

Grafham Gossip

Issue 85 Deadline: Midnight Thursday 18th August



Grafham All Saints

31st July (5th Sunday) 11.00
Patronal Festival at Spaldwick

7th August (1st Sunday) 11.00 Family Service

14th August (2nd Sunday) No service at
Grafham but 11.00 Eucharist at Ellington

21st August (3rd Sunday) 11.00 Eucharist

28th August (4th Sunday) 8.00 Eucharist

4th September (1st Sunday) 11.00 Family
Service

11th September (2nd Sunday) 16.30 Songs of
Praise following Flower Festival

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

Grafham Flower Festival

10th and 11th September
Grafham Church

The theme is 'Hats.' If you'd like to take part
this year for the first time get in touch.

No previous experience with flowers neces-
sary, just bring your
imagination and we'll
help with the rest!

Phone Jill 810157
or Hazel 810326



Do you have views or comments on
village life? E-mail: editor@grafhamgossip.co.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!

Editors' note...

August brings the long holiday from
school and hopefully good weather to
go with it. August's *Grafham Gossip*
brings details of a couple of activities for children and
adults to think about during the holiday month. Ideas for
flower arrangements with a 'Hat' theme for the Flower
Festival on the 10th and 11th September and the children's
picture competition of a design for a Christmas card. There
are more details below.

As usual we have lots to read, a bit of local history, village
affairs, Cricket Club antics, church news, Shepherd's Tales
and a report from the Neighbourhood Watch meeting as
well as many notices and local business adverts.
Have a lovely Summer!

Editors, editor@grafhamgossip.co.uk



Children's Picture Competition



Cash Prizes
Winning pictures
become
Grafham
Christmas Cards!

Draw a Grafham Christmas picture

Pictures (A4 size) to be judged at the
Flower Festival - Grafham Church
10th and 11th September

£5 - 1st, £3 - 2nd, £2 - 3rd Prizes
for Under 7, 7-11 and 12-15 age categories

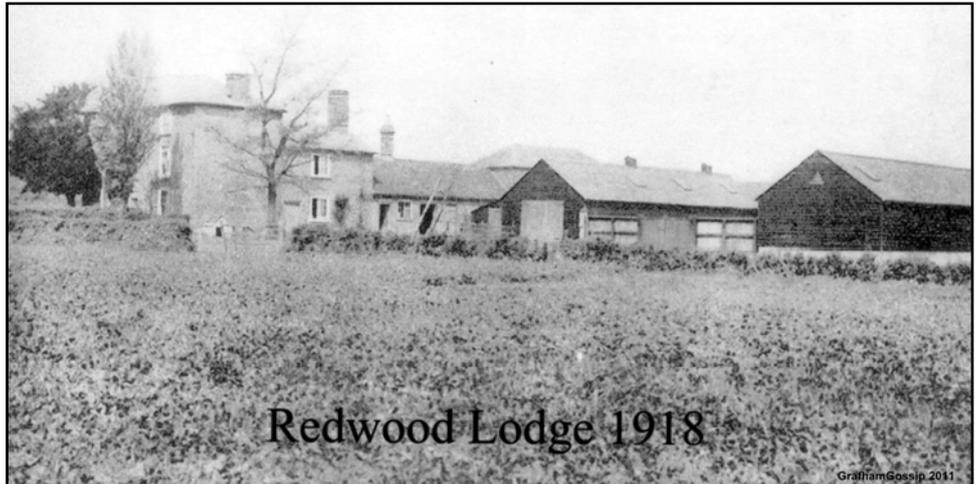
Just bring your pictures along - 50p entry fee
Can't make it? Drop the pictures by the 9th
September, at 34 Breach Road with entry fee,
name, age and phone number.

In aid of
Save All Saints Church Restoration Fund

Redwood Lodge Farm, Ellington Thorpe

Originally owned by the Duke of Manchester, this 280 acre farm is sited on the heavy clay hills of Ellington Thorpe. The four bedroomed red brick farmhouse, with a slated roof, is sited half a mile to the east, down the lane on the top of Grafham Hill. In 1906 Mark Frost was the tenant farmer of Redwood and later, in 1918, purchased the farm from the Duke, but not Sparrows Spinney. Round about 1936, the farmhouse was gutted by fire and has never been lived in since. To this day the house is just a shell. Thompson Wales purchased the farm before World War 2 and listed in the 1940 Kelly's Directory telephone Buckden 266. At this time, my father Bert Malt was working on the farm and was called up in early 1940. Mr and Mrs Wales lived in the cottage next to Sparrow's Spinney on the top of Grafham Hill. Sam Malt and Douglas King demolished these cottages in the early 1960s for Mr A Nicholls. During the war years the War Ag (War Agriculture Executive Committee) farmed part of the farm. In October 1956, Mr Arnold Nicholls purchased Redwood and later Sparrows Spinney, in the 1970s. The Nicholls family sold to John Brotherton in November 1998.

