GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 387

FREE

MAY 2023









CORONATION: WHAT'S ON HERE

Big Picnic's now on the rec, not in The Street

St Giles service, bells, Town vs Gown cricket

How we celebrated last time around



On the cover: Graffham is preparing to celebrate King Charles's Coronation in the way only our village can. In a special section inside this edition, starting on page 27, we preview all the events planned locally and how we marked Queen Elizabeth II's ascent 70 years ago. Thanks for the front cover crown to © Izzy Barrett.

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Parish of Graffham with Woolavington.

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Writing from the Rectory: Oil of Chrism

Bread, wine, water, oil are all ordinary products made extraordinary through sacramental worship. In this month of May, oil plays a significant part in local and national ceremonies, in our King's Coronation at Westminster Abbey and Deanery Confirmation at our own St Giles Church.

Anointing by oil sets people apart for a good purpose, literally makes them holy. In the most solemn part of the Coronation, King Charles will be anointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury with specially scented and blessed oil of Chrism (the

word means anointing). in the act of consecration itself. It reminds us that a Coronation is a solemn act of worship before it is any other kind of celebration, a service that will change King Charles irrevocably, as it changed his mother Queen Elizabeth II, into an embodiment of duty and service in our



country. This is the vocation he takes up, as did she, a setting apart powerfully evident in how his life is lived and how he is treated by those around him.

That same week, equally beautifully scented Chrism oil, blessed in Holy Week will be used by Bishop Ruth to anoint our three confirmation candidates, to confirm their faith. The impact of anointing on those who are being confirmed may be less overtly obvious than that of the King, though is equally transform-

Continued on next page

The Parish of Graffham with Woolavington

Priest in charge: Reverend Vivien Turner 01798 867199 hello@stgilesgraffham.org

Churchwarden: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113



stgilesgraffham.org



@stgilesgraffham

Continued from previous page

-ative. Through trust, faith and vision, this sacrament will find its own expression in their daily lives, bringing blessing to others and themselves.

We need to pray to prepare for these momentous occasions in people's lives. Christians have been given an opportunity to pray for King Charles, and with King Charles, through a little prayer book specially produced for the purpose, with a thought and a prayer for the King each day between Easter Day and Coronation Day. We can pray too, for our confirmation candidates Cindy, Victoria, and Julia, as their own special service approaches, that through this act of witness they may realise their own vocations to service in our Lord's name.

So please join in prayer for our King in his consecration, and our candidates in their confirmation this month, as the Holy Spirit is invoked to heal, sanctify, and bless them in their journey of faith. And as bells ring out for them in celebration, and new church flags fly joyfully from their mast, may God bless us too, in ours.

The deanery confirmation service is on Tuesday 2 May at 7pm at St Giles Church. All welcome.

From the church registers We offer our sincere condolences to the family of Barbara Kemp RIP, laid to rest in our churchyard on 24 April. May those for whom we have given thanks rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen (Ed: See also page 18.)

V IVIG

Reverend Vivien

A big thank you to Emma,
Andy and Andrew of
Nonnington Farm for
bringing FIVE donkeys to
St Giles on Palm Sunday
to help us celebrate Jesus'
triumphal entry into
Jerusalem on a donkey –
as the cross on every
donkey's back reminds us.





Easter dawns with fire, candles, lamb and eggs

Easter Sunday in Graffham started early – with a service at St Giles at dawn. From a fire kindled in the churchyard (above), the Easter candle was lit and carried into a darkened church (below left), as a sign of Christ's light overcoming darkness in the world, explained the Rev Vivien. Those that set their alarms early to join in were rewarded with breakfast afterwards. Later, at a standing-room-only family service the Rev Vivien blessed a newly born lamb (below right) – before the traditional Easter egg hunt in glorious sunshine outside in the churchyard.







Market nets more than £3,000 for Empire Hall

Graffham Easter Market made a welcome return in its full, traditional form on Saturday 1 April, with the Empire Hall packed with artisans' stands to tempt villagers to part with their money. The annual event had been on ice or held in



reduced formats in recent years because of the pandemic.

It was back in all its glory last month, though – and to its usual role of the biggest fund-raiser of the year for the Empire Hall, netting some £3,125 for its upkeep.

The raffle, home produce stand

Left: Gay Foord and Gillian Charlesworth with the amazing selection of home produce up for grabs. Below: Just three of the stallholders who brought their goodies to tempt those attending the event.











All set for the Easter egg stall are (left) Ilinca Agafitei, Isabella Savastano, Alfie Cooper, Rosie Cooper and Toby Bowden with Serena Cooper and Mark Bowden behind, and (right) Toby again with his brother and sister Edward and Philippa.

and refreshments bar were all kept particularly busy, while the Easter egg hunt, manned by the Bowden and Aparicio families also did a roaring trade. The many colourful stands were selling linens, hats, artisan interiors, pottery, lamps, patchwork, bread, local beer and more.

Empire Hall Chairman Sally Blunt said: "Thank you to the very many people who contributed to the fantastic Easter Market. It was a lovely event which everyone really enjoyed – and we can all be proud of the end result."



TEDDY TIME IN THE PAVILION TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays 10.15-11.30am Pavilion, Graffham Rec

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Two charged for Graffham burglary attempt

Two people have been charged following an attempted robbery and burglary in Graffham, Sussex Police confirmed in a statement to *Graffham Parish News* just after our April edition had gone to press.

The force summarised the incident like this: "Around 8pm on Tuesday 14 March, the occupants of a Mitsubishi Shogun, a man and woman, attacked another woman in Hoyle Lane and attempted to steal her car key. Following a struggle, both suspects made off towards Hoyle Road without the car key. In a separate report a short time later, a man and woman entered a property, in Woodcote Lane, and asked to call a taxi. They then stole a car key and attempted to drive away the victim's car, but the victim managed to remove the key from the ignition."

Police launched an investigation into both incidents and two people were arrested, subsequently charged and both were remanded in custody:

- Crystal Brazil, 36, has been charged with burglary and attempted robbery.
- Damon Hardman, 49, has been charged with burglary.

Both gave their addresses as Eastergate Lane, Walberton, near Fontwell.

Sussex Police officers are also investigating a report of a Mitsubishi Shogun colliding with a Range Rover in Barnham Road, Barnham, earlier that same day.

Anyone who witnessed the collision, or who has any other information that may assist the investigation, is asked to contact police online or by calling 101, quoting serial number 47230047426.

• Crimestoppers - see page 47.

Flying flags for the village

Two new flagpoles were being erected in and for the village as this edition of *Graffham Parish News* went to press – just in time for the Coronation.

A six metre tall one, in white aluminium, is in St Giles' churchyard, opposite the bridlepath to Calloways. It will usually fly the flag of the Diocese of Chichester – a St George's Cross with the diocese coat of arms in one corner – with the Union flag hoisted on national days. It is a gift from parishioner Bumble Findlay, in memory of her late husband, former churchwarden and county councillor Brigadier Allan Findlay OBE.

The other one, slightly shorter, is at the war memorial, installed by Graffham Parish Council. It will fly the Union flag on special days.

District council candidates make their pitches

Three candidates are standing to represent the Fittleworth ward – which includes Graffham and East Lavington – on Chichester District Council in the local elections on Thursday 4 May, and Graffham Parish News invited each of them to explain in just 125 or so words why residents here for should vote for them. See below.

All 36 places on the council are up for election. The Conservatives are currently the biggest party with 17 representatives but do not have overall control. The next biggest group at present is the Liberal Democrats with 11 councillors. There are also now three Independents, two Greens, two 'Local Alliance' members, and a Labour member.

The district council's responsibilities include waste and recycling collection, housing, planning (with South Downs National Park), building control, parking, public loos, licencing, leisure centres, parks, cemeteries and community services.

These will be the first elections in the UK where voters will be required to show photo ID at the polling station before casting their vote.

John Cross

Over the past nine months, I've knocked on almost every door in Graffham and spoken to many of you about your concerns.

My priorities are the ones most of you have raised when we met – the state of the roads and the poor bus service. The roads, whether those closed or in a poor condition, affect everyone trying to go about their daily lives. The inadequate bus service isolates those who don't drive and reduces their choices whether young or old.

Liberal Democrats



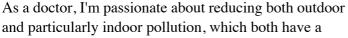
I have lived and worked in the ward for 22 years, been a Sutton and Barlavington parish councillor for 12 of them and chair for eight years.

Whatever your issue, I hope to help, serve and work with all in this ward.

Did you know...? You can recycle tops from plastic milk bottles and used printer cartridges – and raise funds for charities at the same time. Just drop them (as clean as you can make them!) into the appropriate boxes at St Giles Church. The milk bottle tops are recycled to make plastic toys for children, with proceeds given to Chestnut Tree Children's Hospital. Old printer cartridges are also sold for recycling, in aid of other good causes.

David Ross Green

I've lived in Graffham for well over 20 years and have served as a parish councillor. I'm very interested in the Green Party's position on what the council can do about encouraging new build projects to have a lower carbon footprint for those who will live in them, and to support local infrastructure. We also favour improving rural transport.





huge impact on health and which the council can influence. I'm an enthusiast for telehealth but recognise there is a lack of digital resources and training for those most in need, which the council can help provide.

