

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 392

FREE

OCTOBER 2023



Our fab fête – photo special

Grants for tennis club and Empire Hall

Halloween treat hunt in churchyard



On the cover: There was a huge turnout for Graffham's traditional August bank holiday fete, on the Rec, and blessed with perfect weather, with crowds attracted by teas and delicious bakes, ale, Pimms, barbeque, a plethora of stands and vintage cars and so much more. Eight pages of photos and reports start on page 26.

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Deadline for November edition:
14 October.

Printed by Parish Magazine Printing,
Holsworthy, Devon EX22 6TD.

Graffham Parish News is published and distributed free each month to every household in Graffham and East Lavington by the Parish of Graffham with Woolavington.



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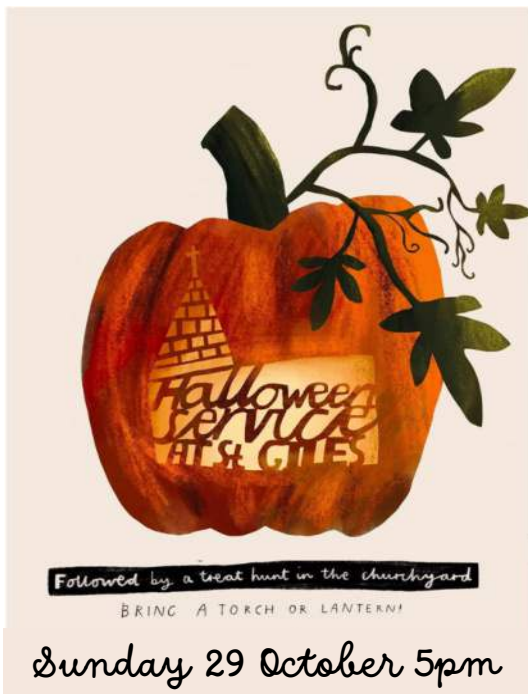
Writing from the Rectory: Sidney's songs

Among my September commitments, an unexpected duty was to conduct a funeral at our St Giles Church for well-loved Graffham resident Sue Garrard RIP (see page 18). It was a deeply personal service, with idiosyncratic songs chosen by her family and led by folk club friends, to reflect their mutual love of folk music and Sue's character. Although unusual choices for a funeral service, they were all the more effective for it.

One song, *Who'll Be the Lady, Who Will Be the Lord?*, spoke of social justice and equality. It was written by Sidney Carter (1915-2004), who must be one of the most influential spiritual songwriters of our times. If I list among his titles *One More Step Along the World I Go*, *When I Needed a Neighbour Were You There?* and *Lord of the Dance*, I think you may agree.

What has made Sidney's songs so popular, I realise, is their accessibility and the open-ended questions they raise within them. The presence of God is understated, implied rather than asserted – as an unidentified companion on the road, a neighbour who is indeed there, a leader in the dance of life. Sidney's songs are written to make you think, to reflect, to prompt further questioning maybe. They allow the singer to choose to engage with the challenge the song represents. And they encourage those who may wish

► *Continued on next page*



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

Churchwarden: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113



stgilesgraffham.org



[@stgilesgraffham](https://www.facebook.com/stgilesgraffham)

► *Continued from previous page*

to become companions for others, neighbours to those in need, partners in the dance – in the name of Christ, or simply out of the love Christ represents for believers.

There is definitely a place in the Christian repertoire of hymnody for heartfelt declaration of faith. Of course, there also needs to be a place for words for the explorer of faith to sing, which reflects exploration rather than the assurance of arrival. As this is where many people today find themselves in terms of faith, we do well to recognise and respect them for it. And to welcome ‘explorers’ into our church where they may feel comfortable and welcome, with inclusive songs to sing.

On Sue’s funeral day, we sang out of love for her and for David, trusting in the chosen songs’ ability to convey all the emotion or faith we poured into them, for God to interpret as he wished and surely can.

