

GRAFFHAM

PARISH NEWS

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FREE

JULY 2023



Ice time at Rec's Family Fridays

Girl power: Council co-opts quartet

All set for the summer show



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On the cover: Family Fridays are back at the Rec, with the ice cream van one of the hottest draws in the blistering late afternoon sunshine during the first of them. The event was attended by around 100 Mums, Dads and kids. Two more are scheduled for this month. See pages 12 and 13. Picture by © Katie Donald.

Contributions and contacts: We're always pleased to hear from you at editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

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Writing from the Rectory: Service!

It amuses me that in TV cookery programmes, no-one watching at home can actually taste or smell the food being so carefully prepared. Instead, the programmes' success depends upon other things – the character of the presenters and participants, often the competitive nature of the programme, the visual presentation of the dishes, the tasters' ability verbally to communicate deliciousness or otherwise, viz 'Bingo!', and the elation or disappointment of the cooks at the tasters' varying reactions.

Some people's relationship with faith is a bit like that (most people's if I'm honest). Watching from a distance, not tasting themselves, deciding what it tastes like on the basis of what somebody else says, interested in a few of the characters involved,

► *Continued on next page*

Afternoon tea in the garden

Thursday 29 June

2.30-4.30pm

Jaysfield Lodge, The Street,
Graffham GU28 0QB

Courtesy of Nettie Lanaghan

**Please bring bakes and any other
home or garden produce to share**

Donations to St Giles Church, Graffham

► *Continued from previous page*

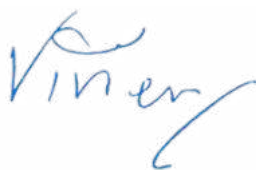
especially when they drop the plates, and not quite sure what a lot of the food is anyway. Some don't even watch because they are sure they won't like it, or someone else has told them they won't like it and they believe them, or they tasted it once a long time ago and didn't like it then.

For those willing to partake, some only like what they have always eaten, or only what tastes sweet, or only feast on special occasions. It's a starter, though, if it allows the possibility of taste development, because just as with food, people need a good palate to discern and explore faith that nourishes well spiritually. Assailed as we are by the distractions and disturbances of life, this is needful today.

When a dish is ready for eating in a restaurant, the chef calls out, 'Service!' Setting out what it means to be Christian as carefully as I can each week for worshippers, and each month for magazine readers feels a bit like preparing a meal and calling out 'Service!' too. So, if you are watching from a distance, I invite you to try a little. If you only eat a little, I invite you to get stuck in. Be willing to try a new flavour that may make your tastebuds explode. Introduce salt into your thinking if it's in danger of becoming bland. Infuse your food with the smoky fragrance of the Holy Spirit. Experience umami, the deliciousness of faith. Come and worship with us. Come and discuss and reflect and deepen your faith in a study group. (We are offering a new group called 'Sanctuary' in Graffham for just this. It's at Graffham Rectory on Mondays at 7pm. Please call me if you are interested. All welcome.)

In the words of Psalm 34 verse 8: 'Taste and see that the Lord is good.'

Bon appetit!



Reverend Vivien



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

Churchwarden: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113



stgilesgraffham.org



@stgilesgraffham

Empire Hall welcomes Post Office back

The Post Office's 'outreach' service resumed at the Empire Hall on 13 June – after a break following an incident at another of its locations.

It is now back in Graffham once a week, on Tuesdays from 8.30am to 12 noon.

If there are any changes to its opening hours, they will be posted on Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard with a notice also placed on the doors of the Empire Hall, giving customers as much notice as possible.

Empire Hall Chairman Sally Blunt said: "We are delighted to welcome the Post Office back. We know how much people value its visits here and hope that the village shows its support by making full use of it."



Postmistress Lorraine Cameron-Smith with Phil Jones, her first customer after returning to the Empire Hall.

Steve reveals his beads on Antiques Roadshow

Graffham's Steve Dover has made his second appearance on BBC1's Sunday night Antiques Roadshow in three months. After showing off some silverware – reputed to be Napoleon's lunch box, bequeathed to him by a Godfather – in March, he was back on the screens on 11 June displaying heirlooms left by his great grandfather.

Sir Henry Frederick Norbury had been a Royal Naval surgeon who was landed as part of the Naval Brigade to join with the British forces in South Africa during the wars with the Zulus from 1877 to 1879. Later, he cured King Cetshwayo, the last great king of Zululand, of a disease and the king rewarded him with strings of beads he had been wearing at the time. As provenance of the item, Steve, accompanied by wife Gill, also took along Sir Henry's portrait, medals and diaries. The show's expert appraising Steve's collection estimated they could fetch between £10,000 and £15,000 at auction.



Steve and his beads.

Steve said of the beads: "We have been pondering what to do with these because they are not the kind of thing that you wear these days so we were wondering whether to give them back to the Zulu people. A new Zulu king – great grandson of King Cetshwayo – has recently been crowned and maybe he would like them."

School report: Another year draws to a close



Some of the 'avatars' that will be turned into a giant mural alongside Graffham School's playground fence.



We had a super day just before half term when mummies and daddies came in to help us paint 'avatars' that are going to be turned into a giant mural along our playground fence.

Not without precedent – but certainly an uncommon problem – we were forced to postpone our sports afternoon, which had been due to take place at the Recreation Ground, due to the early June heatwave. Hopefully by the time you read this we will have enjoyed a rearranged afternoon at the Rec without the risk of heatstroke!

End of key-stage assessments are pretty much complete at each of our two schools (Graffham and Duncton), and so our thoughts are turning to the new school year and its classes. Very soon we will welcome our September school starters for trial mornings in Reception, and current pupils will all spend time in

their new classes with their September teachers. Then we will be busy rehearsing for our annual summer performance on Duncton School's playing field with its gorgeous amphitheatre. Together with the various traditional rituals and celebrations for our Year 6 leavers, we'll be finishing off the year in fun-filled fashion, as usual. Another school year drawing to a close already!



To find out more about our village school,
including 'virtual tours', see
graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk

Please also take a look at and 'like' us at
facebook.com/pg/friendsofgraffhamandduncton



Nursery to close – but school aims to replace it

A financial squeeze is forcing Graffham Nursery to close from the end of this term after three decades of service – but Graffham Infant School, where it rents space, is hoping to find a new operator to run the facility from September, offering a seamless transition for children enrolled there and their parents.

The current nursery, which takes children from the age of two until they start school at four or five, has 16 on its books at present. It first opened its doors exactly 30 years ago this month.

It is run as a charity, with its management committee, comprising parents of its pupils, serving as its trustees. With the strict financial governance this entails, they have reluctantly and finally decided that the nursery can no longer be maintained in the current economic climate.