Alan Sutton Conservative

Please VOTE to allow me to continue as your District Councillor. You will stay well represented. Whatever your politics, I'll always try to help you. National politics has nothing to do with how we perform locally. We can set our own local policies, and what I love about my role is that I can get things done – and do. I promise to keep taking a leading role and not just talk.

I work hard for Graffham, liaising closely with your county councillor and MP to give your village a strong voice and provide good communications about the many



things that affect you – winter gritting, drainage improvement to reduce flooding, pot hole repairs and supporting residents on planning and housing issues. I'm fully behind the new policy to improve safety and reduce speed in our lanes.

Despite a pandemic and cost of living crisis, all services have been maintained. Our 'Supporting You' initiative has been adopted by many other councils as the gold standard. Chichester District Council is one of very few authorities providing 100% rent support to the vulnerable.

Good local politics goes far beyond party politics and national issues. The trend by opposition parties is to promise the impossible and criticise. I will never run a negative personal campaign but concentrate on actually delivering for you.





Temporary closure

We are temporarily having to close our doors for refurbishment and essential maintenance works from Monday 24 April 2023.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and look forward to re-opening by the end of June 2023.

Please visit our web site www.whitehorsegraffham.com where we will be updating information on our progress.

For any enquiries please feel free to contact us via info@whitehorsegraffham.com.

The entire team looks forward to welcoming you back to the White Horse, Graffham, very soon.

Our very best wishes,

Ryan, Will, Chris and the team

Notice of the Annual Parish Meeting of East Lavington

Notice is given that the Annual Meeting of the electors for East Lavington Parish will be held on Monday 15 May 2023 at 6.15pm in the Recital Room, Music Block, Seaford College, Lavington Park

Agenda

- 1 Opening of the meeting by the Chairman
- 2 Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2022
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual Meeting 2022
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Parish Council Finance Report
- 6 District Councillor's Report
- 7 County Councillor's Report
- 8 Question Time
- 9 Conclusion of meeting

It will be followed by the Annual May Meeting of East Lavington Parish Council.

For further information or directions contact the clerk, at eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com.

Simon stands down as Graffham Parish Council chair

Opportunities have opened up for new blood to sit on Graffham Parish Council, playing a key role in our community, after four old hands – with a collective four decades of service between them – declared they had 'done their bit' rather than seek a mandate for a further four years in office.

Current Chairman Simon Mackie is stepping aside from the council after eight years in office, the past two in the chair. His predecessor as Chairman, Howard Charman, is also retiring, after serving for three terms – a total of 12 years, four in the chair. So too are current Planning lead Sandy MacQueen and Highways Officer Patrick Churchward, both after eight years as councillors.

Simon said: "I've very much enjoyed my time representing the community on Graffham Parish Council but after eight years, including two as Chairman, it's time for me to let someone else have a go. My thanks go to my fellow councillors for their support during my period in office – particular to Howard, my predecessor as chairman, and Sandy and Patrick who have also devoted so much of their energies on behalf of the community for so long."

Five other established members of the council have put their names forward to continue to serve into the future – Colin Barker, John Bracey, Roger Coakes, Jon Warren and Nick White. As there are places for nine representatives on Graffham Parish Council, they will be nominated to serve for the next four years without the need for an election. A new Chairman will be elected at the council's meeting this month.

So that leaves space for new additions who can be co-opted by the sitting councillors. Might you be interested in filling one of those places?

At neighbouring East Lavington Parish Council, four established representatives have been nominated to serve for a further four years – Chairman Charles Britton along with Barry Gosden, Patrick Limpus, and Simon Longman. With no other names put forward, no election is needed there.

Across England, there are more than 10,000 parish councils, providing the statutory tier of local government closest to the people. They make up an essential part of the structure of local democracy with a vital role in acting on behalf of the communities they represent, giving community views on planning applications and other proposals, working with other local authorities to achieve benefits for the neighbourhood and alerting relevant bodies to work that needs to be undertaken, with power to raise money through the local council tax.

Meet your neighbour: New parish clerk Louisa

A regular feature in which we introduce local residents. This month, editor Michael Blunt catches up with Louisa Hooper, the newly appointed clerk to Graffham Parish Council.

Many local residents, on hearing the name of Graffham Parish Council's new clerk, may well respond "who on earth is she?", even though Louisa Hooper has lived in the village for more than two decades, serving in voluntary capacities on multiple neighbourhood organisations during that time.

They may be more familiar with her as Louisa Thomas, doyenne of Graffham's badminton group and former secretary of the village's rec committee and the action group set up a few years ago to contain off-road bikers and four-by-four hobbyists who had been making the byways across Graffham Down and the neighbouring hills and countryside impassable by anyone else.

Thomas changed to Hooper only late last month (24 April, to be precise) when she married long-term boyfriend Mark Hooper, a design engineer, whom she met via internet dating site Plenty of Fish.

They chose to hold their wedding at her "family church" – St Mary's, at Shackleford, near Godalming – rather than here at St Giles. She explained: "My Mum and Dad were married there and my grandparents are buried there, so I felt they could be part of the service, too. It's also very close to Mark's home in Elstead."

By the time you read this, the newlyweds are likely to have returned from their honeymoon – not far away, in East Sussex's Ashdown Forest: "We wanted to go where we could take our dogs too!"

Then she will start in earnest in her new role as Clerk to Graffham Parish Council, spending just over half a day a week organising its meetings, drafting minutes, following up on actions, preparing documents, managing its accounts, budgets and website and liaising with village organisations and groups.

She'll combine this with her three-day-a-week job as a legal secretary in the family department at a lawyer's practice in Mark's home 'town' of Elstead. She'll base herself for those three days at Mark's house, spending the rest of the week at her own home at Guillod's Cottages, where sons Sam (who works for delivery business DPD) and James (who works for Louisa's brother in Faustino's Wine Bar in Midhurst) will be keeping things as ship-shape as any 20-something-year-old pair

of males can, joined by daughter Melissa when she's not studying at Portsmouth University.

Louisa spent her earliest days at Shackleford, where her parents helped her grandparents run a mushroom farm, long since also turned into housing: "I grew up in a stable, the building being a former coach house!"

She moved with her family to Petworth in 1976 – and has lived in the area ever since. For school, she went to Conifers in Midhurst and then on to St Michael's at Burton Park, Duncton, where the buildings have been converted



Graffham Parish Council's new clerk Louisa Hooper (Thomas) on her Arab gelding Ali.

into private homes since the school closed. As an 18-year-old, she shared Woodside Cottage in Graffham with some friends and "living here really got its hooks into me".

When her boys arrived, she and their Dad were living "opposite the tip" in Midhurst. Then, in the year 2000, her now-home at Guillod's came on the market – and that was that. Two weeks after arriving there, they were joined by Melissa – born in the living room, surrounded by packing cases.

All three children progressed through Graffham Infants School, Duncton Junior then Midhurst Rother College, with Louisa balancing motherhood with her job then as a medical secretary (she converted to the legal sector during lockdown). Their home has always been full of animals. They currently have two dogs — a black Labrador and a Romanian rescue Collie mix — and two cats. Louisa keeps her 18-year old, 14.2 hands, grey roan Arab gelding Ali off Norwood Lane.

When she's not riding her horse, cycling on the Downs, walking her dogs or working, she joins the village's fellow badminton players in the Empire Hall on Wednesday evenings and plays tennis with friends in Farnham.

Now she'll also be keeping Graffham Parish Council on track: "I've always been interested in the village and liked to do my bit for the community. This seemed like an ideal opportunity to combine that with the skills I've acquired at work."

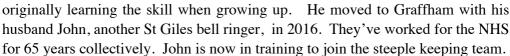
Howard pulls role as bell ringers' Tower Captain

Graffham has a new Tower Captain, leading the team of bell ringers at St Giles Church, with Howard Pescott taking on the role after it has been vacant for a few years since Carole Kirke stood down. In his new capacity, Howard has overall responsibility for managing the team of ringers, in conjunction with ringing masters

and trainers who supervise practice sessions and Sunday and special ringing occasions, and Phillip Turner who leads the steeple keeping team, maintaining the bells themselves.

This includes overseeing the safety of ringers, social aspects of ringing, and liaising with the local community and bodies.

Howard has started ringing at St Giles in the past year, after



There are now 16 others from across the village who join him in our village church's belfry, ringing out on Sundays and other special days, as well at their Tuesday evening and monthly Saturday practices.



Getting set for Bell Sunday: St Giles will be taking part in Bell Sunday on 14 May – a nationwide ringing event to commemorate St Dunstan, the Patron Saint of Bellringers, held on the nearest Sunday to his feast day (19 May). The 10.30am service that day will have a special bell ringing theme. All will be revealed there and then!

Grooming Graffham's growlers

A new dog grooming service is taking off in Graffham – all set to give hounds across the village and surrounding area a cut above when it comes to a wash, trim, blow dry and nail clip. The new business, Hunter's Hounds, is run by Sinead Hunter, of Woodcote Lane, as an extension of her pet sitting and walking service, which is now fully booked.

Sinead says she takes very much an individual approach: "Dogs are a bit like us girls – no single style suits them all, so each cut and trim is different depending on the breed and look." If you'd like to book your four-legged friend in with her, call 07716 136437, email huntershounds 7@gmail.com or see the advert on page 50.

