

Grafham Gossip

Issue 75 Deadline: Midnight Thursday 14th October

Grafham All Saints

26th September (4th Sunday)

11.00 Eucharist

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

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

10th October (2nd Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

17th October (3rd Sunday) 8.00 Eucharist

11.00 Sunday Worship

24th October (4th Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

31st October (5th Sunday) 9.30 **Group Eucharist at Ellington for All Saints Day**

7th November (1st Sunday) 11.00 Sunday Worship

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



Editors' note...

The month of October starts with the Harvest Festival on 3rd October followed by a "Bring and Share Lunch." Read more in "View From The Pew" on page 2. The month ends with all the fun of Hallowe'en on 31st, when some families in the village dress up and visit their neighbours, hoping for a treat or two! There's a Hallowe'en Race Night on the 30th in aid of church restoration, so you could wear your fancy dress two nights in a row! See this page for details. The Parish News, on page 3, is quite detailed this month, as is Neighbourhood Watch on page 2. In "Letter to the Editors" on page four, find out what Ruari Halford-MacLeod thought of Grafham Church while looking for records of his ancestors. The flock of Southdowns has grown (see page four) and where is the "Bomb Dump?" Find out on page six.



Have a good read!

Editors, gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Save all Saints Presents

A Halloween - Race Night

Village Hall - 30th October 8.00pm

- Bet on races throughout the evening
- Bar
- Fancy dress optional - prize for the best hat
- Tickets just £7.50 - Includes baked potato with filling supper
- Proceeds in aid of Grafham Church restoration



Tickets from
Keith: 810694
Martin: 811668
Margaret: 819477
Karen: 810961



Save All Saints Annual General Meeting Monday 18th October 7.30pm Cinnamon

sAs (stay for a meal afterwards) **sAs**

Everybody welcome

New committee members welcome
Come and help make fund raising ideas a reality
and keep our village church standing
Could you organise a Grafham open garden event
next year?

Bonfire and Fireworks!

Saturday Nov 6th
Grafham Village Hall
Food from 6:30pm

Full details to follow in
November Grafham Gossip
and notices displayed in villages



Grafham Christmas sAs
cards and calendars

will be on sale soon!

sAs Details to follow.

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

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CAUSE FOR CONCERN Sept 2010

Four incidents in the village in the month - is this just the beginning?

On Sunday morning 5th September, a group of Irish builders were trying to get business by paving driveways. The police have been called in to investigate this matter. Their advice is, under no circumstances accept a quote to do work in this manner from an unknown builder and to call the Police Control Centre without delay.

On Sunday 12th September a black Renault was seen driving around the village with two young males - one black and one, white checking out properties - when a resident went to speak to them the car took off at speed and the registration number could not be obtained.

Residents living in Inhams Way returned from holiday on 15th September at 12.24pm to discover their house had been burgled since they departed on 10th September at 2pm - this crime is being investigated.

The resident that wrote a letter in this magazine about their honesty box being stolen has now reported the incident to the police and it is being treated as a crime.

In neighbouring **Brampton**, there have been two burglaries: On September 4th between 7pm and 10pm a busi-



ness was broken into in the High Street and on 14th September between 6.30am and 11pm an unknown offender/s broke into a private property in Chestnut Close.

For the seventh month running I am appealing for residents to agree to display a Neighbourhood Watch sticker - I estimate that at least 85 properties don't have one, and it is not helping to highlight the scheme. Thank you to those people that contacted me last month - 5 of you! I will not be making any further requests - it is now up to each and every resident if they choose to support the scheme but I would urge you all to re-consider displaying a sticker. Just e-mail or phone me and I will get one to you.

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



View from the Pew!