Administrator Sonya Gillespie said: “We have tried absolutely everything we can to keep the show on the road but the financial reality has very sadly made it impossible to continue in this way any longer. Every day you hear of funding cuts forcing nurseries to close all over the country, particularly those run as charities, like ours.

“As a charity, we have never aimed for profits, but we do need to break even. We have been struggling to keep our heads above the water for some time now and we just can’t carry on like this.”

The move means Sonya herself and the nursery’s three other permanent staff members have had to be made redundant.

Graffham Infant School, keen to maintain a nursery on its site as a benefit to families with siblings enrolled there and as ‘feeder’ for future pupils, is inviting other potential providers to step into the breach.

Parents have been kept informed throughout and, says Sonya, have been very understanding and supportive of the situation.

She added: “Hopefully there’ll be some positive news for them very soon.”

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Graffham Parish Council gets some girl power

Graffham Parish Council is now at full strength, with nine councillors, after co-opting four new members – all women. They are Gillian Charlesworth, Rachel Gerrett, Fiona Jacob and Joanna Morris. Meet each of them below.

They join established councillors Roger Coakes, as its new Chairman, John Bracey (Vice-Chairman), Colin Barker, Sandy Macqueen, and Jon Warren.

Portfolios will be distributed following the next full meeting of the council.

Gillian Charlesworth moved into Squirrels with husband Peter a year ago. She's volunteered for community roles all her life. Here, she already serves as a member of the Empire Hall management committee. Gillian has worked for a number of professional standards organisations, currently as Group CEO of BRE, a charity-owned business dedicated to building safety and sustainability, employing 650 people. An avid reader and cinema goer, she also enjoys cooking, gardening and singing as a member of Petworth Chorus.



Rachel Gerrett arrived in Graffham in 2017 and since then she and husband Stuart have replaced the bungalow they bought almost opposite the village shop with a new, eco-friendly house, called, appropriately, Stuarts Lea – and doubled the size of their family, with the addition of William, who's now four and will start at Graffham Infants School in September, and Oliver (2). With a legal background, she currently works as an independent consultant in the financial services sector. In her little down time, Rachel can be spotted riding her horse Coco or walking Labrador Jasper.

Graffham Parish Council's Annual Parish meeting
will take place on
Wednesday 19 July at 7pm
in the Empire Hall,
after social drinks from 6.30pm.
All residents of the parish are welcome to attend.

Fiona Jacob moved into Nonnington Lane with husband Ipe in 2019 – just in time for the pandemic! – following five years “in retirement” in France. After qualifying as a solicitor, she worked for a London law firm in its insurance litigation division before heading up the professional indemnity claims department for a large American insurance company. More recently, she has trained to teach Pilates, which she now does part time. She says: “I feel privileged to live in beautiful and friendly Graffham and look forward to getting more involved in the community.”



Joanna Morris is perhaps best known as ‘the Graffham potter’, creating her ceramic masterpieces in her workshop at Topleigh Stables, Woodcote Lane, where she’s lived for 12 years. She appeared as a contestant in the first series of BBC1’s *Great Pottery Throwdown* in 2016. It’s a return to the council for her – she was previously co-opted for around 18 months to see out a term around a decade ago. Her son Will is completing his MSc at Bath. Jo shares her home with two donkeys which make regular appearances at special St Giles Church services, a horse, four alpacas, two goats, six chickens and two cats.

Prayers and candles after fatal Duncton crash

Candles have been lit and prayers said in St Giles Church after a fatal accident involving a local family on the A285 just south of Duncton Hill on the evening of Saturday 10 June.

Three passengers in a white BMW 220 were declared dead at the scene, while a fourth in the car was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

Of the local family, who were in a grey car, Sussex Police, as this edition went to press, stated that one suffered life-threatening injuries, one received serious injuries and the third escaped with minor injuries. One is said to be a young girl who attends a local school, with the other two her parents.

The road was closed overnight after the crash.

Police asked anyone who saw either vehicle being driven in the area around that time, or who captured any relevant video footage on dash cam, to email collision.appeal@sussex.police.uk quoting serial 1542 of 10/06.

From Town Hall: A285, nurseries and bedding in

In the first of what is intended to be a regular column, our new representative on Chichester District Council, John Cross, provides an update on his key issues of focus right now.



You will doubtless have heard of the tragic accident that occurred recently on Duncton Hill, just beyond the row of houses at the top of the hill (see previous page). This is one of the most dangerous stretches of road in the country and once again it has very sadly claimed more victims. I will be working with Tom Richardson, the county councillor for our ward, to see, when the police report on the incident, what further measures we can implement to help reduce the number of accidents. Those who use the A285 regularly know how frustrating it can be to follow a very slow vehicle for miles, but for the sake of a few minutes the risk is not worth putting you and others in danger.

I was also concerned to hear about the closure of the nursery provision at Graffham. I hope this resolves itself with a new nursery school opening in the autumn, but, if not, what is the knock-on effect to parents having to travel further? The obvious other thought is that these children, once in nursery school further away, will naturally sign onto the infant school where their friends are, and therefore reduce the school children at Graffham. I am interested to hear parents' views and how this may be affecting you.

In the early days of my new position, I am obviously learning a new job and trying to catch up on where my predecessor left off. For a single seat ward, this has the most parish councils – seven – of any in the district, so it's quite a challenge to get around to them all. But it is interesting to do so and to meet 'constituents', seeing the complex and difficult problems that need addressing for different communities.

Save the date for Graffham's fete

Bank Holiday Monday

23 August

on - and in aid of - the Rec



The Asaka Quartet will perform at St Giles Church on Saturday 15 July at 5pm.

Petworth Festival brings strings to St Giles

An award-winning strings quartet will be performing at Graffham as part of Petworth Festival, on Saturday 15 July at 5pm – a perfect follow-up to the Graffham Garden Group summer show earlier that afternoon.

The Asaka Quartet was formed in 2021 at the Royal Academy of Music in London where they are currently Chamber Music Fellows. Hailing from Scotland, Hong Kong and China, they will perform an all-English programme including a brand new composition, *Bignor Hill*, written specially for the 2023 Petworth Festival by composer Ned Bigham, of Bognor House. Tickets are £12.50. The group will be performing earlier in the day at Tillington – so make sure you select the right venue when booking – at petworthfestival.org.uk where full details of all festival events are listed! Before and after the Graffham recital, there'll be a fizz bar at St Giles for concert-goers.



Petworth Festival begins on 11 July and runs for 19 days in 12 venues throughout the Petworth area. It opens with a traditional Songs of Praise service at Petworth's St Mary's Church and continues with concerts featuring some of the leading classical and jazz performers in Europe, plus a series of top-class pop, rock and folk tribute acts – Kate Bush, Stevie Wonder, Joni Mitchell, The Carpenters.... There's comedy, too, and theatre.