Physio Serena will treat you now at Empire Hall

Physiotherapy is the latest health service available on a regular basis at Graffham's Empire Hall, with village professional Serena Cooper offering sessions in the treatment room there every Friday. For those unable to get to the hall, she will also be providing home visits.

Serena grew up in Graffham and moved back here a couple of years ago with her

own family – just a few doors down from her brother Mark Bowden, in The Street.

She graduated from Southampton University with a Masters in Physiotherapy and went on to work for the Sussex NHS Trust. Since starting her family, she has been working down the road at The Boxgrove. She is a Member of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy and on the register of the Health and Care Professionals Council.



At Graffham, she will be offering a wide range of

physiotherapy treatments, for back, neck or joint pain or ligament or sports injuries, taking referrals from GPs or direct from patients. With experience in triage, she can assess injuries and diagnose and deliver the appropriate remedial treatment.

To make a booking, contact her at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com or on 07884 445983 or see her advertisement on page 47.

Letters to the editor

The column YOU write. Got a comment to make about anything in Graffham Parish News or anything locally? Email editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

From Roger Hanauer, The Steeles, Selham Road, Graffham: As one who has only recently moved here, *Graffham Parish News* has not only proved to be an immensely pleasurable monthly read but most helpful in easing me into the vibrant life of this village. More power to your elbow!

Erratum: 'Scott' Gray

To clarify, the ashes of 'Scott' Cyril Henry James Gray were not buried in St Giles' churchyard on Thursday 16 March, as reported in our April edition, but elsewhere. His memorial service was, however, held in our village church that day.

Diary of a New Farm: Bringing home the bacon!

Katie Forman and Brett Sacks continue their occasional diary as they establish Slow Grown Farm, at Hoyle, on Graffham's border with Heyshott.

It's times like this that the sandy soil of Hoyle Farm really proves its worth! It has been a wet spring but we won't complain because we're grateful for the rain as we anticipate a boom in the grass growth as the temperature warms.

Our cows, who are calving imminently, will also be excited for the lush spring grass. By calving our cows in spring, we ensure that they have access to the most nutritious grass when their bodies need it the most – and in turn, provide nutritious milk to their calves and to us for cheese-making!

We have been keeping dry in our new production building as we've been continuing to make our aged pork products. We're very excited to announce that our much-awaited bacon and some limited charcuterie, including snack salamis, are now available! We dry-age our bacon for three weeks to achieve a deeper flavour to show off the quality of our pork. We hand-make our bacon with classic aromatics – juniper, bay and black pepper. We have back bacon and streaky bacon available. In addition to our new bacon and charcuterie offerings, we have limited quantities of our pork items remaining. If you've had your eye on a particular cut, like a roasting joint, loin chop or tenderloin – be sure to place your order soon to secure your favourites before they're gone. We won't have any more pork until the

autumn, when our next batch of pigs leave. More charcuterie will be available over the coming months and our cheese will be available as we get closer to summer.

You can shop for all our products at slowgrownfarm.co.uk





Slow Grown Farm's newly available higher welfare snack salami and back bacon.





Emma with two of her market garden team at Nonnington Farm, Chris and James – and the first of their produce on sale in Graffham Village Shop.

Graffham-grown veg and salad now on sale

Vegetables and salads grown in Graffham at Nonnington Farm's new market garden are now available for sale – via a weekly 'veg box' from the farm or as individual items from Graffham Village Shop.

The veg boxes, available each Thursday from this month, will offer six to 10 portions of seasonal items for £20 a week. Items currently available at Graffham Village Shop include radishes, mixed salad leaves and broccoli rabe.

They are the first produce from what was a one-acre field almost across the road from the White Horse that is being converted into a fully-fledged market garden.

Nonnington Farm's Emma Wallace said: "We'll be growing virtually every type of vegetable, salad and fruit that you have ever heard of – and quite a few you may never have come across before, like cucamelons*."

While the farm is not yet formally organic accredited, it follows full organic, nodig permaculture principles – no chemicals are used, just manure from the farms' animals and compost to add soil nutrition, nets and other cover to keep off the birds and woodchip as paths.

Emma and her team hope ultimately to be cropping up to 44 weeks a year, all out doors. They also aim eventually to offer pickles and preserves and much more.

For more info, see nonningtonfarm.com or email welcome@nonningtonfarm.com *Originally from South America, cucamelons look like miniature melons but taste like a combination of cucumber and lime, for adding to salads.

Watch for next month's edition for much more on Nonnington Farm.

Barbara Kemp: Christingle queen and dog lover

Barbara Kemp, who lived at Mulberry Cottage in Graffham's Street, for more than 35 years until last year, died on 27 March, two days after her 100th birthday. Here's an edited version of the family tribute given at her funeral at St Giles Church on 24 April.

Barbara was born on 25 March 1923 in Portsmouth, the daughter of a naval officer. She spent weekends and holidays with her grandparents at the family farm in the New Forest, sparking her love of countryside, farming life and, particularly, dogs.

She went to Portsmouth North Girls Grammar School, then on to the city's college. Aged 16 when war broke out, she combined studies with duty as an ARP (Air Raid Precautions) warden and then, at 17, as a night-time ambulance driver. She started smoking to calm herself, while waiting for casualties from bombed buildings. In

1942, she was drafted into the Aeronautical Inspection Directorate, training in London before going to Hamble to inspect Spitfire production. After the war she graduated with a Geography degree and became a secondary school teacher.

In 1948, she met Michael, then an army cadet studying engineering at Portsmouth, on a blind date. She turned up with a car, a fur coat, and a bottle of gin – even though rationing was still in force! He joked that he knew straight away that she was a 'keeper'! It was a whirlwind romance and they married within six months.



Ba in 1948, when she wed.

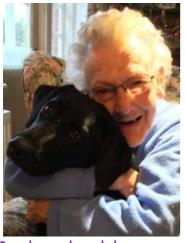
Two years later, he was posted by the Army to Egypt's Canal Zone. Barbara joined him in Suez and enjoyed the challenge of setting up a home in a foreign country. He was then posted as second-in-command for the Army's Rail Service Depot in northern England. They settled into family life in Yorkshire with their children – Lindsay, Christopher, Sara and Jonathan. Barbara continued to teach while running a large family household.

In 1963, they moved to Sale, as Mike left the Army and joined the Crown Agents. Barbara continued to teach Geography, at a tough city secondary school. Four years later, Mike's job moved him to London and so he and Ba bought a small ramshackled bungalow in two acres of land in West Sussex's Plaistow. Their vision was to self-build a large new bungalow for the family. They worked every spare hour and learnt a lot of building skills, while he commuted to London and she taught at Horsham High School for Girls. Before retiring in 1983, she was appointed head of department. She loved teaching and her former pupils still remember her fondly.

There was always a warm welcome and a good meal for friends and family at 'Woodlands'. Christmases were large – sometimes more than 25 round the table.

In 1986 Ba and Mike downsized to Mulberry Cottage, here in Graffham. They threw themselves into updating and extending the cottage with a conservatory.

They also joined many activities in this thriving village, including behind the scenes in the Rustics am dram group, at the Bowls Club, helping at various fundraising events and at St Giles. She oversaw the girl guides in making the Christingles for the church, where Mike played the organ. She loved gardening, growing flowers and vegetables and, with her sewing and knitting projects, was always busy.



Ba always loved dogs.

Ba owned dogs all her life. Her first was a fifth birthday present and in retirement she had time to breed two litters of puppies and started walking for Canine Partners and for village friends.

Grandchildren arrived and Ba and Mike still loved hosting gatherings of family and friends, although they also enjoyed holidays abroad. Sadly in 1993 Mike was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease and slowly this caused disability. Ba, never one to fuss or worry, just got on with caring for him until he died in 2004. They had such a happy marriage and thoroughly enjoyed their golden wedding anniversary party in 1999 with half the village and

all the family including 14 grandchildren, in the Empire Hall. Barbara stoically carried on living at Mulberry Cottage. She knew her memory was failing and was diagnosed with dementia. She could be quite funny about it – when the nurse suggested a course to give information and advice, she said with a wry smile: "What's the point of that – I won't be able to remember any of it." She finally moved to Barlavington Manor care home last year.

Her 100th birthday was celebrated with a big family party, back in the Empire Hall, as she had wanted, but sadly she was unwell on the day. She died peacefully two days later, on 27 March. She was an inspiration to all and will be very much missed.



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Annette Lovell: Sexton and spiritual healer

Annette Lovell, who lived for 38 years at Church Cottage, overlooking St Giles, until 2014, died in St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, on 2 April, just shy of her 97th birthday. She was buried at the South Downs Natural Burial Site, East Meon near Petersfield, on 27 April. Her son Mark Lovell writes...

Annette moved to Graffham's Church Cottage, overlooking St Giles, in 1976 and lived there for 38 years, well into her eighties, finally moving to Chichester.

In her earlier life she was a BOAC stewardess, travelling from Europe across Africa to the Far East. She married an RAF pilot in the mid-1950s and brought up a family within range of Heathrow, where he subsequently worked. When she arrived in



Graffham, she had recently been widowed, with two teenage children – Mark and Gabrielle – and not much money. She worked in market research while renovating Church Cottage and teaching yoga. Thereafter she pursued her interest in alternative/ complementary health, working in an independent health shop in Chichester and practising and teaching many therapies including 'Touch for Health' (kinesiology).