Sam Malt



GrafhamGossip 2011

PARISH NEWS...

July 2011

The Parish Council received a request from Brampton Parish Council for a contribution towards the costs of installing a new pedestrian access to Brampton Wood. The proposal is expected to improve the network of paths and create a circular route for villagers of Grafham, Brampton and Ellington. The Wildlife Trust are likely to agree to installing a kissing gate at a cost of £300. The Council agreed to contribute £100 towards this cost.

Cllr Downes has offered his support in furthering the proposals to improve road safety on the bend at the junction of Breach and Buckden Roads. It was agreed that this is a dangerous, blind bend and traffic speeds should be controlled on the approaches. Another step to bringing the matter forward could be to raise a petition of Grafham residents. A request from the PC to improve signage and road markings at the junction of Church Hill and Church Road is apparently being given a sympathetic hearing.

Cllr Downes also talked to the Council about plans in some areas to deliver transport in the community. Such schemes could involve mini-buses or private cars. He



also suggested that steps to counter "rural isolation" suffered by some elderly people could be considered and "networking" lists drawn up.

The sub-committee set up to investigate the possibilities for improving facilities at the village hall have had a meeting to discuss initial thoughts and ideas. The AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee will be taking place at the village hall on Tuesday 19th July and it is expected that further discussions will take place there. If you have any input for the committees, please come along and join in the discussions.

The Village Plan is on the Grafham Village website. If you are interest in the results please visit the site, where you can get full details.

The Youth Connection bus is coming to Grafham. Keep an eye on the notice boards to find out where and when.

If you have views you would like to air on any of the above issues, the Parish Council will be pleased to hear from you.

There is no meeting of the Council in August. The date of the next meeting will be 13th September 2011.

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

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

David King 01480 812430 davidking@hawkeyesystems.com

Tracie Lord Tracielorduk@aol.com

Alastair Watson Alastair.watson403@btinternet.com

Kevin Sharp kevin.sharp@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Andrew Duckworth andrew.duckworth1@tesco.net

Grafham Cricket Club

Playing Bedford Park 2 and Bedford Park under a sun and showers sky was Tom Chester's first experience of being captain of Grafham Cricket Club. Bedford Park 2 won the toss, and their openers were soon among the runs, but Tim Hollick's taking of a wicket just when the match appeared at this early stage to be running away from Grafham, changed the tempo of the game. Steady bowling by Tom and his brother Matt steadied the scoring rate and the replacement of Tom Chester by Gareth Knowles changed the Bedford Park 2 innings. Gareth's 6 overs cost 44 runs, but he took 5 wkts and with Duncan Palmer taking a wicket with his first ball, saw Bedford Park 2 finish on 188 all out.



Grafham's batting this season has either been golden or leaden; today it was golden, with Tom Chester and Duncan Palmer scoring at a blistering pace. The first wicket falling at 116 with Tom Chester on 68; hitting eleven, 4s and one 6 gave the initiative to Grafham. An innings of 44 from Duncan Palmer and Josh Owen 32 not out saw Grafham home on 189 for 5: Tom's first victory as captain!



Next week saw Graham's annual match with Lockton in North Yorkshire. Hard to believe the match was played under an azure sky, with barely a hint of a cloud: a Yorkshire day without the threat of rain, hard for a southerner to believe.

Grafham opened the batting and scored steadily, until Rob Forsdick came to the wicket and hit five 6s in his innings; top scoring on 48 not out, backed by Gareth Knowles 31 not out, and Chris Dighton 32, with Grafham finishing on 205 for 8.

Lockton's reply after the loss of two early wickets was also steady and behind the asking rate, until their last batsman came in and knocked 28 in quick order, making it 3 to win off the last ball. Thankfully a hard hit single to Long On, meant that Grafham won by just 2 runs. A highly enjoyable and friendly game; graced in the interval by a tasty filling Yorkshire cricket tea; another memorable cricketing day in Yorkshire.

Homes Games in August:

August 6th	Grafham CC	vrs	Prime Ministers
August 20th	Grafham CC	vrs	Riseley
August 27th	Grafham CC	vrs	Wilden 2

Chris Dighton, Club Chairman

Wanted to Rent

Paddock land/grassland for four miniature ponies and two foals in Grafham area from November/December.

Would bring own electric fencing as strip feed them, as they are so tiny.