Once again your church has been a focus of attention owing to our Flower Festival on 4th and 5th September. The theme this year was Travel through the Ages and we certainly had some inspiring and colourful exhibits. Well

done to all those who participated, both ladies and gentlemen. The many visitors were very complimentary and generous in their praise and donations to our church funds for which we are extremely grateful. The teas which were available on both afternoons were very popular and we thank all those who made cakes and especially the ladies who gave up their time to serve them. At 4.30 on Sunday Jonathan led us in Songs of Praise with appropriate readings and hymns relating to travel. We were particularly grateful to Jonathan who had prepared such a lovely service, bearing in mind the pressure on his time at present.

Activity regarding inspecting the leadwork and foundations of the church has been in evidence during August and September. There is now an ongoing plan to deal with the repairs recommended by the architect in the quinquennial earlier in the year. We will keep you informed of progress.

At this time of "mists and mellow fruitfulness" we see "all good gifts around us in our vegetable plots and the

hedgerows. It is time once again to give thanks to God at our **Harvest Festival on 3rd**

October. This will be a lay-led service and if you wish to bring a harvest gift from your store cupboard or allotment, that would be gratefully received. **There will be a "Bring and Share" lunch after the service.** Everyone is welcome as this always proves to be a very pleasant event and a fitting time to give thanks for our plentiful harvest.

On the 3rd Sunday 17th October we welcome back Ann Allsop to lead our service and give one of her interesting talks.

Looking ahead to **November**, our Patronal Festival of All Saints occurs on **Monday 1st**. We are invited to share the celebration with Ellington at a Group Eucharist on **31 October at 9.30am**. **On 14th November the Remembrance Sunday Service** will begin at 10.55 am with the short Act of Remembrance at 11 am.

During the summer it has been a pleasure to welcome so many visitors to the church, either to services or just passing by on their walk or cycle ride, calling in to look round or just browsing our bookshelves or plant stall. They are almost unanimous in their admiration of our much loved church which they regard as so clearly loved and cared for.



PARISH NEWS...



September 2010

The Parish Council has had planning permission granted for the erection of a village sign. An order for the work to be carried out will now be placed and it is hoped to have the sign in place before the end of the year.

The Parish Plan is to be revised, updated and re-issued. This will happen by consultation with Grafham residents via a questionnaire delivered to every household and by gathering ideas and opinions from those attending the public meeting at the village hall. Details about this meeting have been issued to every home in the village. The Parish Council has undertaken to give full support to the requirements as laid out in a revised plan and to meet all reasonable production costs for the project as funding from the District Council is not available this time round.

It was agreed to order top-up supplies of grit or salt for the bins, but that no further bins will be required.

It was agreed to purchase a further supply of spring bulbs for planting around the village.

Parish Councillors attended the AGM of the Grafham Community Allotment Gardening Association. There is a slight chance that a small piece of land (approximately 1 acre) could be made available for renting from the church. This is located to the west of the village at the back of the church. Currently unused and not suitable for farming, this plot offers the potential to satisfy the allotment needs of Grafham residents, subject to making arrangements for access. The GCAGA are keen to adopt this land and the Parish Clerk will be speaking with Ely Diocese on these issues.

The Parish Council (PC) has received a large amount of documentation concerning the proposals for wind farms in the area. As a planning issue for the PC, its responses are restricted to planning issues. A planning application consultation document has been received in respect of the proposal for turbines at Kimbolton and a Scoping Opinion document has been received concerning the erection of turbines at Perry. The Parish Council is restricted to making representation as a Parish Council and not as individuals. Any matters raised must be material planning matters. As such the PC has replied on the planning application to the effect that it has no observations either in favour or against the proposal. The Parish Council will attend the public exhibition concerning the Perry Wind Farm proposals, due to be held at the Wheatsheaf in Perry on 27th September.

There is still a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you would like to join the PC please contact the clerk by phone, email or by post Contact details are shown below.

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council is Tuesday 12th October, 2010.

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** mtyler@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

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 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.

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!