Graffham features a second time in the fiesta programme – with its festival walk taking place the following day, Sunday 16 July, around the village, starting at the Rec and taking in the Lavington Estate and Lavington and Graffham Commons.



Graffham singers in summer enchanted evening

A goodly number of Graffham singers will be performing in Petworth Chorus's mid-year concert *Summer Enchanted Evening*, at Fittleworth Village Hall on Saturday 8 July evening.

As the promoters say, "with a mixed programme of music – from Vivaldi to Lennon & McCartney to Gilbert and Sullivan – there's something for absolutely everyone to say 'that was my favourite', promising to be a blissful evening of beautiful singing, rural surroundings and a fun atmosphere amongst friends".

Doors open at 5.30pm to allow time for parking, erecting gazebos and setting up picnics. The singing starts at 6.45pm with an interval for your picnic from about 7.30. The second half should end by around 9.30pm.

For more details and tickets, see petworthchorus.co.uk/summer-enchanted-evening

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Graffham, Petworth, Midhurst
and surrounding areas.

Cheers to the team behind your monthly news

Raise a glass to the team that brings you *Graffham Parish News* every month – the editorial team, regular contributors and the score-strong squad that slips 12 copies a year through letterboxes of each of the 350 or so properties throughout the village, come rain or shine!

They gathered for a thank-you party hosted by the magazine's publishers, Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council, on a June evening blessed with radiant sunshine and mid-summer heat.

It was also an opportunity for them collectively to celebrate the recent award won from the Association of Church Editors as one of the best parish mags in Britain.

Although a number of distributors and contributors were unable to attend, it is believed to have been the first such gathering in the magazine's near 400-edition history.



Raising a glass – Graffham Parish News deliverers, contributors and editors.

THURSDAY CLUB

13 July

Visit to Botany Bay nature reserve, Lavington Park

Third attempt – hopefully the weather will be kind this time!

Meet at Seaford College's East Lodge, 2pm

Wear suitable footwear for uneven ground

All welcome

No Thursday Club in August and September



FAMILY FRIDAYS

are back at

Graffham Rec

Dear Graffham and friends,

Come and join us every other Friday throughout June and July 4-8pm to connect, chat and relax in good company with some communal childcare.

Bring a blanket, picnic dinner, stuff for the BBQ (coals will be hot from 5pm), good Dad jokes – and sunshine!

The pavilion bar will be open for refreshments and it's club night for Graffham Tennis Club, so don't forget your rackets.

We would love to hear from you, so do let us know if you are thinking of coming. Any thoughts and ideas are most welcome.

7 & 21 July

All are welcome and we hope to see you there!

Love from Sonya and Katie

sonyag80@hotmail.com
07918 529983

katie_donald@icloud.com
07872 653852



What an ice time we had! The ice cream van generates a big queue at the first Family Friday of the year, at the Rec. Picture by © Katie Donald.

Ice cream van is hot draw at first Family Friday

Family Fridays are back at the Rec, with around 100 Mums, Dads and kids joining for the first, on 9 June – with two more planned this month (on the 7th and 21st from 4 to 8 pm).

The events are a chance for families to come together on the sports and play grounds around the village's Pavilion, to chat and relax with some communal child care. The barbeque coals are lit, the bar open, and a few games gently organised for those who want to join in.

At the season's opener, T&M Ices' ice cream van did such a roaring trade in the warm evening sunshine that it is to become a permanent fixture at all this year's Family Fridays.

Howard Donald did his usual amazing job at the barbeque and Will Caldwell and Mark Bowden volunteered to run cricket with the children.

Volunteers are being sought to help out at the Family Fridays in July, to help with the barbeque and drinks stall or organise activities for the children. If you can help or have any bright ideas, please email or text Sonya or Katie (details opposite).

Graffham Garden Group visits for 2023

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.

Wednesday 6 September 2-5pm

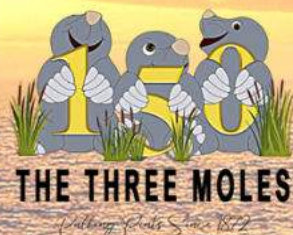
Graffham

Marsh Farm, Woodcote Lane, and Boswells Cottage, The Street

Marie Bracey and Carole Kirke invite you to spend an afternoon in their beautiful gardens with tea and cake available at Boswells Cottage in aid of Dementia UK. No need to book but if you need a lift or further details please contact Nicky West on 07796 144647 or email nicolamwest@btinternet.com

The Wellington Wailers SEA SHANTIES Saturday 29th July 7pm

At The Three Moles, in aid of the Shoreham Lifeboat



No tickets/booking
required - FREE entry!
Turn up and enjoy!



*Let's fill the hall with flowers, fruit, photos,
veg and wonderful cookery!*

GRAFFHAM GARDEN GROUP SUMMER SHOW

Saturday 15 July

Empire Hall

8-10am Hall open for entries

2.30pm Hall open for viewings and teas

4pm Presentation of prizes

***Classes for flowers, fruit, vegetables,
cookery and photographs***

*Photo classes: 1 A winter scene 2 Feeding the birds
3 Bluebells 4 Garden visitors 5 Any subject (under 16s)*

The schedule of classes should have dropped through
your letterbox in June – but if you still need a copy,
call Peter Hardcastle, on 01798 867446

***Silverware and cash prizes up for grabs –
but it's the taking part that counts!***

Weddings: Georgia and Ted, 27 May

Rather than leaving St Giles to the sound of its bells after their wedding there on Saturday 27 May, Georgia Reynolds and Ted Polkey were serenaded by a brass band playing Katrina and The Waves' *Walking on Sunshine* – a perfect match for the wonderful late spring bank holiday weather.

Georgia had entered the church, on the arm of Dad Paul Reynolds, to more traditional church wedding music – Jeremiah Clarke's *Prince of Denmark's March*,



The brass band in action at St Giles' Church.

played by organist Brian Lanaghan.

During the ceremony, conducted by the Rev Vivien, the 140-strong congregation belted out a couple of Georgia and Ted's favourite hymns, *Jerusalem* and *Lord of the Dance*. While the register



**No Tickets /
Booking required -
FREE entry! Turn
up and enjoy!**

The Straw Dogs

Irish Folk Band

Saturday 22nd July 8pm

was signed, the brass band played other favourites, including Stevie Wonder's *Signed Sealed Delivered*, The Rembrandts' *I'll Be There For You* and The Proclaimers' *I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)*. The newlyweds walked out of the church to The Beatles' *All You Need Is Love*.

Graffham's Meadow Brook Farm had been the family home of Georgia's Dad Paul and Mum Serena since she was four years old. Her wedding was their last big hurrah in Graffham before making a downsizing move at the end of June to a town house in Petworth.

