For complete press release please visit: www.grafhamvillage.org.uk

Buckden Surgery Patients Association (BSPA) A precis of an article by Sue Paul



- BSPA AGM on Tuesday 28th September 7pm in the surgery. please come along if you can.
- Thursday 7th October at 7pm in the surgery, Dr Irwin will give a talk about prostate cancer.
- Saturday 9th October Flu Jab day. Appointments are bookable between 8am and 1pm. Please phone or visit the surgery from the beginning of September, to book a time convenient to you. In addition this year, an area is to be set aside with a lot of useful information for carers. Wilma, who co-ordinates the Carers Programme will be present to help and advise.
- Michaela, our phlebotomist is leaving us at the end of the month and we wish her well as she embarks on her training to become a carer.
- The old bridge between Buckden and the Offords will be closed from 9am on Monday 6th September until 5pm on Friday 1st October. This long closure will have a direct impact on patients in the Offords who are registered with the Buckden Surgery. Please remember you can use the Little Paxton Surgery if it is more convenient for you at this time. Further details of the closure are available on Notice Boards in the Offords.
- The BSPA are now urgently looking for a secretary to replace Betty Millard who has worked very hard for the committee for many years, the past four as secretary. Duties are not onerous and if you feel you might be interested; do please contact either Betty on 810087 or me, Sue Paul on 811650.

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

Do you have any views or comments on village life? E-mail gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk and we'll publish them in 'Letters to the Editors.' Please supply your name but tell us if you'd prefer us not to print it in the Grafham Gossip. Thanks!

A Shepherd's Tale - 23 Patrick Goldsworthy

Aug 2010

The rain has come at last but the drought has done a lot of damage and hay (and straw) is in short supply with prices likely to be more than double last year. Right now I am topping up the meagre supply of grass with hay, straw and concentrate. The dry weather has also meant the lambs have grown more slowly than I would like, but some will be going to the butcher next week, and a shearling (18 months old) ram will be going to Thrapston sheep sales hopefully to make himself useful in a commercial flock.

To monitor our flock, we have joined the Signet Sheepbreeder scheme. This collates performance data such as lambing percentage and weight gains so that breeders can select the better performing stock. One feature of the scheme is that at around 140 days lambs are scanned with ultra sound to measure fat and eye muscle (the meaty bit in the chop) depth. It's a very simple procedure, similar to the ultrasound scan for babies, except in our case there is a bit more bleating! The scanner takes pictures at a set point on the second rib of the lamb and the measurements are taken. I have had some data back, but I am looking forward to a more detailed analysis so I can compare my flock with some of the top Southdown flocks which are in the scheme.

Dutch farmers



was quite an honour for such a new breeder but I expect proximity to the A14 was a big factor in their coming here.



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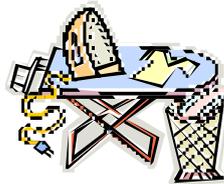
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sloeginlin-ironing@yahoo.co.uk

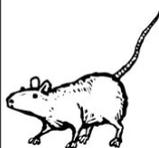
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Paddling pool with shower - £2.00

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Will sell all together for £65.00 or individually

Please call Jenny on 01480 811279 or 07716 839104

The Plant Stall

in the church porch has a fine selection of herbacious 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

Mucky Pups (parent /toddlers)

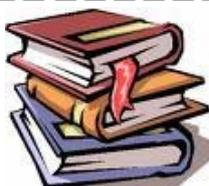
For details tel: **01480 890077**

www.playtimesplaygroup.co.uk

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!



Advertise in the Grafham Gossip!

To advertise e-mail us: gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk
Community notices are free; business adverts are priced according to size, payable in advance. They start at £3.00 per advert, 50p of which goes to the Restoration Fund of All Saints, Grafham.

Wanted - Baby Sitters

Please contact gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

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Grafham Gossip

The deadline date for
the July Grafham Gossip
is midnight on Thursday

Sept 17th

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gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk
Community notices are
free; business adverts are
priced according to size,
payable in advance. They
start at £3.00 per advert,
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