Playmobil for sale

Bargain for Christmas or Playgroups or just to treat your kids

Ambulance - £5.00 Hospital fully equipped - £40.00

Penguin Pool with penguins - 3.00

Paddling pool with shower - £2.00

Jet Plane 10.00 Airport £10.00

Will sell all together for £65.00 or individually

Please call Jenny on 01480 811279 or 07716 839104

Letter to the Editors...

Dusts and Dursts

Following last month's letter when Ruari asked if anyone know of records or information of his ancestors, he writes about his recent visit to Grafham...

My cousin, David Durst, and I had a lovely visit to Grafham. What a beautiful church - our favourite of the day; we were in SEVEN that day!

What a delight! The north aisle of the church dates from 1250, which suggests that the nave, dating from about 1300, replaced an earlier building. The south chapel was added in the 1300s. The tower and spire were built about 1400. By 1748 the "whole church was very bad and nasty." Dormer windows were added to the roof, when it became fashionable to raise the nave walls and add clerestory windows. Several original tie beams survive and still hold the church together. The church has been saved and sympathetically restored without losing anything of its medieval charm.

It was in Grafham that the Dust family reappeared. John Dust (V) came to Grafham in the early 1700s. His father William had been a "clayer" or maker of bricks, and John Dust and his brother Thomas were both bricklayers. A clayer might be a mast brick maker, but the term bricklayer suggests something less exalted.

I called the church warden, Hazel, who told me that she had seen my letter in the *Grafham Gossip*, but there was no record of any stones in the graveyard bearing the Dust or Durst name. It did not stop David Durst and me from searching, as another source had told us that he had found a foot stone with the initials I.D. and the date 1781.

I.D. could have been John Durst, but the date was too early for either John Durst (V) or John Durst (VI) who was probably buried at Buckden.

Even so, with the beautiful, unspoiled church - celebrating a flower festival with delightful displays in the church - and its ancient font, we both felt close to our ancestors.

Ruari Halford-MacLeod

A Shepherd's Tale - 24

September 2010

Patrick Goldsworthy

It has been an exciting month with visits to sheep sales, acquisitions and some despatches to the butcher. The net result is too many sheep. The first market I visited was at Thrapston, where as an experiment, I took one shearing ram to see how the market worked. There was a lot of waiting around and my ram was the penultimate one under the hammer, unfortunately he failed to meet my very modest reserve so I brought him home. I was not totally disappointed. I am planning to "sponge" my ewes (I will explain next month) and therefore need a higher ram to ewe ratio so he can help with the tugging.

A week later my new ram East Dean "Dean" arrived. He comes from one of the largest and most well known Southdown flocks. He was ranked by the performance recording scheme

as the second best ram of his year. The best was his twin brother who was retained by his breeder. He is a lot bigger in the frame than Furlong and weighed almost exactly the same but he still he has a lot of growing to do.

My plan was to grow the flock to about 25 ewes this year, and 35 next year but things have gone awry. The show



and sale catalogue for a Southdown sale at Worcester highlighted three good quality ewes that I was interested in, I also knew a breeder who was driving past and would give any purchases a free lift back to Grafham. A dawn run got me there in time to watch the judging; when it came to the sale I realised that the prices for what I thought were average ewes were too high and therefore I suspected my target ewes would be too expensive. Fearing that I would miss out on these, I bought two nice ewes from another flock and then waited. Of course the ewes I was really after were not as expensive as I feared so I bought two of these. Then as we were leaving the sale I was approached by the breeder of my third target ewe: "Would I buy it at the reserve price?" so I said yes; the worst bit was there were some other ewes I was still interested in the Melton Mowbray sale the following week. Prices at Melton were in the main slightly lower and I got the ewes I was after. As I was well below budget I indulged myself by buying a ewe lamb that was Breed Champion; she has since been christened by Michael as "Fluffy".

Although I have over indulged this year, I hope my "ewe buying" days are over. The flock is large enough at 30 ewes to breed its own replacements and grow; it also means I can "close" the flock which will reduce the risk of bringing in diseases from other flocks and purchases such as rams will be quarantined on arrival.