Georgia and Ted live in London, where she works as a communications manager for a software company that supports the NHS and he is an associate partner at a leading firm of surveyors. They met more than six years ago, set up by a mutual friend. Their first date was at The White Horse – not the Graffham pub, but its namesake in London's Parsons Green. Ted popped the question 18 months ago while they were in Whitby.

On their big day, Georgia wore a Suzanne Neville dress and veil, carrying a bouquet of white roses, while Ted sported a traditional morning suit. She was accompanied by two maids of honour and a pair of bridesmaids. He chose a friend from school days at Oakham as his best man, supported by eight groomsmen.

The new Mr and Mrs Polkey drove from St Giles in a white vintage Mini to their reception at her family home – and then on to a honeymoon in South Africa and Mauritius.



Weddings: Katie and Guy, 3 June



When Katie Cotterell and Guy Whitfield married at St Giles Church on Saturday 3 June, it sealed a match made across continents.

Her mother and stepfather are Graffham's Sarah and Jo Lydiard-Wilson, of Summers Farm, while he hails from South Africa.

Katie and Guy met through a friend at a London pub in 2017 when Guy was over in the UK to complete his degree.

A year later they relocated to Amsterdam together for work and lived there for three years before moving back to England. That has



Graffham Down Trust Sunday 2 July

Meet outside St Giles Church at 9.45am. Bring a picnic and join us in Bowley's Reserve on Graffham Down at midday.



To reserve a ride to the top, contact: jimkirke@hotmail.com
For more information, email: sennitt2@gmail.com

enabled them to enjoy being closer to her family – and spending lots of time in Graffham.

Guy asked Katie to marry him when they were visiting his folks in South Africa in January 2022. They soon decided that they would wed in Graffham and have the reception at her family home in the village.

The wedding party included Katie’s best friend as the maid of honour, Katie’s nephew as page boy and four ushers including two of Guy’s friends from school, his brother-in-law and Katie’s brother Tom Cotterell.



Pictures of Katie and Guy’s wedding by @churchillweddings



TEDDY TIME IN THE PAVILION TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays 10.15-11.30am

Pavilion, Graffham Rec

No charge. All welcome.
Just come along!

Meet your neighbour: Petworth's Lord Egremont

Graffham photographer Colin Barker was recently commissioned by Country Life to photograph Petworth's Lord Egremont to accompany a feature written by the magazine's Deputy Editor Rupert Uloth. They've kindly granted permission for Graffham Parish News to reproduce it.

Twenty-first century technology meets 18th century elegance as Lord Egremont busies himself at his computer in his high ceilinged study bigger than some terraced houses. For those who know Lord Egremont locally and his association with the great house of Petworth, it is easy to forget that he has since spent much of his working life as an author and only returned to Petworth to take over the estate in 1972 when his father suddenly died aged 52. The current Lord has lived at Petworth House ever since, firstly with his mother, Pamela, and then with his wife Caroline, whom he married in 1978, and their four children.

The last book by Max Egremont, *Forgotten Land, Journeys Among the Ghosts of East Prussia*, was well received: "I'd written a lot of books about England and thought I would try something completely different. I didn't think people knew a great deal about East Prussia. But this great contest in the East that continues to this day as to who controls this part of Europe, and through the whole of Europe, has been going on for much of the 20th century between the Germans and Russians. The Germans east of the Elbe are very different from the Rhineland Germans who are greatly influenced by their links with France and western Europe."

Although he now into his 70s, he retains not only a good head of thick hair but also a boyish enthusiasm. He possesses an easy charm and a curious mind that makes him an easy companion. Always thoughtful, he laughs easily. When talking of the Prussians he lauds their good qualities but admits, with a mellifluous chortle, that there were "some rather bad things" about them such as brutality. The different experiences and accomplishments of his life bring a singular, well-informed view.

As the inheritor of a significant house, or at least the inheritor of the right to live in it – in 1947, his great-uncle, the 3rd Lord Leconfield, had given Petworth House to the National Trust in the face of heavy death duties, with his nephew John Wyndham (created 1st Lord Egremont) later also gifting part of the extensive art collection - Lord Egremont understands the nature of Britain's extraordinary heritage. He looks through his large study window onto Lancelot 'Capability' Brown parkland, and every day he walks past paintings by JMW Turner, arguably one of Britain's finest artists, who used to come and stay regularly with Lord

Egremont's ancestor while painting the house and parkland.

Anyone who has been to Petworth House and the grounds as a guest or visitor comes away with a sense of awe and pride that we have somewhere so special on our doorstep.

And for his part, he feels that his relationship with the National Trust is strong and effective: "They do take us very much into account. Like any large organisation under human control they can make mistakes, but very few, and all of the individuals I've worked with I've found to be very understanding of our position."

The house works well as somewhere open to the public that also has a family living there. Long and large, it's easy to divide, with the family inhabiting the southern third with access to their private garden. The public are allowed into the park 365 days a year. "They can walk right up to the house but I've got used to it. It really doesn't bother me."

Petworth is more than a park and a house. The 14,000 acre estate has been owned by the family since the 12th century. It came into the Percy family in 1150 and was passed down to the third Earl of Egremont, a great patron of progressive agriculture and the arts. The title became extinct and the third Earl's son George Wyndham



Lord Egremont, photographed in his Petworth House home by Graffham's © Colin Barker.

► [Continued on next page](#)

► *Continued from previous page*

was created Baron Leconfield in 1859. Max's parents moved into Petworth in 1953, with his father being created Lord Egremont ten years later, thus reviving the old family title. The estate includes 20 let farms, 280 cottages and houses, a home shoot and seven let shoots. There is a pedigree herd of Sussex cattle and the fallow deer in the park are sold to improve herds elsewhere besides being sold as venison.

As a farmer, Lord Egremont is mindful of the future. "I think it's the farmer's task, and even his duty, to produce food. Food that doesn't have to travel around the globe to get to our plates. I just hope that food produced in England doesn't become something extraordinarily rare. I think the great challenge for the estate is what happens to the farm now after Brexit. The politicians will have to interpret what the electorate want, we could be opening our doors for cheap imports and restrictions on exports might make it difficult for some farmers to survive."

Lord Egremont got to know the fields, rivers, woods, valleys and commons in the surrounding area well during his regular forays out hunting as a child. "The countryside around here is absolutely beautiful and it's a wonderful place for children to explore."

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Rare spotting of *Homo vagus nudus* on Down

Thanks to Simon Rey for capturing this rather blurry evidence of his rare sighting of an unusual June visitor to Graffham Down – *Homo vagus nudus*.

The male hiker was spotted just as nature intended – save for a sun hat, walking boots and messenger-style bag which, bearing in mind the weather, was hopefully stuffed with high factor sunscreen and water.

When he encountered the bare-faced stranger, Simon, of The Street, Graffham, was more conventionally attired, in his cycling lycra and hard hat while out for some evening exercise on his mountain bike.