Can anyone give us a lead/info of local farmers/equestrian properties that might be able to help us find land please?

Please Contact Jill on 07724408351

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 810857
or Ann 810223**



FOXGLOVE EVENTS

present

BUCKDEN FOOD AND DRINK FAIR

SUNDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

BUCKDEN VILLAGE HALL

10am - 3.30pm

Homemade refreshments served all day

Admission £1

Come and test your tastebuds!

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**

**Patricia.Jordan@huntsdc.gov.uk
tel 457802**



View from the Pew!



From the beginning of August our services will follow a new pattern. On the first Sunday, our Family Service will be lay led as usual and Ann Allsop will join us instead of presiding at our third Sunday service. On the second Sunday, there will be no service at Grafham but the congregation is welcome at the 11am Eucharist at Ellington. On the third Sunday, we will have an 11am Eucharist and on the fourth Sunday an 8am Eucharist, being the "old style" of communion service which many of us love and remember with nostalgia from our earlier churchgoing years. Any fifth Sunday services will be shared throughout the group and all are welcome to attend. In fact the fifth Sunday in July, the 31st will be at Spaldwick as it is their Patronal Festival. Please check the "*Grafham Gossip*" or church noticeboard if you are unsure of any dates or times.

At the recent baptism of Beatrix, it was a joy to see so many children in church and to see them taking advantage of our recently re-organised children's corner.

We were also delighted to welcome back Jill Dighton to lead our Family Service on 3rd July and give the address. Jill's Auntie Vera accompanied her and gave us all great pleasure with the photos of her special day when she received her Maundy money from the Queen. The money itself was of much interest to us all as well as Auntie Vera's account of her wonderful experience.

A further reminder of the Flower Festival on the weekend of 10th and 11th September, the theme is "Hats," followed by Songs of Praise on Sunday at 4pm. Please see the notice on the front page.

Lastly, thank you to all those who donate and buy plants and books from the church tables. The income from these are much needed to put towards the daily running costs of the church and also our annual "Parish Share" which is often difficult to meet from weekly collections. Keep the plants and books coming!

We are very happy to welcome any visitors and holiday-makers in Grafham to any of our services. We love to see new faces.



A Shepherd's Tale July 2011

July has been a very quiet month with some much needed rain freshening up the grass, but we could still do with more. The lambs have enjoyed the dry weather and kept growing and as a result I have just sent our first batch off to the butcher. I had been hanging on to them so we could get performance recording data from them, but they were getting too big and taking few lambs away releases grazing for the others. We have also weaned the first batch of lambs; their mothers were not giving much milk. It was interesting to note that it was the mothers who minded losing their lambs rather than vice-versa. One ewe has been particularly noisy with a very persistent and long bleat. She kept going most of the first night so was moved to a further field so we get some sleep.

As harvest approaches we are already planning next tuppung season and looking at which ewes we should cull. At long last I have bitten the bullet and decided that two ewes who persistently suffer from a prolapse must go. I have been a bit reluctant to let them go as one was one of the first ewes I bought, whilst the other is proba-



Rams grazing

bly the tamest, but they are a pending disaster as there is a much greater risk of the whole uterus coming out at lambing. This will result in a huge vet's bill and most probably a dead ewe. To make up for this I have treated myself to two new shearlings from one of the top flocks. They are due to arrive this weekend. We are also trying to get everything ship-shape (sheep-shape surely!) as later in August we are hosting an open evening and farm walk for commercial sheep farmers.

Patrick Goldsworthy

Grafham Community Allotment and Gardening Association

The committee meets for about an hour on the first Tuesday of every month at 7.30 in the Cinnamon restaurant. We are looking for new members, so please get in touch if you are interested in joining the committee.

We'd like to establish how many plots we need so if you'd like to add your name to the list of people wishing to rent allotments, please email:

Melissa Davis GCAGA@hotmail.com



Huntingdon Conservative Association
(Grafham Branch)

Summer BBQ

Sunday 31st July from 12.30 to 16.00

at Braefield House, 18 Church Road,
Grafham

All are welcome

Tickets £12.50 available from above address
or ring **01480 811727**

Do you enjoy reading?

Come along and join us for informal social evenings. The next meeting is on

Tuesday 26 July, 8pm with Linda & Robin Yeoman, 10 Tort Hill, Sawtry Tel: 01487 832092

There is no August meeting.

We are always looking for new members, if you would like to join in, please feel free to contact any of the above members.

For more information please contact

Tina on 07711 012957



The Mobile Library

route H24 visits Breach Road, Grafham on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 10.40 to 11.00 (Next visits are 27th July, 24th August.)