May there be many songwriters with the gift to express in words the place we find ourselves on our spiritual journeying, until we find the safe havens of owned faith our traditional hymnody conveys so well.

It seems an appropriate time for us to be beginning to enjoy our new red hymn books alongside the traditional orange covers at St Giles, with new songs reflecting spiritual journeying, in the manner and spirit of Sidney Carter’s songs.

Every blessing,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Vivien', written in dark ink.

Reverend Vivien

Could you help our parish watch its pounds?

St Giles is seeking a new Treasurer with Yvonne Churchward stepping down from the role in a few months – and there is still time for potential successors to throw their hat into the ring.

Anyone interested need not be a regular member of the church’s congregation although a desire to help keep its doors open for future generations is needed. Equally, some understanding of basic accounting principles is helpful but can be easily learned and Yvonne will provide a thorough handover and promises to be there to help as her successor beds in for a year or so.

If you might be interested in the role, please contact Yvonne via email at graffhampcctreasurer@gmail.com or on 07808 781510, or touch base with Rev Vivien.

Harvest time celebrated in song and lunch

Harvest time in Graffham was marked by a special service in St Giles and a 'bring-and-share' lunch in the Empire Hall. With many of the choir dressed in farming togs, the services included a number of traditional harvest hymns and folk songs, in a church beautifully decorated with flowers. A collection was taken for local homeless charity Stonepillow. Around 50 joined for the lunch, taking along their signature dishes to share with neighbours. Donations were taken for Petworth Foodbank.



St Giles' choir members dressed appropriately for its harvest festival service.

Thursday Club freezes subs at 2019 rates

The Thursday Club will be holding its AGM on (you guessed it!) Thursday, 12 October at 2.30pm in the Empire Hall – when annual subs are due for payment. The good news is that they have been frozen at the 2019 rate of just £12 for the year. Its next meeting will be on 9 November when Bianca Pitt will be speaking about her plans for Lavington Estate. All welcome.

Problems with prescriptions? Let GHSA know!

Are you having problems with collection and or delivery of prescriptions from either of the local surgeries – Petworth or Midhurst's Riverbank – or local pharmacies? If so, Graffham Health Support Association asks that you contact them, via its Prescription Collection Officer Ann Rowney on 07391 802541 or email to ann.rowney@icloud.com.



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Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Saturday: 12-11pm

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WHITE HORSE GRAFFHAM, PETWORTH, WEST SUSSEX, GU28 0NT

Gift for Tetiana as she and Nikita move to Bognor

A special presentation was made to Tetiana Litvinova after the Sunday service at St Giles' Church on, appropriately, St Giles' Day, 3 September, as she and husband Nikita moved on from the parish to a new base in Bognor Regis.

The couple had been living here since fleeing their Ukrainian home some 15 months ago, as refugees in the face of the Russian invasion. Since then, Tetiana has played the piano regularly for services at St Giles, which the congregation has so appreciated. The couple returned to their homeland this summer but, with regular



The Rev Vivien presents Tetiana with her gift, as Nikita looks on.

Russian missile attacks, felt it was too dangerous to stay for now, so came back to Sussex, where their children and grandchildren are continuing to live on Lavington Estate.

To thank them for their contribution to St Giles and to wish them all the best for the future, the Rev Vivien presented them with a framed watercolour painted by Graffham artist and fellow member of the congregation Sue Hill.

Sponsored walk postponed to 18 October

Forecasts of thunder and lightening prompted a rescheduling of this year's Graffham annual sponsored walk – from 12 September to the new date of Wednesday 18 October. The departure point and destination remain the same – from St Giles Church to Chichester Cathedral – following a different route to last year, when more than a dozen villagers trekked the 11-mile route, raising almost £4,000 for St Giles and everything it does for the community.