She was a trained and accredited spiritual healer (not a spiritualist) as well as a counsellor and trainer for Cruse Bereavement for many years.

She had an enquiring mind and enjoyed travel, art and music, once appearing as an ancient fairy in *A Midsummer's Night Dream* at the Empire Hall, singing bass! She also volunteered as a guide for 20 years at the Goodwood Sculpture Park.

Living right next to the church, she kept an eye, and opened and closed it daily for decades – registering 'sexton' as her occupation in her passport. She was a vivid character, both in her choice of dress and the force of her personality.

Heyshott's soldiering in unexpected places

Brian Lowe will deliver a talk titled *Luck and Coincidence: Soldiering in Unexpected Places*, based on his long and distinguished military service in 15 widely different countries, the Cobden Hall's May talk, at Heyshott on Thursday 11 May. Doors and bar open at 7pm with the talk starting at 7.30pm.

Graffham Garden Group visits for 2023

Graffham Garden Group has posted details of its programme of visits for this summer – which are open to all. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!

Wednesday 10 May 2pm

Leonardslee Gardens

Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, Horsham RH13 6PP

Described as 'the finest woodland gardens in England'. These Grade 1 listed gardens comprise 240 acres of woodland and lakes set within a steep valley. Famous for outstanding displays of rhododendrons, azaleas, camelias, magnolias and bluebells. Tea room and restaurant.



£12.50

- special reduced group rate.

Numbers must be confirmed a week in advance so payment needs to be made now. To book your place, contact Nicky West on 07796 144647 or at nicolamwest@btinternet.com.

Wednesday 21 June 2.30pm

Sandhill Farmhouse

Nyewood Road, Petersfield GU31 5HU

Owned by the founder and principal of the English Gardening School, Rosemary Alexander. A great example of good design and planting including roses, red and grass borders, white garden and potager.



£10 -

including tea and cake.

For this visit, please book by email to Marie Bracey mariebracey@me.com.

Friday 11 August 10.15am

St Mary's Bramber House and Gardens

The Street, Steyning BN44 3WU

14th Century historic pilgrim inn. Still lived in today, its fine panelled interior includes the unique Elizabethan trompe l'oeil Painted Room. Five acres outside with rose gardens, 'English Poetry Garden', 'King's Garden', landscaped water garden and rural museum.



£16.50 for exclusive use of the house and gardens with tour by experienced guide plus refreshments.

To book your place, contact Nicky West at nicolamwest@btinternet.com or on 07796 144647.



Graffham Down Trust May Butterfly Walk Sunday May 14 at 10.30am

We take a leisurely walk through the Graffham Down Reserves
looking for spring butterflies and moths

It's a steep climb up, so if you'd like a lift to the top, email jimkirke@hotmail.com

Meet outside St Giles Church (GU28 0NJ) at the south end of Graffham, at the foot of the South Downs.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you would like to attend, or for more information, please email Jude Sennitt at sennitt2@gmail.com

A Bygones special: Profumo, Krays - and Graffham

A regular feature in which joint editor Bill Barrett looks back at what was happening in the village and the wider world this month in the past. In this edition, a special focus on a long-running court case...

50 years ago - May 1973: A protracted dispute between Lavington Park's owners and West Sussex County Council over public access between Graffham with Woolavington Parish's churches of St Giles' and St Peter's finally reached its conclusion.

In November 1971, the case had come before the West Sussex Quarter Sessions which ruled that, pursuant to Section 31 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act of 1949, there WAS a public footpath across the estate.

Armed with what was stated to be new evidence, Lavington Park's owners sought to overturn this judgement and, in so doing, involved six of the most famous judges of the time. Presiding over the High Court of Justice's Queen's Bench Division in July 1972 was the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Widgery, with Mr Justice Melford Stevenson and Mr Justice Milmo.

Widgery had just completed his inquiry into Northern Ireland's Bloody Sunday shootings of January 1972, in which 14 people had died. As a barrister Melford Stevenson had defended Ruth Ellis in 1955 (she was hanged) and prosecuted suspected serial killer Dr John Bodkin Adams in 1957 (he was acquitted). As a judge he had sentenced each of the Kray twins to more than 30 years' imprisonment in 1969. Milmo had presided over Great Train Robber Buster Edwards' trial in 1966.

Although in the judgement Widgery stated he had "a good deal of sympathy" with Lavington Park's case, the three judges nevertheless unanimously refused Lavington Park's application "with costs".

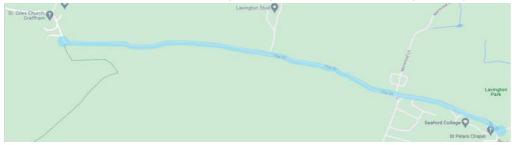
Whether encouraged by Widgery's sympathy, or by extensive criticism of his Bloody Sunday judgement (Tony Blair announced a new enquiry in 1998 which took 12 years to complete while Widgery's had taken three months), Lavington Park took its case to the Court of Appeal where it was heard by Lord Denning (the Master of the Rolls), Lord Justice Orr and Lord Justice Lawton.

Margaret Thatcher rated Denning, who had been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Sussex in 1960, as the greatest English judge of modern times. After Prime Minister Harold MacMillan had asked him to lead the Profumo enquiry in June

1963, Denning's racy report became a best seller for Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Orr, in 1967 and 1968 respectively, had granted divorces to the wife of spy George Blake after the latter defected to Moscow, and to Britt Ekland on the grounds of Peter Sellers' cruelty. Lawton, who remarkably had been a member of the British Union of Fascists before the Second World War, had sentenced gangster Charlie Richardson to 25 years in 1967 and was to be one of the three judges who refused the Guildford Four leave to appeal in 1977. He counted Margaret Thatcher and Robin Day among his pupils.

In their 25-page appeal judgement of 24 May 1973, they unanimously dismissed Lavington Park's appeal. Quite what the most senior legal eagles in the land thought of a wrangle over a mile or so of track deep in rural Sussex is unknown – perhaps unsurprisingly the Lavington Park affair is not listed amongst Denning's cases on Wikipedia!

Below: The mile-long footpath between St Giles' and St Peter's, highlighted here in blue, that Britain's most senior legal eagles had to rule on 50 years ago.



...and here's Bill's regular bygones for the month...

10 years ago - May 2013: At the annual meeting of Graffham Parish Council, Chairman Richard Davidson reports on efforts to persuade West Sussex County Council to address the appalling state of local roads. Bishop of Chichester Martin Warner visits Woolavington's St Peter's to bless the refurbished 18th century bell. Graffham Rustics perform *Entertaining Angels*. Sam Tompkins speaks on 'Palestine' at the village Men's Breakfast. Bonnie Tyler represents the UK at the Eurovision Song Contest, coming 19th with *Believe in Me*. Wigan Athletic defeat Manchester City to win the FA Cup, then become the first winners to be relegated from the Premier League three days later. Deaths of wrestler Mick McManus (aged 93), actor and director Brian Forbes (86), Bill Pertwee (ARP Warden Hodges in *Dad's Army*, 86), Paul Shane (Ted in *Hi-de-Hi!*, 72) and Max, the world's oldest dog (29).

25 years ago - May 1998: A memorial service is held at St Giles Church for the late Mary Kirby, formerly Pescod, who ran the village shop (and telephone exchange!) with her husband Jack for 40 years. At the Annual Parish Meeting, Chair Dick Challen announces that the precept for the year is £8,000, £5,000 more than usual, to fund resurfacing of the approach road to the recreation ground. Dog



fouling at the rec is discussed and County Councillor Tex Pemberton declares there is cross-party support to prevent the South Downs becoming a national park. Graffham Rustics perform *HMS Pinafore*. Chris Adams (then Sussex cricket captain and now Seaford College coach) makes his England one day debut, against South Africa at the Oval. Death of Frank Sinatra (82).

50 years ago - May 1973: Graffham Rustics perform *The Pirates of Penzance*, with an extra (fourth) show staged to cope with demand – John Ellerton (the very model of a modern major-general) and Maggie Paterson ("a competent actress") are singled out by the *Midhurst & Petworth Observer*'s reviewer. At the Annual Parish Meeting, Jim Godman-Dorington is re-elected Chairman. Princess Anne's engagement to Captain Mark Phillips is announced. Second division Sunderland defeat red hot favourites, and holders, Leeds United 1-0 to win the FA Cup. New Zealander Glenn Turner becomes the first post-war batter to score 1,000 runs by the end of May (only Graeme Hick has done it since). Virgin Records' first album is released – Mike Oldfield's *Tubular Bells*. Televised hearings of the Watergate scandal begin. Skylab launched. The 74th, and final, episode of sitcom *On the Buses*, starring Reg Varney, airs on ITV.

THURSDAY CLUB

Speaker for 11 May meeting to be confirmed.

Cakes needed for our cake stand

at the Graffham Garden Group plant sale

on Saturday 13 May.

Please contact Diane Bellis with any offers, on diane.bellis@gmail.com or 01798 867444





All set for Graffham's Coronation celebrations

The bunting and flags are going up, picnic menus prepped, flowers ready to be arranged in their vases, choir rehearsals underway for the thanksgiving celebration at St Giles, bell ringers preparing, cricketers in the nets, local pubs polishing their

glasses – the countdown's on for the village to celebrate the Coronation in the way that only Graffham can. It now just needs you!