For renewals or enquiries call **0845 045 5225** or visit <https://ibistro.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/uhtbin/cgiirsi/x/WEB/0/29/491/X/3>



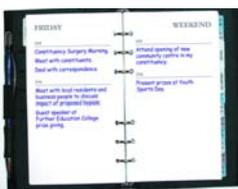
Grafham Social Committee

invites you to a Coffee Morning at 10.30am on **Wednesday, August 10th at Pat Watson's 10 Field Close**. This is an informal social occasion for residents of the village. Please come along for a cup of coffee and a chat.



Do you have any events to advertise?

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



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

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**



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>



Grafham Church Flower Club

We are available to decorate the church for weddings and other church occasions. Floral arrangements for:- Pedestal, Altar, Font, Windowsills, Pew Ends, Pillars.



Please contact Hazel Powell on **01480 810326** for details and quotes.

The Parish Council Agenda

is available to view in advance of the Parish Council meetings.



Visit www.grafhamvillage.org.uk

Click on **Parish Council Agenda**, in the main menu and then **Latest Agenda**.

Send your news, views and gossip to:
editor@grafhamgossip.co.uk

Wanted!

Do you have any unwanted books? 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!



Open from 7.30am

Breakfast club 2 ½ - 11yrs
Playgroup 2 ½ - 5 yrs
Mucky Pups (parent /toddlers)
For details tel: **01480 890077**

www.playtimesplaygroup.co.uk

Babysitters Wanted

If you live in Grafham and are available to babysit, please email your name and phone number to:

editor@grafhamgossip.co.uk

Babysitters

Danielle 20yrs **811279**

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

Felicity 22yrs -Grade B GCSE Child Development **812328**

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

Bryony 17yrs **812354** experienced with newborn -14yr olds

Kirsty 18yrs - babysitting course **810550**

Kate 17yrs - babysitting course **812179**

Livvy 14yrs - babysitting course **819708**

Georgie 14yrs- babysitting course **432688**

Caroline 14yrs **812179**

Harriet 16yrs **810043** Emma 17yrs **860632**

Holly 16yrs **810867** baby sitting and first aid courses

Amie 22yrs **810463** day or evening at short notice



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH June /July 2011



Report on Neighbourhood Watch Meeting June 21st

How disappointing that only six people turned out from the village to support the event, which speaks volumes. There were two councillors, The parish clerk and myself meaning that only two residents in the whole of the village made the effort to support the evening. The police sent two staff to give the presentation and it really does make one ask if there is any interest for the scheme to continue.

However, Gemma and Debbie from the police gave a very interesting insight to distraction burglary and rogue traders reminding us once again to be vigilant. There is a reported increase currently in bike theft and sat navs from cars. It was pointed out how criminals can see the mark on the windscreen where the Sat Nav has been taken on and off continually. The police are doing plain clothes patrols in unmarked cars around the village both

during the day and night.

Sadly on the same day as the meeting at 11.45am in the morning a property had lead stolen from it whilst builders were on site working on an extension to the house. However, the good news is that the vehicle number was obtained and a good description of the thief as he actually spoke to the builders. This is an ongoing investigation.

There have been reports of a car trader leaving cars parked outside properties for prolonged periods of time - the police can only act if it is parked illegally, in which case you can call them out.

On Monday June 6th, a truck was deliberately set on fire in Church Road and a fire brigade crew from Huntingdon arrived and extinguished the blaze using two hose reels.

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

Papworth Hospital Charity
Living & breathing Papworth.

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Sunday 25 September 2011, Grafham Water, Cambs
Call: 01480 364237 or visit
www.papworthhospitalcharity.org.uk/whd
Registered Charity Number 1049224

Early Bird Entry just £5 per person

Have a heart - take part!

FIVE PARISH AUTUMN FAIR

Change of date to Saturday 24th September at Grafham Village Hall

The Five Parish Autumn Fair is now to be held a fortnight later than originally planned, on Saturday 24th September, in Grafham Village Hall.

Offers of help will be very welcome.

Can you run a stall?
Can you help with refreshments?
Can you organise a game or competition? Can you look out raffle prizes, tombola and bottle stall prizes?



In fact, start looking out for anything useful that we can sell to make the occasion the best ever!

Offers and ideas to Sue on 453350.



Congratulations on your engagement, Kevin and Becky!



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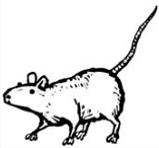
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Deadline Dates

Grafham Gossip deadline dates are midnight on the following Thursdays:

August 18th

To advertise e-mail us: editor@grafhamgossip.co.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

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