Like last year, lifts back home will be arranged for those taking part – from Chichester and various points along the way for those who prefer not to walk the whole way. Walkers will set off

from St Giles at 8am, taking their own breakfasts and lunches to eat along the way. All are welcome to take part – or sponsor those who are walking. To register your interest, email hello@stgilesgraffham.org or contact the Revd Vivien.



AN EVENING WITH

Charlie Austen

A dynamic one-woman tour-de-force performing carefully crafted original folk-soul-rock songs. Airy yet powerful blues-infused vocals, intricate guitar parts and bare feet, with a unique suitcase drum-kit. Charlie sings for cult blues-rock band Nine Below Zero, supported Bryan Ferry's European tour and features on Radio 4's Loose Ends.

charlieaustenmusic.com

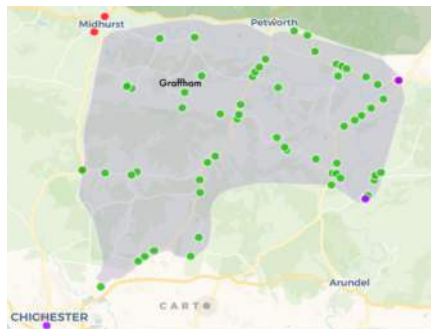
Saturday 7th October, 8pm
Empire Hall, Graffham GU28 0QB
Doors and bar open 7.30pm

Tickets £10 from www.empirehall.org.uk

99 buses wheeling to and from Graffham

Two new bus services have been introduced to connect Graffham and surrounding villages with Chichester, Petworth, Midhurst and many other locations, including Pulborough and Amberley railway stations.

The 99 Bus is a semi-flexible service, meaning some sections of the route have fixed stops. It can be pre-booked up to seven days in advance as well as on demand.



The 99 bus and flex zone is shaded in grey on this map (above).



The 99 Flex is a fully flexible service with no conventional bus timetable. It can travel anywhere within the zone outlined in the map. It is fully on demand and cannot be pre-booked.

Both buses – organised by West Sussex County Council – accept payment by cash or card. They are free to holders of bus passes, which are available to anyone over the state pension age or with an eligible disability. Otherwise, tickets cost £2 single, with children aged under five free. From November, fares rise to £2.50.

Users can be picked up or dropped off at any of the onward connection or pick-up points marked in green or red on the map. Stops

at Graffham include St Giles Church, Empire Hall and at the Norwood Lane junction, close to the camp site. Seaford College is also served.

- To make a booking, call 01243 858854 between 6.30am and 7.30pm or download the Ride Pingo app. For more information, see bit.ly/99flexbus

Broadband work to close Popple Hill this month

The road along Popple Hill – between Graffham Village Shop and the Cathanger Lane crossroads – is the next in the village scheduled to be closed as BT OpenZone continues with its installation of ultra-fast broadband for the neighbourhood.

A road closure notice for this stretch applies from 25 September until 20 October. Traffic will be diverted during this period along Fitzlea Wood Road and Graffham

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Common Road. A further closure will apply between 23 and 26 October between The Street and Norwood Lane. These latest roadworks follow a similar operation last month along Selham Road and Graffham Common Road, heading north from the village shop.

Hundreds of households and businesses across Graffham, East Lavington and Hoyle have supported the drive to bring this high-speed connectivity to the community, exceeding the threshold needed to ensure it is put in place for free through grants. Parts of the neighbourhood have already been linked up.

- For further details of the road closures, go online to one.network.

New nursery to open after Ofsted approval

Mini Explorers @ Graffham, the new nursery at the village's infant school, will open on Monday 2 October after gaining its Ofsted approval. It will be available every week day from 8am to 4pm during term time.

Its principal Nadia Mahabir said: "We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our new families! Since the start of term, we have been behind the scenes, securing a dedicated team of staff and getting the classroom ready to welcome our new children, introducing some Montessori resources and a new dedicated baby area for our younger children. You will also see some familiar faces, as we welcome Chihiro Harrison back (Chihiro was a long-standing employee of Graffham Nursery before it closed)."