Does anyone in the village want to own up?!



DRAG NIGHT

Saturday 15th July 8pm

The Three Moles presents

Anett Curtain



Over 18's only
No tickets/booking
required - FREE entry!
Turn up and enjoy!



Nature Notes: Swamp frogs having a laugh

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

A summer evening walk past any water-filled areas in our West Sussex parish is harmless enough – but over in East Sussex such a stroll is not for the paranoid or insecure. You could be mistaken for thinking that the very marshes, ditches and ponds are mocking you as an incredible quacking, cackling chorus fills the air growing more and more hysterical. This is the song of the marsh frog – the sound of the swampland laughing.

The frogs, hidden from sight, inflate two vocal sacs making them look like they are blowing bubblegum out of their ears. Guttural guffaws are amplified by these sacs and broadcast into the night. Their loud laughter is contagious. Once one frog proudly proclaims his place in the pond with a raucous whoa-aa-aa-aa his neighbour is compelled to respond and soon the entire marsh is whoa-aa-aa-aa-ing like a bawdy comedy night at a working man's club. Holding the title of Europe's largest frog, the marsh frog is 50 per cent bigger than Britain's native common frogs. Full



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grown adults are a reassuringly Kermit-like green.

Unlike our native frogs, they never stray too far from water. Marsh frogs are either in it, on it or sat close to it. They are alert and wary and, as you approach, these acrobatic amphibians will launch



A marsh frog in a Sussex marsh. © James Tomlinson, SWT

themselves into the air and belly flop with a plop into the water. But sit still by the water's edge and inquisitive bulging eyes will soon reappear at the surface. Their wariness is warranted. Herons, egrets and grass snakes prowl the ditches hoping for a frog in their throat.

Marsh frogs are only found in a few places in Britain, and East Sussex is a hot spot for this cold-blooded animal. But they shouldn't be there. These green-skinned aliens have been introduced by man. Or, to be more precise, Mr and Mrs E P Smith of Stone-in-Oxney, Kent. Mr Smith, Conservative MP for Ashford, seems to have had very tolerant views towards immigration and released 12 of these Hungarian amphibians into his garden pond in 1935. It wasn't long before the warty dozen had multiplied and, by the 1960s, all of neighbouring Romney Marsh rang with the sound of laughter.

From there it was just a short hop into Sussex and over the decades the march of the marsh frog has continued, sometimes 'helpfully' assisted by humans. One Sussex herpetologist, in order to study them closer, moved some marsh frogs one



A marsh frog with its vocal sacs inflated. © SWT

Friday afternoon from Lewes to his suburban Burgess Hill garden pond. On Monday morning he was served a noise abatement order by the council. They don't tolerate laughter in Burgess Hill. And they continue heading west – so keep your bulgy eyes and ears out in the parish – the marsh frogs are coming...



GRAFFHAM TENNIS CLUB

Friday 21 July	5.30 pm	Parent and child tennis with ball machine
		Cricket bowling machine
		Bring and share barbeque/picnic
		Pavilion bar open
Saturday 22 July	9.30am	Coffee and bacon butties
	10am-12.30pm	Mixed doubles tournament
	1pm	Mixed doubles final
	2pm	Parent and kids two-wicket cricket match
	4pm	Graffham Tennis alumni tournament
		Pavilion bar open
Sunday 23 July		Bring picnics
Sunday 23 July	10am	Men's doubles tournament
	1.30pm	Men's doubles final
Monday 24 July	9.30am-2pm	Junior/academy coaching
	4-6pm	Seniors' session



We're the friendliest of village tennis clubs where players of all ages and abilities will find a warm welcome.

Do come and join in!

TENNIS WEEK

21-28 JULY 2023



Tuesday 25 July	9.30am-2pm	Junior/academy coaching
	4-6pm	Graffham vs Rogate juniors match
Wednesday 26 July	9.30am-2pm	Junior/academy coaching
	6pm	Friendly mixed match – Graffham versus Tillington / Steep
Thursday 27 July	9.30am-2pm	Junior/academy coaching
	6-8pm	Club night
	7.45pm	Club curry at the Pavilion
Friday 28 July	9.30am-2pm	Junior/academy coaching

TO ENTER FOR ANY EVENT

Please email admin@graffhamtennis.co.uk
or contact the appropriate person below

Coaching	Richard Hopp	richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk
Men's doubles	Simon Longman	07979 590891
Mixed doubles	Richard Gyles	07976 243297
Curry night	Denise Clay	07771 948343

*Set against the stunning
background of the South Downs
at our village's Rec,
with a superb pavilion.*
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A new patio, complete with picnic tables and benches, has been installed at the Pavilion, funded from Recreation Ground coffers, summer fete proceeds, grants and a generous donation. It's sure to come in for plenty of use during Graffham's annual Tennis Week, which runs from 21 to 28 July. See centre pages for full details.

Graffham Tennis Club

Graffham's annual Tennis Week runs from 21 to 28 July. See the centre pages for the week's full programme, and the Graffham Tennis Club website, graffhamtennis.co.uk. These events are open to all, not just club members.

Results have been coming in thick and fast from the East Hants League matches, with Graffham's four teams enjoying mixed results but some stupendous weather. Graffham tend to rotate players in their teams, which makes for an inclusive and social atmosphere, but can struggle against clubs which keep their pairings fixed.

The club tournaments are getting under way, with the first of these the Mixed Doubles on Saturday 17 June – the final day of the spell of uninterrupted sunshine. Long-term partners Emma Amin and Andy Craig were looking to avenge their defeat in last year's final and were always going to be the pair to beat. A sociable round robin format ended up with Andy and Emma, true to form, beating David Sparkes and Tessa Mills 6-3 in the final. The Ladies' Doubles tournament has attracted a large entry and a round robin tournament on the evenings of 26



Mixed doubles finalists, from left: David Sparkes, Tessa Mills, Emma Amin and Andy Craig.

and 27 June will have yielded the two finalists in that competition. Look out for a report in next month's edition.

The men's singles will also be played in a similar format on 2 July, and the men's doubles will be one of the Tennis Week events on Sunday 23 July.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results				
24 May	Won 5-3	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	vs Swanmore B
5 June	Won 7-1	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	vs Headley
5 June	Lost 3-5	Ladies Doubles	Div 4	vs Medstead C
7 June	Lost 1-7	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	vs Medstead A
13 June	Drew 4-4	Men's Doubles	Div 3	vs Cheriton
14 June	Lost 3-5	Ladies Doubles	Div 1	vs Haslemere A
15 June	Won 6-2	Ladies Doubles	Div 4	vs Newman Collard B

Lots of home fixtures this month:

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: July					
Do come and spend a summer evening supporting your teams!					
4	Tues	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 3	v Medstead B
17	Mon	6.30pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 4	v Newman Collard B
31	Mon	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	v Haslemere B

Graffham Bowls Club

By Secretary Liz Pegram

We welcomed two new members to the club – Andy Wood and Ian Morrison, both joining from West Dean, who sadly didn't have enough members this year.