To spur you on, there are prizes to be won for the best decorated property and the best dressed child and adult at the Graffham's Big Picnic, which will now take place on the recreation ground rather than The Street because of ongoing local traffic issues caused by the extended closure of the main road through Midhurst.



Full details of everything going on hereabouts is in this special section of *Graffham Parish News* – but watch out at Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard for any updates. We also look back at how the village celebrated our last Coronation, back in 1953.

Marie Bracey, who is chairing the community's Coronation organising group, said: "Few of us can remember the last time we had a Coronation, so for most of us this is a once-in-a-lifetime landmark in our nation's history.

"After the Platinum Jubilee last year, followed sadly by the death of Queen Elizabeth, we have aimed to ring a few changes this time around. Now we just need you all to do your bit by taking part!

"Graffham has a great tradition of pulling out all the stops to celebrate key events like this and it is hoped the village will do so again, putting up flags and bunting on all street frontages and dressing the part so we can all raise a rousing Three Cheers and Good Health to His Majesty and make it a truly memorable occasion!"

Your village needs you! All the Graffham events are open to everyone – residents, visiting family and friends, campers, tourists... You'll be warmly welcome, whether you just want to be there or have a more active role, helping decorate the church with flowers, taking part in the cricket, lending your voice to

the thanksgiving service at St Giles, experiencing our Ring for the King from the bell tower... **If you would like to help,** it's not too late to email mariebracey@me.com to let the organising team know what you can do.

Put up the flags and bunting - and you could win a prize!

Graffham and East Lavington did themselves proud for the Platinum Jubilee last year, making ours among the most spectacularly decorated villages for miles around, with bunting, flags and other decorations galore. Can we out-do ourselves for the Coronation? The village organising committee will be presenting a prize to the location judged the best decorated. *Could you be the winner?*





Flashback to last year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations at the rec. Can the village be even more red, white and blue for the Coronation?

Your full guide to what's on where and when

FRIDAY 5 MAY



Town versus Gown cricket match, Seaford College, 6pm

After the successful rekindling of the traditional Town versus Gown hockey match at Christmas, the Coronation provides the perfect platform for Graffham to seek their revenge for December's narrow defeat to Seaford College at a

Continued on next page



▶ Continued from previous page

different sport. The village's finest will take on a team of the school's teachers on Friday. If you'd like to take part, sign up on the sheet at the Foresters Arms. The match will be held on a pitch at Seaford's wonderful grounds, under the eye of the college's Director of Cricket, former England international and legendary Sussex County captain Chris Adams. Play is scheduled to start at 6pm.

The more spectators the merrier – and to make it easy for you to get there, the gate at West Lodge will be left open all evening. Take your own refreshments, chairs and picnic rugs. A supper of paella and salads will be available.

SATURDAY 6 MAY



Ringing for the King from St Giles' church tower, 9am

St Giles' bell ringers will be taking part in the nationwide Ring for the King on the morning of the Coronation – Saturday 6 May – and they are inviting anyone interested in trying out ringing to join them there and then. Hundreds of belfries

across the kingdom are expected to participate in Ring for the King, many of them trying out special change sequences designed especially for coronations.

St Giles' six bells are planned to join in from around 9am – and again after the Coronation Thanksgiving Service the next day (see next page). As many as possible of the village's 17 ringers will take part.



St Giles' new Tower Captain Howard Pescott said: "The Coronation will be a landmark for any bell ringer and all of us in the Graffham team are very much looking forward to joining in this kingdomwide celebration.

"For anyone interested in joining our ranks, it is a perfect chance to see what is involved. Just come along – you'll be assured of the warmest of welcomes!"



The Coronation of the King at Westminster Abbey, 11am

The Coronation Service will take place on the morning of Saturday 6 May, at Westminster Abbey starting at around 11am, televised live. Leaders from many

other countries and representatives from across the UK and Commonwealth have been invited to attend.

Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort will arrive at Westminster Abbey in procession from Buckingham Palace, known as 'The King's Procession', and return afterwards in a larger ceremonial procession, known as 'The Coronation Procession'. Their Majesties will be joined by other members of the Royal Family.



At Buckingham Palace, The King and The Queen Consort, accompanied by Members of the Royal Family, will appear on the balcony to conclude the day's ceremonial events.

SUNDAY 7 MAY



Coronation Thanksgiving Service, St Giles, 10.30am

Churches the across kingdom and Commonwealth will be holding thanksgiving services to mark the Coronation on Sunday 7 June – and Graffham's St Giles is no exception, with its own service at 10.30am, led by the Rev Vivien. It will Continued on next page

SUNDAY 7TH MAY AT 10.30AM

SERVICE AT ST GILES

Continued from previous page

include music and other elements that will feature in similar events the length and breadth of Britain. St Giles' 'mini' choir will sing a number of anthems. If you would like to join its singers, contact the Rev Vivien or churchwarden Ginny Barrett (see page 1).

It would be lovely if the congregation felt able to dress as if they were attending the Coronation itself at Westminster Abbey, but don't feel that you have to...

Inside, St Giles' team of flower arrangers will have been working hard to ensure our church is looking at its most beautiful. Outside, volunteers from the church have given the churchyard an extra special tidy up.

Those attending the service will have a chance to see the newly installed flagpole in the churchyard, proudly flying the Union flag (see page 7).

As the congregation leaves the church, St Giles' bell ringers will stage the second part of their Ring for the King (see previous page).



Graffham's Big Picnic, at the rec, 3-5pm

The entire community is invited to join in Graffham's Big Picnic – held as part of the nationwide Coronation Big Lunch. Ours will be held on Graffham Recreation Ground on Sunday 7 May from 3 to 5 pm. Everyone is asked to take along their own picnics to share – with a suggestion that their food and drink should reflect the nations of the UK and the Commonwealth: Scotch eggs,

Welsh cakes, Irish brack, English scones and cream, Cornish pasties, even Sussex churdles, washed down by Pimms, ale and maybe even fizz from some of our local wineries...

The team behind the amazing, massive Platinum Jubilee community cake will be baking something for the village to share once again, and the Pavilion bar and tea stand will be open to ease the lubrication, taking payments in cash or card/contactless.

While tables and chairs will be laid out, it



© Izzy Barrett

would help if you could take along your own outdoor chairs if you can, to ensure there are enough seats for everyone, or picnic rugs – along with your own plates, cutlery and glasses.

The dress code is - red, white and blue or 'Royal' - the same as for the Jubilee events last year. To spur you on (not that Graffham needs spurring on!), there'll be prizes for the best dressed adults and children - presented that afternoon, along with the prize for the best decorated property in the village (see page 29). If the weather is absolutely dire then the lunch will be moved to the Empire Hall. Watch Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard for any updates.



The Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle, evening

A special Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle is being produced, staged and broadcast live by the BBC and BBC Studios, "bringing together global music icons and contemporary stars" – including Graffham's own Howard Donald, reuniting with fellow founding members of Take That, Gary Barlow and Mark Owen, for their first live show for four years. 'Lighting up the Nation' will see the country join together in celebration as iconic locations across the United Kingdom are lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.

PUB OPENING HOURS / SPECIAL EVENTS



The Foresters Arms, Graffham

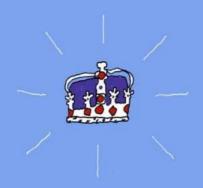
- Friday and Saturday: Bar open from 12 noon till closing. Kitchen open 12 noon to 3pm then 6 to 8.30pm.
- Sunday: Bar open 12 noon to 9 pm. Kitchen open 12 noon to 4pm.
- *Monday:* Bar and kitchen open 3 to 9pm.

The Three Moles, Selham

- *Friday:* 12 noon-11pm.
- Saturday: 10am-11pm with Coronation on big screens inside and outdoors.
- Sunday and Monday: 12 noon-10pm.

The Cricketers, Duncton: *Monday,* 12 noon-6pm, Coronation Party, featuring live music from Nice Pear, wood-fired pizzas, and a bouncy castle.

CORONATION THANKS GIVING SERVICE AT ST GILES



SUNDAY 7TH MAY AT 10.30AM



ST GILES CHURCH GRAFFHAM

Holy Eucharist with

Confirmation

President and Preacher

Bishop of Horsham

The Right Revd Ruth Bushyager

Tuesday 2 May 2023, 7pm

ALL WELCOME

Please pray for our three confirmation candidates Cindy Bradley, Victoria Caldwell and Julie Clark as they take this important step in their Christian journey





Book of Graffham tales to mark Coronation

Graffham artist Sue Hill has released images of the cover and some inside pages of her new illustrated book all about our village that she is publishing to coincide with the Coronation. *Graffham Tales*, *History and Fable* will feature a collection of her immaculate water colours of buildings, landscapes and people from across the district with words in her copperplate writing explaining why they are included.

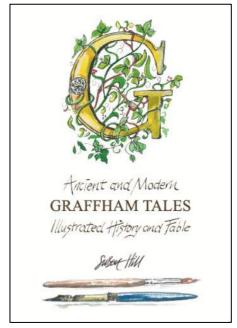
Sue said: "There's a tradition of publishing special books in Graffham to mark key Royal and other national events – the reprint of the history of the village, the WI handbook and so on – so it seemed appropriate to do something for King Charles

III's ascent to the throne this year."