HELP CLEAN OUR VILLAGE CHURCH



Many visitors comment on our well-cared for church, so please help us.

All equipment provided

You could clean with a friend, every other month and chat at the same time!

Please come and join our existing friendly team!

Details from Jane Stewart - **01480 810841**

HCCA Grafham Branch Quiz Night 23 October



Village Hall 7pm for 7.30pm prompt start! Finish 10.30pm

Tickets £10 a head includes Fish & Chip Supper
Please bring your own drink/nibbles/glasses!
Prizes for winning team and for runners up too!
Look forward to seeing you all on the night!

Tickets from **Nic Evans 01480 812102**- hurry not to miss out!
HCCA (Huntingdon Constituency Conservative Association)

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 and October details please contact:

Tina Theodorou 01480 811366

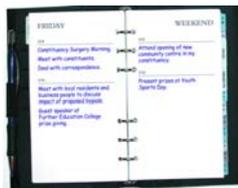
Date: **Tuesday, 28th September Time: 8pm**

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.



Send us your news, views and gossip. Email: gossip@grafhamvillage.org.uk

Grafham Church Flower Club



Our Harvest Festival will be on 3rd October. We therefore need to meet together in the church from the previous Thursday 30 September to decorate. Please come along any time after 6 pm with your flowers, foliage, berries, fruit or vegetables to make our church ready for the special service on Sunday. On 19th October Karenza will be giving us a demonstration in the Village Hall on "Being Resourceful". There will also be an element of Christmas decorations in the demonstration which I am sure you will find valuable.

Do ring me with any enquiries - **Hazel 810326**

Grafham Wildlife and Conservation Group



Regional winners of the BTCV Green Award 2006 & 2007 invite you to carry out woodland conservation. Contact Sam Malt **01480 810844** daytime **01480 811654** evenings.

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

The Mobile Library

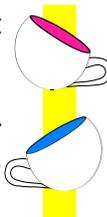


route L108/120 visits **Breach Road, Grafham on alternate Tuesdays from 10.45 to 11.05**. Visits are: **Oct. 5th & 19th**
Renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225**

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

Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a Coffee Morning at 10.30am on **Wednesday, October 13th at Frances Knight's 18 Church Road**. This is an informal social occasion for 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 **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 14yrs 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

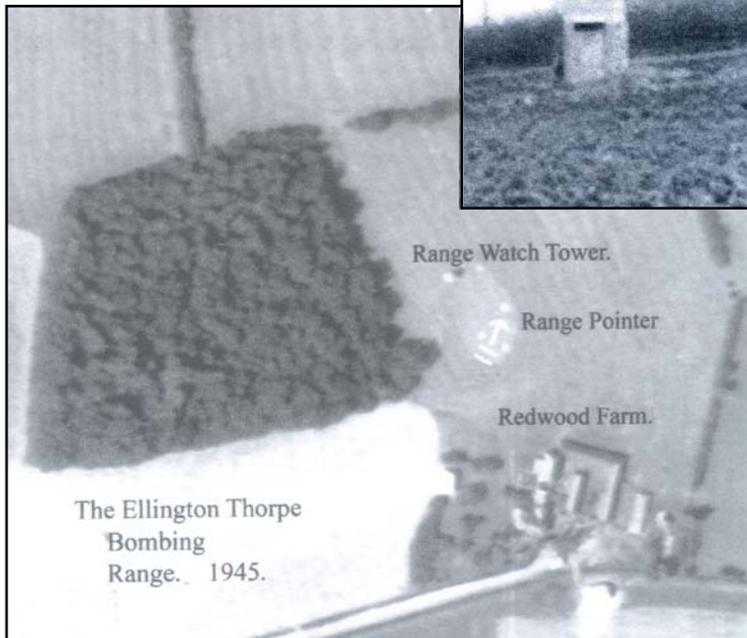
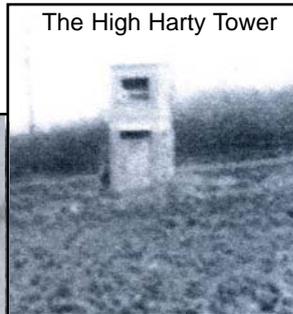