The weather has been kind so no games were cancelled in June. We played two matches against other local clubs – and won one and lost one. Our friends from Sutton joined us for a very enjoyable friendly match. The Tyrrells and the Dallyns battled it out on one rink. The overall score was a win to Graffham.

Our President's Day was very hot but a good time was had by all. Lucy Tyrrell, Andy Wood and Kym Pegram were the victors after beating Charlie and Hazel Tyrrell and Ken Angell in the last game. Our president Vera O'Hara presented the



Vera O'Hara (left) presents the President's Trophy to winners Andy Wood, Lucy Tyrrell and Kym Pegram.

trophy. New members are always welcome at our friendly club. Contact Liz on 01798 867770 for more information.

Graffham Bowls Club East Hants home fixtures: July			
Spectators very welcome			
2 July	Sun	2pm	Janet Hurst Cup
9 July	Sun	3pm	Fittleworth
12 July	Wed	6.30pm	Midhurst
16 July	Sun	2pm	Ladies Day
19 July	Wed	6.30pm	Stedham
27 July	Thurs	6.30pm	Billingshurst
30 July	Sun	2pm	Jubilee Shield

Graffham Cricket

Graffham Ladies played a friendly evening fixture against Petworth in the charming surroundings of Petworth Park on Monday 19 June – with our ‘occasional’ players expecting a thrashing at the hands of Petworth’s ‘regulars’. But some spirited performances limited the margin of defeat to just ten runs.

Graffham lost the toss and were put in to bat, generating 59 runs over the starting score of 200, in a match with five run penalties for lost wickets. Petworth were scoring slowly and the match was poised nicely for the final pair. Unfortunately Petworth had saved their best for last and their captain edged the score past the target with some confident boundaries.

Highlights for Graffham included three clean hits of the stumps by bowler Angie Thornley, a high speed catch by Jules Sparkes off the bowling of captain Louise Creed and some impressive batting by Bella Pool.

The return match takes place on the Rec on Thursday 13 July at 6.30pm.



With the sun setting over Petworth Park, the Graffham and Petworth ladies' cricketers join for a combined team photo. They meet for a return match at Graffham's Rec on Thursday 13 July, starting at 6.30pm.

Bill's bygones: Fracking, Packer, Gurkhas

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.

10 years ago – July 2013: Rev Steve Gray presides over his last parish service and writes his final letter for *Graffham Parish News* before leaving the community to take up a new appointment. Graffham Stoolball Club challenges the Cricket and Tennis Clubs to stoolball matches. National disability charity United Response, founded by Su Sayer CBE (daughter of previous Seaford College Headmaster Canon Charles Johnson), celebrates its 40th anniversary with a fun day at the school. Possible fracking at Fernhurst is discussed by Graffham Parish Council. Andy Murray and Marion Bartoli win the Wimbledon singles titles. David Moyes becomes Manchester United manager following Sir Alex Ferguson's retirement. Death of comedian Mel Smith (60). Prince George of Wales born.

25 years ago – July 1998: Graffham Parish Council's Millennium Co-ordinator Don Allen calls an open meeting to discuss ideas on how to mark the event. In the highlight of Graffham Tennis Club's men's singles tournament so far, most junior contender Sam Major narrowly defeats the most senior Derek Stewart-Smith 6-2, 6-2, 7-5. St Margaret's School, Midhurst, stages Pygmalion under the direction of Graffham's Pat Trower, Head of Drama. Kerry Packer's team Ellerston defeat CS Brooks (received 1) 13-6 in the final of the British Open Championship for the Verve Clicquot Cup at Cowdray Park. Pete Sampras and Jana Novotná win the Wimbledon singles titles. At the FIFA World Cup in France, the hosts defeat Brazil 3-0 in the final.

50 years ago – July 1973: The Church Sale at The Rectory raises £65 for St Luke's Hospital, in Chabua, Assam (India). A sale held at Cackle Hill, home of Miss Beevor and Mrs Robbins, raises £80 for the Church of England's Children's Society. Graffham Garden Group has 75 entrants at its annual show. Memorial service at St Giles' for Colonel Geoffrey Cartaret Strahan OBE CEI, of Kelston, Graffham, formerly of the 6th Gurkha Rifles. Police seize 200 cannabis plants in Bedham. Prize money at Glorious Goodwood totals £113,710. Billie-Jean King wins the women's singles at Wimbledon. Following a boycott by the top male players, Czech Jan Kodeš wins the men's title. Peters & Lee top the UK singles' chart with *Welcome Home*.

Graffham Chronicles: Treading the Empire's boards

In her regular column, village historian Pauline Goodwin this month looks back at am dram productions in the village.

"It was hard to say who had the better time, the cast or the audience." – Phil Jones

When built in 1907, the Empire Hall was fitted with a platform for political speakers – no performing area, no curtains, no proscenium arch, no door between rear dressing room and kitchen, as Eddye Loring describes in her May 1985 History of the Rustics. Performers had to go outside to enter the other side of the stage.

Despite this lack of theatrical infrastructure, Noel Dicker produced several plays with the Graffham Players. By the Coronation year of 1953, this group had metamorphosed into the Rustics and, using village help, had made improvements for stage shows. The stage was lowered and enlarged, an apron built and a doorway made between dressing room and kitchen.

The proscenium arch was designed and fitted by stage manager Noel Maskelyne, of the famous Magic Circle family. It was constructed by hanging it on wires and securing it in the attic. A long line of backstage technicians and craftsmen worked on shaping the hall as a theatrical venue down the years. Bob Drewett, who took over as stage manager some years later, was also lured by Eddye to take to the stage. The improvements culminated eventually with superb lighting which was fitted by singer, actor and electrician Victor Constable. Entertainment, often involving



This concert by scouts, guides and brownies in 1969 featured several performers still living in the village or with family connections here, including Jo and Katie Kingsmill, Martin Taylor, Phil Tupper and Trevor Challen. Can you spot them?!

music, has constantly been an important part of hall activities. In June 2014, a survey of villagers revealed that 64% would like to see musical performances in the hall. Certainly, it is the musical events that have impacted on my memory the most. In the 1950s and 1960s, the march of the seasons, like Harvest Festival, was celebrated by an assortment of pageants and tableaux which involved elaborate costumes from bygone days, rustic implements such as scythes and the ability to stand statue-like to a musical accompaniment.