The A5-sized book of approaching 50 pages will be sold for £15 – or £25 for two copies. To order your copy, email jonsugraffham@btinternet.com. All profits will go to an orphanage in Tanzania.



Children at the orphanage in Tanzania that will receive profits from Sue's book.



Graffham Chronicles: The 1953 Coronation

Memories of how Graffham marked the United Kingdom's last Coronation – that of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. Lillee Puttick, who lived in the village for decades until she died in 2016, recalled the day 55 years later, in 2008, as featured in the book Graffham: Memories, Articles, Photos, published by Mary Butterworth and the late Diane White in 2015, for the Thursday Club. We add some updates here.

On the morning of the Coronation (June 1953) we went over to the Recreation Ground and planted a copper beech tree (which I hope is still there). Several youngsters put their spadeful of dirt in. The tree was donated by Mrs Elphinstone,



The copper beech planted to mark Queen Elizabeth's coronation is still by the rec's tractor shed – seen in all its glory since the removal last year of leylandii overgrown around it. Martin Buckley's aunt, and my father dug the hole to plant it in. I can remember planting the tree. It's a big copper beech over by the bowling green. Actually we planted two trees, the second one was just below the Pavilion to make shade for the spectators to sit under. There weren't supposed to be two, but when Mrs Elphinstone bought the beech hedge which goes down to Heydon House, the second copper beech was in with the ordinary beech, so we planted the two. My father was Mrs Elphinstone's gardener. After the pavilion became a



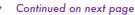


All black and white photos of Graffham's fete to mark the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953 by George Garland © West Sussex Records Office.

club and a bar was introduced, the second tree was suddenly cut down because the lorries couldn't get up the road. (Martin was very upset and I have a horrible feeling that some day somebody is going to cut the other one down – people have such queer ideas and they don't think back to how it might have got there.).

After the tree-planting ceremony, we went to the Empire Hall where a little television set had been hired and we watched the Coronation. Television then was quite something and there were quite a lot of us in the hall. It was black and white. Colour wasn't around then.

I was in my 20s and my son, Clifford, was seven years old. I was one of the judges at the Coronation Fete with Tomlinson from the Stud and I do remember being on the float but not much else. We used to have a lot of bonfires, so that's more than likely. I don't have very many photos as I couldn't afford to buy them. Several of the nice photos I've got have got numbers on them. They used to do a







Continued from previous page

big sheet in the village post office when Jack Pescod ran it and I used to get them when he took them down, otherwise I wouldn't have had a record. I didn't have money for that sort of thing. I can't remember whether the little ones were

presented with mugs. I've got one with the Coronation on which I'm using as a tooth mug. I know we bought a cup, saucer and plate for Clifford, and I've got a pair of vases that mother gave me. The only thing that sticks in my mind about King George VI dying (in February 1952) was (then) Princess Elizabeth being in Kenya on safari. I can't remember what I was doing.

I do remember the day King George V was buried because I was going to my first job. That was January 1936. I was going to be taken in a car which was quite an excitement in those days, and we couldn't leave until rather late because of the funeral, the processions and so on.



Lillie Puttick pictured just a few years before the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Photo from the Graffham Archive.

Graffham: Memories, Articles, Photos also included this report from the Midhurst and Petworth Observer of the revels held in the village to mark Queen Flizabeth II's Coronation:

Graffham Coronation Committee, which arranged the village's main festivities on Saturday, congratulated itself on Sunday. Everything went without a hitch and, unlike the rest of the district who celebrated the previous Tuesday, Graffham had ideal sunny weather.

The programme included a procession of decorated vehicles, prams and bicycles, sports, teas for the children, and ended with men versus women stoolball and cricket matches. After touring the village, the procession lined up on the recreation ground for the judging. Sports, organised by the Cricket Club, were then held. Later the children went to the Empire Hall for a tea. About 150 attended and Mrs Small assisted by Mrs Mackenzie and helpers organised the catering. Members of the Women's Institute branch helped serve and Coronation souvenirs were distributed.

Graffham Archives also reveals another celebration laid on for the village:

Graffham Rustics, the village's amateur dramatics and operatic troupe, staged a musical called Nancy Gay written specially for Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation by Eddye (Edith) Loring, one of the group's leading lights.

Graffham Parish News' marvellous May quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers below (no cheating now!)

- 1 The manor of Graffham was valued at £8 per year in what?
- 2 Chichester Cathedral (right) is a nesting site for which species of bird?
- **3** Gozo and Comino are two of the three inhabited islands of which archipelago?





- **4** How many times has the UK won the Eurovision Song Contest?
- **5** How is Operation Chastise, carried out overnight by the RAF on 16-17 May 1943, better known?
- 6 Which event will be held at London SW3 4SR from 23 to 27 May?
- 7 Which motor race was staged for the first time on 26 May 1923?
- **8** Which 38-year-old was wearing the number seven shirt for Blackpool when they defeated Bolton Wanderers 4-3 in the 1953 FA Cup Final?
- **9** Which pop quiz has replaced *Pop Master* at 10.30am on Radio 2 each weekday morning?

10 Ann Lesley Smith is about to become the fifth wife of which nonagenarian – assuming the marriage goes ahead?



- Puppy Training
- Dog Agility
- Pet Gun Dog Classes
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I The Domesday Book. 2 Peregrine falcon. 3 Malta. 4 Five – 1967, 1969 (in a four-way tie with France, Spain and the Netherlands), 1976, 1981 and 1997. 5 The Dambusters' Raid. 6 Chelsea Flower Show. 7 Le Mans 6 Chelsea Flower Show. 7 Le Mans 9 Ten to the Top. 10 Rupert

Suiz answers:

Nature Notes: Caw! Ravens make a return

A monthly column by former Sussex Wildlife Trust Head of Community Action for Wildlife Michael Blencowe.

One of the bloodiest battles fought on Sussex soil took place on 14 May 1264 – the Battle of Lewes. Two thousand soldiers lay strewn on the slopes and riverbanks. Some viewed this as a victory. For others this was defeat. But for a large black bird who calmly watched the bloodshed from the sidelines, this scene of slaughter was a buffet. Democracy never tasted so good.

Smart birds, ravens. Way before 1264, they'd realised they needn't waste their energy killing to eat when other less intelligent species could do the dirty work for them. For centuries, ravens exploited man's enthusiasm for resolving quarrels with clubs and swords. Ravenous ravens feasted at all the finest battlefields, burial grounds and gibbets. No doubt Gallows Hill above our Graffham Common reserve was a popular dining spot.

Hanging around with corpses would get anyone a bad name but the raven's reputation took on mythological proportions. Across the northern hemisphere, the

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bird became respected and revered by many cultures as an omen of death, denizen of the afterlife, messenger of defeat. This sinister CV secured them a plethora of portentous appearances in everything from the Old Testament to *Game of Thrones*. The sight of a raven struck fear in the heart of man who would dare not harm it. Today, ravens still occur in our folklore as the earthbound spirit of King Arthur. At the Tower of London, the birds are entrusted with the fate of the kingdom.

Yet, aside from all these make believe malevolent accolades we bestow on the raven, it truly is magnificent to watch. As befits Britain's wickedest bird, the raven certainly dresses the part in a costume of sleek glossy black feathers, shaggy 'beard' and stout dagger beak. It commands the sky – wheeling on wide wings and uttering its guttural 'cronk cronk' call. Sometimes its behaviour is incongruous with its evil image. To see ravens rolling and tumbling through the air during their joyous display flight is like catching the grim reaper doing the hokey-cokey.

When not busy instilling fear in the population, ravens performed an important clean-up job ridding Britain's towns of rotting rubbish, and the bird was protected by royal decree. But in the 17th Century people's perceptions changed and the birds became persecuted. Ravens, and the old beliefs they represented, were exorcised from England. By 1895 they had vanished from Sussex.

Informed, tolerant attitudes have recently allowed the wonderful raven to return to our county. They are now a regular sight over this parish. In our comfortable world of surround sound and selfies, there is something reassuringly sinister in watching a raven circling over our village – a spectral souvenir of our brutal, primitive past. Sussex will hopefully never again be the site of a bloody revolutionary battle. But there's no harm in a few ravens hanging around – just in case.



Tom cracks Graffham's great Easter egg toss

The sun shone as usual for Graffham's annual Easter Sunday afternoon egg toss held at the rec. Around 30 competitors tried their hand at catching eggs from a toss by chief launcher Ian Thornley. After competitors had all attempted the first distance, Ian retreated by five metres at each round, making it increasingly difficult for them to catch the messy missile.

Several previous winners were eliminated one by one until the field was narrowed down to a final pair. Charlie Gibson (a house guest of the Clays) and local Thomas Creed nudged each other further and further until Tom's safe cricketing hands finally won out. That left all other competitors with egg on their faces and clothes plus one poor dog who received an egg full on the muzzle.

Tom graciously received the fine Easter bonnet trophy. Tradition has dictated that the winner must add some adornments to the trophy before it is returned the following year so we look forward to see what appears next year!



Runner-up
Charlie Gibson
leaps for a catch
(left) before
winner Tom
Creed is crowned
by thrower Ian
Thornley (right).



Graffham cricket

Graffham Ladies' away match at West Wittering will be featured in a full report in our June issue as we track their efforts to find an elusive away win on 30 April.