The Ellington Thorpe Military Bombing Range

During the Second World War a bombing range was constructed in the fields of Ellington Thorpe, used mainly by the American Air Force. Two Watch Towers were built one at Redwood Lodge Farm which was demolished in the early 1960s and the other at High Harty Farm which still stands. These were manned by American personnel throughout the war to monitor the bombing. An arrow marker at Redwood pointed to the bombing area near the watch tower as shown in the photograph. Sand filled practice bombs were used and sometimes fell close to Ellington village. The field where the bombs fell is now called "Bomb Dump."

Sam Malt

The High Harty Tower



Proposed Wind Farm

PUBLIC EXHIBITION



Following the first exhibition in Buckden which was well attended with visitors from all the surrounding villages, TCI Renewables Limited (TCIR) held a second exhibition, at Southoe Village Hall to outline the key elements of the proposal and offer an opportunity for local residents to meet the team.

Another exhibition in Perry has also been organised at:

Wheatsheaf Public House
27 September 2010
3:30pm until 7:30pm



TCI Renewables Limited (TCIR) is proposing to install four wind turbines between Perry and Southoe south of Grafham Water on land at Highfield Farm, Perry.

For those unable to attend, or for anyone wanting to find out more about the project and leave comments, a dedicated website has been set up: www.highfieldfarmwindfarm.co.uk

Volunteers urgently required

Can you spare 1-2 hours per month? Do you enjoy meeting and helping people within your local community?



If so, Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind would be very keen to hear from you. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver or visitor please contact:

Erika Brown on 01480 453438
<http://www.huntsblind.co.uk/index.shtml>

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.
- A final reminder that Flu Jab Day is on Saturday 9th October. Appointments are bookable between 8am and 1pm. Please phone or visit the surgery 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.

▪ For patients who have, or have had, cancer, there's a fantastic body - St Neots Acorn Cancer Support Group - who meet at the Dumbelton Medical Centre [next to Tesco's] in Eynesbury. It is run by MacMillan Nurse Gill Scott, ably assisted by other Macmillan nurses and it offers a truly supportive environment in a warm and friendly atmosphere. I went at Gill's invitation and was hugely impressed and would unreservedly recommend it to anyone. There is so much on offer - and the 15 minute group relaxation interval was a revelation and very therapeutic. I have put leaflets in the surgery for those who might be interested; it is well worth visiting.

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



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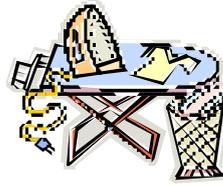
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Infested with Wasps, Ants, Fleas, Rats or Mice?

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Ill Shires Pest Control 07836 754014

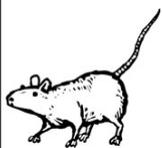
or email info@threshirespestcontrol.co.uk

for discrete service in an unmarked vehicle

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(In association with MWS Landscapes)

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**



Playtimes
Spaldwick

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 in good condition. Please leave 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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Email: Frances1.Knight@virgin.net

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Open 6 days a week

Tel. 01480 810272

Cleaner(s)

Required to join a local cleaning business based in Buckden and surrounding villages.

Hours & days to suit successful candidate(s).

Must have own vehicle. Training provided. £7.00 per hour.

Cleaning kit provided on a self employed basis.

Please send your CV to: miss-mop@hotmail.co.uk

Or for more information call : 075889-37347



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DSA Approved

Living locally in Grafham

Call John Sisseman for details



Tel. 07806 941675

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01480 812929

07740 440969

Grafham Gossip

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

Oct 14th

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

IT TRAINING

Do you want to improve your computer skills, or learn to use the Internet and Email ? One to one teaching



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