From the 1960s, I recall another production that required the rendition of a song called *Two Lovely Black Eyes*, a song about two men whose views on politics brought them to blows. Frances Steele, daughter of John Steele and teacher at the village school, accompanied a period-costumed choir at piano. Karen Howick and I sat beside her, as page turners. In mid-song, in front of a packed audience, I went to turn over the page of the score but... there was nothing, no notes, no music, nothing! Silence! Hysteria filled the hall as the audience began to understand what had happened!

During the life of the hall and its new stage, children have been heavily involved in productions. For almost a century, girl guides, brownies, cubs and scouts from the village have regularly taken to the stage. At various times throughout the hall's history, the school too has used the venue to stage plays.

The Rustics, founded in 1951 by Eddye Loring, has been well documented and involved countless villagers plus those from wider afield, in a wide range of capacities. It was always Eddye's intention to recruit as many locals from all backgrounds as possible. With this motivation, the Women's Institute percussion

► [Continued on next page](#)



[A 1960s production of Alice in Wonderland, with the author, then Pauline Challen, in the front row.](#)

► *Continued from previous page*

band, conducted by Phyllis Inman, was drafted in, adding a dozen more people to one show's troupe. The star percussionist, Beatrice Ricardo, played vast cymbals which she clashed with relish on the last note of each song.

Keeping in line with Eddy's aim, many children were enrolled into Rustics' productions to extend and encourage future participation. Spouses were usually found jobs either on stage or behind the scenes, as in John and Hilda Holland. While John trod the boards, Hilda ran the box office from the village shop.

A random selection of Rustic members included Peggy Weller, Maresco Pearce, Lillie Puttick, Rosella Etheridge, Daphne Howick, Philip and Pat Trower, Dennis

and Catherine Mattingley, Don Skinner, John Ellerton, John and Betty Steele, Derek and Sonia Williams, Gerard Kemp, Cannon Bradbrook, Delphine Standing, Rev Townroe, Susan Tink and Victor and Jean Constable. Vic – chairman when the Rustics were awarded The Accolade of Excellence for the southern area of the National Operatics and Dramatic Association – has written extensively about the Rustics in *Graffham Memories*.

Philip and the late Pat Trower were also key Rustics members. Philip first



Derek Williams, Vic Constable and Rosie Clark receive Graffham Rustics' Accolade of Excellence.

auditioned in 1990 to be offered the main part of Bunthorne in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Patience*. Whereas the Savoy Operas featured prominently in the Rustics' catalogue, Pat directed varied works including Alan Bennett's *Habeas Corpus* in 2000, *A Midsummer's Night Dream* in 2002 and *Daisy Pulls It Off* in 2006. Philip's favourite memory was from the 1995 revival of Eddy Loring's musical *Back To The Land*, based on her wartime land girl career. He appeared on the stage to sing as a Kyte-Pranger RAF character, but realised his moustache, lovingly applied by Barbara Kemp as chief make-up artist, was starting to work loose, and had to be removed. Doing his best to rise to the occasion, his subsequent appearances were with moustaches of increasing sizes!

In 1978 the Rustics produced *Ragbag Revue*, a departure from their normal fare. John Ellerton was master of ceremonies and reprised his role of Fagin. Janet Watkins, Jean Constable, Joan Chatwood played punks, aided by Gerard Kemp as

Sid Rancid. A review in the local paper singled out Daphne Howick, who featured as a singing nun, a bewildered housewife and a bathing beauty, as being “considered by many to be the best actress in West Sussex”.

Several creative villagers have written their own shows including Eddye Loring and John Steele with the wondrous *Alpenrosa* and Phil Jones and Russell Walker who wrote *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*.

I was part of *Alpenrosa*’s cast – which was wonderful. I recall the finale on the one night of the run when I was dressed as an alpine maid amongst the entire cast assembled on the stage. The two romantic leads were singing a quiet lilting duet. Spontaneously, from this tranquil moment, a low hum was heard, and it grew and grew and grew until the stage was full of humming cast members. It was electric and the emotion was beyond words! After the performance ended, the cast assembled on stage to take notes from director Eddye Loring who said with a dead pan face: “Wonderful humming! Let’s keep it in!”

In 2000 and 2001, two shows were performed, inspired by Janice, the barmaid at the Foresters Arms. A group of early evening customers declared that putting on a panto was a piece of cake. Janice disagreed and so Russell Walker and Phil Jones wrote *Treasure Island*, which featured a cast of 20 pub and village locals, starring landlord Lloyd Pocock as Wide John Silver. Phil describes it as “an innuendo laden romp”. Fuelled by sell out success, a Robin Hood-based show was staged the following year with David and Jules Priest as Robin and Marion. The action was set at Lavington Castle, complete with archery contest and swashbuckling sword fight. Demand for tickets was so high it went to a three-night run.

Going back to Phil Jones’ words at the start of this article, I feel that the previous memory reveals the answer to that question. Involvement in a production of any description provides a wonderful buzz of excitement. Give it a go!



A publicity shot for *Rustics’ Ragbag* Review, staged in 1978.

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Property watch

Homes for sale locally, posted at [rightmove.com](https://www.rightmove.com) since our previous edition:

13 Guillod Cottages, Graffham GU28 0NR: Four-bedroomed semi-detached house, upstairs bathroom, downstairs shower room, living room, kitchen, shed, cottage garden. 135sq m/1,458sq ft. Guide price £550,000. *Porter, Midhurst, 01730 771434. Added 3 Jun.*



Rindles, Halfway Bridge GU28 0PJ: Two-bedroomed detached bungalow, two bathrooms, sitting and dining rooms, study, kitchen/breakfast room, conservatory, outbuildings, mature garden backing onto River Rother. 120sq m/1,295sq ft. Offers in region of £700,000. *Henry Adams, Midhurst, 01730 771345. Added 14 Jun.*

Cranmore Cottage, Peace Road, Heyshott GU29 0DF: Four-bedroomed detached, Grade II cottage, upstairs and downstairs bathrooms, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen, entrance hall, cellar, garage, 0.24 acre garden, outbuildings. 155sq m/1,670sq ft. Offers in excess of £1 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst, 01730 774837. Added 7 Jun.*



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

Barnetts Farm, Fitzlea Wood Road, East Lavington GU28 0QN: Rebuild of chimney, wall and opening of ground floor window. Timber beam treatment and repair. SDNP/23/02147/LIS. *Received 23 May*

Crimestoppers

Sussex Police has not been able to supply its usual weekly lists of crimes reported in the area since mid-March because of staffing issues, however, the following item was reported on Facebook.

Burglaries occurred at a number of houses on Duncton High Street, opposite the Burton Park turning, on Saturday 17 June between 12.30 and 2.30pm. Anyone with dashcam footage taken in the locality at around that time is asked to provide it.