Meanwhile, Graffham's Mixed team have been preparing for the hotly-contested Town vs Gown Coronation match on the evening of Friday 5 May at Seaford College. All spectators welcome – refreshments will be available as well as a post-match paella, but take your own drinks, chairs and picnic rugs. See page 29 for more details and keep an eye on the Graffham Facebook Noticeboard for updates.



Denise Clay gets tips on cover drive from Brett Creed.

Graffham Parish News



Graffham cricketers' net practice before their Coronation match versus Seaford.

Graffham Tennis Club

The winter league season finished successfully for all three teams, with congratulations due to the Mixed A team for winning promotion to Division 1. Ladies A ended third in Division 2 and the Mixed B team was fifth in Division 3.

The summer league begins with the Ladies A team facing a tough competition in Division 1 and Ladies B hoping for some wins in Division 4. The Men's team find themselves having received an unexpected promotion to Division 3 (of 5) and the Mixed team will be in Division 2 (of 3).

Club nights are on Fridays (from 14 April) at 6pm. Just turn up and play some informal tennis. If you fancy entering one of the club tournaments or joining the league teams the committee member on duty will be delighted to pass on your details (with the possible exception of 5 May when the Town vs Gown cricket match takes place at Seaford College). Home fixtures this month top next page:

	Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: May					
	Do come and spend a spring evening supporting your teams!					
3	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	v Headley	
9	Tues	6.15pm	Men's Doubles	Div 3	v Fernhurst A	
15	Mon	6.30pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 4	v Steep C	
17	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore A	
22	Mon	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	v Swanmore B	
23	Tues	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 3	v Kingsley B	
24	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore B	

Graffham Bowls Club

By Secretary Liz Pegram

If you're new to the village, you'll find Graffham Bowls Club in the south east corner of the Recreation Ground. We are a small friendly club always ready to welcome new members. All our matches are friendlies against local clubs. If you missed our open day on 23 April, you can still come and have a go any Monday evening at 6pm weather permitting. All you need are flat shoes and a sense of humour! For more information contact Liz on 01798 867770.

Graffham Bowls Club home fixtures: May						
Do come and spend a spring evening supporting your teams!						
10	Wed	6рт	v Arundel			
17	Wed	6.30pm	v Fishbourne			
31	Wed	6 pm	v Sutton			

Special events locally for National Mills Day

Two mills close to Graffham will be staging special events to mark National Mills Day on Sunday 14 May:

- Burton Mill will be open to let visitors see its water-powered heritage mill in action, milling flour from locally grown wheat. There will also be working stationary engines and other historic machinery on display along with a small exhibition on the history of the mill. Open 11am-4pm, with entrance free.
- Coultershaw Heritage Site will be holding a 'Traction Engine Surprise', demonstrating steam-powered wheat threshing, with a special display and handson activities. Open 11am-4.30pm, entrance £3 for adults with under 18s free.

Property watch

Homes for sale locally, posted at rightmove.com since our previous edition:

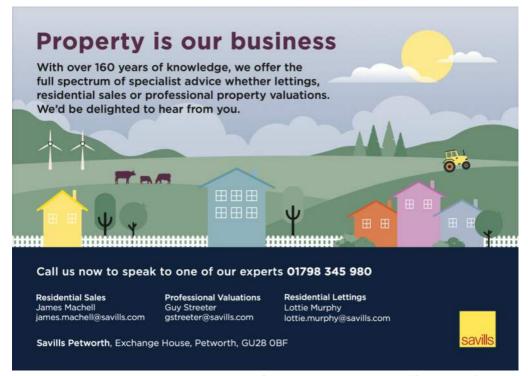
Eastview, School Lane, Lodsworth GU28 9BZ: Three-bedroomed detached bungalow with planning permission for second floor, garden. 88sq m/948sq ft. Guide price £735,000. *Savills, Petworth, 01798 303558. Added 6 Apr.*



Planning applications

A summary of latest applications for planning approval in Graffham and East Lavington civil parishes filed with the South Downs National Park as this edition went to press. For details, see bit.ly/sdnp-planning

Perrott Farm, Woodcote Lane, Graffham GU28 0NZ: Demolition of existing conservatory and side extension and construction of two-storey side and rear extensions to north and west elevations, garden wall and extension of existing driveway. SDNP/23/01248/LIS and SDNP/23/01247/HOUS. *Received 22 Mar*



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cted an agent on a sole agency/selling rights basis, those terms must be considered to avoid the possibility of paying dual fees or disburse



Crimestoppers and police appeals

Sussex Police's log of incidents locally in recent weeks. If you have any information which might help, please report it, quoting the serial number – by phone on 101 or online at bit.ly/crimeupdate

Boxgrove, Priory Close: Between Friday 17 and Sunday 19 March, a number plate was stolen from a vehicle. *Serial 0689 19/03*.

Easebourne, Canada Grove: Overnight between Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March, a catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle. *Serial 0923 16/03*.

Midhurst, Guillards Oak: Overnight between Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March, a catalytic converter was stolen from a vehicle. *Serial 0428 16/03*.

Northchapel, Gospel Green Road: Overnight between Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 March, stables were burgled. Nothing was stolen. *Serial 0012 16/03*.

Lodsworth, Surrey Road: Overnight Monday 13/Tuesday 14 March, an outbuilding was burgled and power tools and a quad bike stolen. *Serial 0226 14/03*.

Midhurst, Taylors Field: In the early hours of Monday 13 March, a garage was burgled. *Serial 0589 13/03*.



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What's on at our village church and chapel

- All residents of and visitors to Graffham are welcome to all services.
- St Giles Church is at the far south end of Graffham Street, near the Downs.
- All Saints' Chapel is opposite Graffham Village Shop.
- Both St Giles Church and All Saints' Chapel are open daily.
- See stgilesgraffham.org or Facebook's @stgilesgraffham for any changes.
- Teddy Time is at the Rec Pavilion every Wednesday 10.15 to 11.30am

May					
2	Tue	7pm	Confirmation Service with Bishop Ruth	St Giles Church	
6	Sat	9am	Ring for the King	St Giles Church	
7	Sun	10.30am	Coronation Thanksgiving Eucharist	St Giles Church	
9	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims		
14	Sun	10.30am	Bells Sunday Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church	
14	JUII	6рт	Evensong	All Saints Chapel	
16	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10	All Saints Chapel	
18	Thu	9am	Ascension Day service	St Giles Church	
21	Sun	9am	BCP Communion	St Giles Church	
21	Sun	10.30am	Ascension Day Family Worship	St Giles Church	
23	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10	All Saints Chapel	
26	Fri	Зрт	Wedding rehearsal	St Giles Church	
27	Sat	2.30pm	Wedding of Georgia and Ted	St Giles Church	
28	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 4	St Giles Church	
30	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10	All Saints Chapel	
June					
2	Fri	4pm	Wedding rehearsal	St Giles Church	
3	Sat	Зрт	Wedding of Katie and Guy	St Giles Church	
4	Sun	10.30am	Trinity Sunday Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church	

We rely on the generosity of villagers and visitors to safeguard the future of Graffham's St Giles Church and the ability of our parish to deliver its mission to the community it serves – including this magazine. Please support them through a donation – preferably a regular one via our Parish Giving Scheme. For full details, see www.bit.ly/stggive1

RINGERS AND SINGERS!

To join St Giles' bell ringers or occasional choir, contact the Rev Vivien at hello@stgilesgraffham.org

Who's doing what at St Giles next month

If you cannot do your slot, please arrange a swap and advise Diane Bellis at diane.bellis@gmail.com and the Rev Vivien at reverendvivien@gmail.com

7 May To be confirmed Coronation Service Acts 7 v55-end 1 Peter 2 v2-10 14 May Howard Pescott Bells Sunday Acts 17 v.22-31 21May Sue Hill Family Worship Acts 1 v1-11 28 May Barbara Edge Pentaget Acts 2 1 21	Sidesp	Sidespeople, readers and readings for Sunday 10.30am services in May							
1 Peter 2 v2-10 14 May Howard Pescott Bells Sunday Acts 17 v.22-31 21May Sue Hill Family Worship Acts 1 v1-11	7 Mens	To be confirmed	Coronation Sorvice	Acts 7 v55-end					
21 May Sue Hill Family Worship Acts 1 v1-11	/ May	To be confirmed	Coronalion Service	1 Peter 2 v2-10					
, ,	14 May	Howard Pescott	Bells Sunday	Acts 17 v.22-31					
29 May Rarbara Edge Pentagest Acts 2 1 21	21May	Sue Hill	Family Worship	Acts 1 v1-11					
20 May Barbara Lage Femecosi Acis 2.1-21	28 May	Barbara Edge	Pentecost	Acts 2.1-21					
4 June Marie Bracey Trinity Sunday Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-ei	4 June	Marie Bracey	Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-end					
18 June Ann Brown Acts 11 v19-end	18 June	Ann Brown		Acts 11 v19-end					



Flowers

Church flowers arranging team, for confirmation and Coronation services

Cleaning

Bridget Lewis and Diane Bellis



Other denominations locally

Methodist: Midhurst. *Minister:* David Muskett *Tel:* 01730 233436. *email:* superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk. *Web:* midhurstmethodist.com *Worship:* Sundays 10.00am, and Café Church 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10.30am.