Graffham Parish News' juicy July quiz

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

- 1 Which statistician, named after a pathfinding nurse, produced vital data for Churchill during World War II, died in July 1993 and is buried in St Giles' churchyard?
- 2 Which botanist, who lived at Selham House, had 19 plant species named after him, was Liberal MP for Dundee from 1885 to 1888, died in July 1933 and is buried in St James' Church, Selham?
- 3 Which artiste, who is 65 this month, had a number one single last year with a song which first appeared on her 1985 album *Hounds of Love*?
- 4 Which national institution was founded on 5 July 1948?
- 5 Which English poet wrote *Venus and Adonis*, thought to be his first work to be published in 1593?
- 6 In which country do most Cree aboriginals live?
- 7 Between them, how many children have the Spice Girls produced?
- 8 Allegra Mostyn-Owen, Marina Wheeler and Caroline Symonds all married who?
- 9 Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Gary Player, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods are the only five players to achieve which golf quartet?
- 10 How many episodes of BBC sitcom *Fawlty Towers* were produced?





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Quiz answers:

- 1 Florence Nightingale David.
- 2 Charles Carmichael Lacaita.
- 3 Kate Bush.
- 4 The National Health Service.
- 5 William Shakespeare.
- 6 Canada.
- 7 12.
- 8 Boris Johnson.
- 9 The career 'grand slam' of all four golf majors.
- 10 12.

PACT special events for the summer

Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) is organising two key events in July.

First is its special service to mark the start of the Petworth Festival, on Tuesday 11 July at 6.30pm in St Mary's Church, Petworth – a *Songs of Praise* style format with a talk by Ned Bigham, Viscount Mersey, whose new composition *Bignor Park*, named after his Sussex seat, will receive its world premiere when it is performed by the Asaka Quartet at St Giles Church, Graffham, as part of the festival on Saturday 15 July (see page 9).

Then, from Monday to Friday 24-28 July, PACT will be running its Summer Holiday Bible Club at Petworth's Herbert Shiner Community Hall, for all primary school age children (cost is just £3 per child daily, or £6 per family daily), followed by a Family Fun Picnic Lunch from 12.30 to 2pm. New this year is a 'toddler drop', run by Kirsty Hewitt, of



PACT's Family Support Work, from 10am-12noon. Bookings can be made via petworthareachurchestogether.com/kids-club/. If anyone from PACT churches wants to get involved, please contact Annie Sneller (thesnellers@gmail.com or on 07790107377).

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 tinned tomatoes, tinned soup, tinned fish, tinned vegetables, jam, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

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

Sidespeople, readers and readings for Sunday 10.30am services in July			
2	Bill Barrett	Parish Eucharist	Jeremiah 28, v5-9
9	Michael Blunt	Trinity Parish Eucharist	Zechariah 9, v9-12
16	Marie Bracey	Animal Blessing Service	Isaiah 55, v10-13
23	Barbara Edge	Parish Eucharist	Solomon 12,13,16-19
30	Stuart Lewis	Parish Eucharist	1 Kings 3, v5-12
		Flowers	
		2 & 9	Sally Blunt
		16 & 23	Diane Bellis
		Cleaning	
		Bridget Lewis and Diane Bellis	
			

Did you know...? You can raise funds for St Giles Church virtually whenever you shop online – and at zero cost to you. To find out how simple it is, just go to stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online

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

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

July				
2	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity	St Giles Church
3	Mon		No Sanctuary	
4	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
9	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
10	Mon	7pm	New Sanctuary reflection group	The Rectory
11	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer and Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
13	Thu	4pm	Wedding Rehearsal	St Giles Church
14	Fri	1.30pm	Wedding of Rowan and Emily	St Giles Church
15	Sat	5pm	Petworth Festival concert by Asaka Quarter (see page 9)	St Giles Church
16	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Animal Blessing Service	St Giles Church
17	Mon	7pm	New Sanctuary reflection group	The Rectory
18	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer and Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
19	Wed	9.15am	Infant School end of year service	St Giles Church
20	Thu	11am	Burial of ashes, Mary Tupper	St Giles Church
23	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
24	Mon	7pm	New Sanctuary reflection group	The Rectory
25	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer and Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
30	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
August				
			No Sanctuary or Pilgrim groups in August	
6	Sun	10.30am	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

What's on in and around the village

For home sports fixtures, see pages 29 and 30

June				
28	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ³	Empire Hall
		7pm	Graffham Village Shop Assoc AGM (page 6)	Empire Hall
29	Thu	2.30-4.30pm	Tea in the garden (see page 1)	Jaysfield Lodge
July				
1	Sat	9am-2pm	Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst
2	Sun	12noon	Graffham Down Trust picnic (see page 18)	Graffham Down
6	Tue	2pm	Arts Society West Sussex talk and recital on <i>Life on a Harp String</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
7	Fri		Seaford College term ends	
			World Chocolate Day	
		4-8pm	Family Fridays (see page 12)	Rec
8	Sat	12noon-5pm	Petworth Fete in the Park (concert 5-8pm)	Petworth Pk
		5.30pm	Petworth Chorus concert (see page 10)	Fittleworth
9	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
11	Tue		Petworth Festival (till 29 July)	Petworth
13	Thu		Festival of Speed (till 16 Jul)	Goodwood
		Afternoon	Thursday Club (see page 11)	Botany Bay
15	Sat		St Swithun's Day	
		2.30pm	Graffham Garden Group flower show (see p15)	Empire Hall
		5pm	Petworth Festival Asaka Quartet (see page 9)	St Giles
		8pm	Drag night with Miss Anett Curtain (see p 23)	Three Moles
16	Sun	10.30am	Animal blessing service – take your pet to church!	St Giles
17	Mon		East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford Coll
19	Wed	7pm	Graffham Parish Council annual parish meeting	Empire Hall
21	Fri		WSCC schools term ends	
		4-8pm	Family Fridays (see page 12)	Rec
			Graffham Tennis Week (to Fri 28 July)	Rec
22	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		8pm	The Straw Dogs Irish folk band (see page 16)	Three Moles
23	Sun		Cowdray Park polo Gold Cup final	Easebourne
			Tennis Club Men's Doubles tournament	Rec
26	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
29	Sat	7pm	Wellington Wailers sea shanty singers (in aid of Shoreham Lifeboat) (see page 14)	Three Moles

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)			
Mondays	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness ¹	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
Tuesdays	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
Wednesdays	9-10am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall
	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group ⁴	Pavilion
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁵	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁶	Empire Hall
	2-4pm	Post Office	Empire Hall
	6.15-7.30pm	Yoga ³	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ⁷	Empire Hall
	10.30-11.15am	Pilates ⁸	Empire Hall
	6pm	Tennis Club night	Pavilion

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

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

³Yoga: Deborah Albone on 07790 867009.

⁴Teddy Time: No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

⁵Badminton: Contact Louisa Thomas, at louisa9000@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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