Roman Catholic: The Catholic Churches of Saints Anthony and George, Duncton, The Divine Motherhood and St Francis of Assisi, Midhurst, and The Sacred Heart, Petworth. *email:* petworth.abdiocese.org.uk. *Tel:* 01798 342169. *Web:* www.petworthcatholic.org

Mass						
	8am	Duncton	Thu	9.30am	Petworth	
Sun	9.30am	Midhurst		12noon	Midhurst Convent	
	11am	11am Petworth Fri	Fri	6.30pm	Petworth	
Tue	10.30am	Petworth	Sat	9.30am	Midhurst	
Wed	9.30am	Midhurst	Jui	5.30pm	Petworth	

Society of Friends (Quakers): St Anne's Community Centre, St Anne's Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9NN. *Web:* sussexwestquakers.org.uk *Meetings:* 2nd and 4th Sundays 10.30am.

United Reformed Church: Petworth. *Minister:* Revd Anne Lewitt *Tel:* 01798 872535. *Web:* petworthurc.co.uk *Worship:* Sundays 10.30am.

PACT's busy April - race, procession, prostitution

Our Petworth Foodbank organised a 'Race Against Hunger' event on Saturday 1 April 1, with more than 30, plus some dogs and two prams, walking or running three miles in Petworth Park under the shining sun, with an ice cream waiting for those completing the course. The event raised more than £380 for the foodbank.

The next day (Sunday 2 April) Petworth Area Churches Together's annual Palm Sunday procession took place, starting at the Sacred Heart Church in Angel Street at 3pm, and progressing through the town, led by the Cross, followed by two donkeys, the PACT banner, Petworth Town Band and up to 100 followers, waving palms and singing hymns.



PACT's Gerald Gresham Cooke said: "Walking up Lombard Street to St Mary's Parish Church, it was quite a special experience when the hymn singing reverberated around the buildings – a small but important statement to make to the Petworth community that Christianity is still alive!"

Foodbank updates its 'most wanted' list

Petworth Foodbank, which also serves the town's surrounding villages, including Graffham and East Lavington, has updated its list of most wanted items.

Donations can be left in the specially marked containers at Graffham Village Shop, Petworth Co-op or Midhurst Sainsbury's or Tesco. Only items that are in-date, unopened, with a full ingredients list (because of



'Natasha's Law', to protect allergy sufferers) can be accepted.

In most urgent need this month are:

- Long-life milk and fruit juice.
- Tinned meat.
- Tinned soup.
- Tinned vegetables and fruit.
- Treats (eg chocolate bars).
- Toothpaste.
- Toilet rolls.
- Deodorant.
- Shower gel.



Graffham, Petworth, Midhurst and surrounding areas.

What's on in and around the village

			April				
29	Sat	10am-4pm	Artisan Makers and Vintage Fair	Midhurst Market Sq			
		1pm	Graffham ladies' cricket vs West	West Wittering			
30	Sun	трш	Wittering	Wesi Willering			
		2-6pm	Open gardens trail (also on Mon 1 May)	Fittleworth			
			May				
			Early May bank holiday				
1	Mon	From	May Day revels, including crowning of May	Heyshott			
		11.45am	Queen, dog show, soap box challenge etc	•			
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex illustrated talk on	Fittleworth Village			
2	Tue	·	Incas and Predecessors' Art and Textiles	Hall			
		7pm	Bishop Ruth conducts Confirmation Service	St Giles Church			
		7am-10pm	Chichester District Council election day	Empire Hall and			
4	Thu		(see page 8)	other locations			
		7.45pm	Petfringe Sessions presents Mae Karthauser	Leconfield Hall			
	Fri		брт	Town vs Gown Coronation cricket match	Seaford College		
5		,	(see page 29)	_			
			Racecourse season opener (also on 6 May)	Goodwood			
6	Sat		Coronation of King Charles III				
		9am	Coronation Ring for the King (see page 30)	St Giles Church			
7	Sun	10.30am	Coronation thanksgiving service (page 31)	St Giles Church			
		3-5pm	Graffham's Coronation Big Picnic (p 32)	The Rec			
8	Mon		Coronation bank holiday				
		12noon-6pm	Coronation party	Cricketers, Duncton			
10	Wed	2pm	Graffham Garden Group visit (page 22)	Leonardslee			
11	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club	Empire Hall			
		7 for 7.30pm	Talk on Soldiering in Unexpected Places	Cobden HI, Heyshott			
13	Sat	10-11am	Garden Group plant sale (see page 23)	Empire Hall			
		10am	Bells Sunday ringing	St Giles Church			
					10.30am	Graffham Down Trust butterfly walk (See	Meet by St Giles
14	Sun		page 23)	Church			
	3011	11am-4pm	National Mills Day events (see page 44)	Burton Mill and			
			,	Coultershaw			
		7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles			
15	Mon	6 15	Annual Parish Meeting of East Lavington	Soutond Callera			
15	MON	6.15pm	followed by East Lavington Parish Council	Seaford College			
Continued on next page							

16	Tue	9-11 am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall		
	7.30pm Poppins		Midhurst Rother College presents Mary	Midhurst Rother		
18			Poppins	College		
10	Inu	7 45	Petfringe Sessions comedy with Raymond	Leconfield Hall		
		7.45pm	& Mr Timpkins and Charmain Hughes	Leconfield Hall		
24	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall		
			Seaford College half-term (to 4 June)			
27	Sat		Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth		
		2.30pm	Wedding of Georgia and Ted	St Giles		
29	Mon		Spring bank holiday			
27	Non		WSCC schools half-term (to 2 June)			
			June			
			Petworth Fringe presents Naomi Bedford	4		
1	Thu	7.45pm	and the Ramshackle Band	Leconfield Hall		
					Petworth Festival June Event presents	Midhurst Rother
2 Fri		7.30pm	pianist Ben Waters and his band	College		
	9am-2pm		Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst		
	Sat	Зрт	Wedding of Katie and Guy	St Giles		
		C ~ t		Petworth Festival June Event presents Giles	Midhurst Rother	
3		11.30am	Brandreth on Queen Elizabeth II	College		
		Petworth Festival June Event presents		Midhurst Rother		
		7.30pm	pianist Bernard d'Ascoli	College		
		9-11 am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall		
6	Tue	2	Arts Society West Sussex talk on Gardens of	Fittleworth Village		
		2pm	Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll	Hall		
9	Fri	Goodwood Friday Night races with music	Goodwood			
	111		Garden Show (till 11 June)	Stansted Park		
11	Sun		Family race day	Goodwood		
	3011	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles		
16	Fri		Sussex Day			
21	Wed	2.30pm	Graffham Garden Group visit (see page 22)	Sandhill Farmh'se		
24	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth		
27	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional 1	Empire Hall		
28	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ³	Empire Hall		

¹Great Feet foot health professional: Available to Graffham Health Support Association members only.

²Lunch Club: Graffham Empire Hall Lunch Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm for 12.45pm for a home cooked two-course meal and coffee, at £8 a head. Please book by calling Sarah on 01798 867567.

Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)					
Mandaga	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness ¹	Empire Hall		
Mondays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall		
Tuesdays	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall		
	9-10am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall		
Wednesdays	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group⁴	Pavilion		
	<i>7</i> -8.30pm	Badminton ⁵	Empire Hall		
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ⁶	Empire Hall		
Thursdays	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁵	Empire Hall		
inursadys	2-4pm	Post Office	Empire Hall		
	6.15-7.30pm	Yoga ³	Empire Hall		
	9-10.15am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall		
Fridays	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ⁷	Empire Hall		
	10.30-11.15am	Pilates ⁸	Empire Hall		

Empire Hall: For booking and contact details, see Directory, inside back cover.

Explorations and elephants at Petworth House

Petworth House is staging an exhibition entitled *Explorations in Paint* this summer – a specially curated exhibition from the Royal Academy of Arts, featuring artworks not previously lent by the Royal Academy and a new work never before exhibited by Rebecca Salter PRA. It runs until 24 September. Normal admission charges to the house apply.

The National Trust property is also staging Elmer's Art Parade from 27 May to the start of September – a colourful art parade around its garden to discover ten individually designed Elmer the Elephant sculptures, inspired by the work of well-known artists from across the world, including Yayoi Kusama, William Morris and Leonardo Da Vinci, along with the original patchwork Elmer by David McKee.

¹Fitflow Fitness: Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

²Osteopath: Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 867523 or see www.annashawcross.co.uk

Yoga: Deborah Albone on 07790 867009.

Teddy Time: No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

⁵Badminton: Contact Louisa Thomas, at louisa 9000@hotmail.co.uk. All welcome.

⁶Ease Into Exercise: Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

⁷Physiotherapy: Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at

serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.

⁸Pilates: Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

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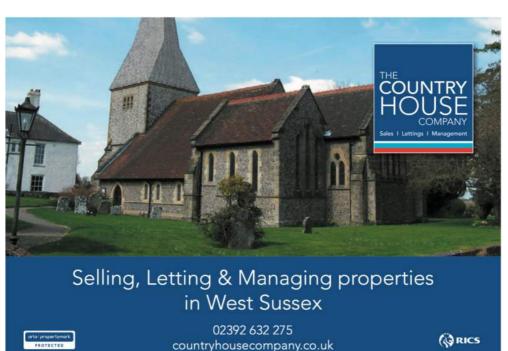
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		,	eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com	
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