- For more info, email the nursery office at info@miniexplorerspulborough.com.

MRC and Seaford celebrate record exam results

Students and staff at Midhurst Rother College (MRC) and Seaford College have been celebrating after our local state and independent secondary schools achieved bumper sets of A levels and GCSEs this summer.

Seaford recorded the highest A*-C grades achieved in public examinations at sixth form level in the school's entire history – despite Education Secretary Gillian Keegan warning that results nationally would dip. GCSE results surpassed its pre-pandemic levels with "outstanding" grades in Maths and English.

Headmaster John Green said: "I'm immensely proud of the results all our students have achieved. These impressive results are down to the students' hard work and determination to achieve their personal best, underpinned by the dedication of my

amazing staff.” On the back of these performances, the college sent its biggest yet number of leavers on to university, with more than ever at their first choice – and has begun its new academic year with its highest student numbers across its prep, middle school and sixth form.

MRC described the year’s A level results, announced in late August, as “exceptional”, with 39% of entries achieving grades A* or A and 63% rated A*, A or B. Of those taking BTECs, 63% were rated at the top Distinction* or Distinction levels. At GCSE level, MRC also reported high pass rates, with 80 per cent of students achieving a grade 4 or above in both English and Maths,

Principal Stuart Edwards said: “I am incredibly proud of our students’ performances this year. They have shown real dedication to their studies and have achieved outstanding overall results.”

Now’s the time to trim your hedges and verges

Now is the time to trim your hedges and road verges, reminds Jo Morris, Graffham Parish Councillor for Highways and Byways. “All restrictions on hedge maintenance due to nesting birds are now lifted – so this is the perfect time to swing into action because then our roads will be neat and clear for the whole of the winter,” she says. Most hedges and verges alongside roads belong to the adjacent landowner, not the council. Local councils only have jurisdiction for one metre of the verge – and that is solely for the purpose of positioning and maintaining their highway furniture.

Jo adds: “With West Sussex County Council so short of funds, they are not going to be able to send crews out to carry out this work – so we really must take responsibility ourselves for our own land.”

All householders and landowners are responsible for:

- Keeping roads and pavements safe for vehicles, cyclists and horse riders, by cutting back overhanging vegetation on their property – it’s the law under the Highways Act.
- Cutting back vegetation to give a minimum clearance of 0.5 metres (1ft 8ins) to the edge of the road and, if there is any vegetation overhanging the road, to a minimum height of 5.2 metres (17 ft) above the road. Jo points out that these are minimum requirements and, for better long-term value, you could cut back further. She suggests that if you can’t do the work yourself then you should contact a reputable local contractor. If you do the work yourself, ensure that you:

► *Continued on page 11*

The Los Palmas 6

'The best Madness Tribute Band in the World'



SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 8.00PM



EMPIRE HALL GRAFFHAM GU28 0QB



GENERAL ADMISSION £25 VIP BALCONY £35

DOORS AND BAR OPEN 7.30

TICKETS FROM WWW.EMPIREHALL.ORG.UK

► *Continued from page 9*

- Use warning signs on all approaches.
- Work at off-peak times and in daylight.
- Keep debris out of traffic's way, and remove it from the road, verge and drains.

Also, if you are thinking about removing a hedge completely, then check first with South Downs National Park and/or Chichester District Council, as many hedges have protected status, and their removal is prohibited.

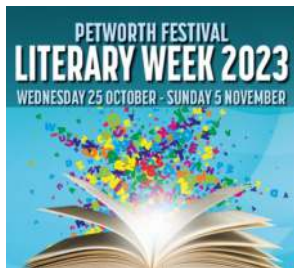
Help preserve our Graffham Down reserves

Graffham Down Trust's autumn work parties are in full swing – enabling volunteers to help safeguard the rare animals, insects and plant life that depend on the nature reserves on the hill above the village. The next will be on Saturday 14 October. Everyone's welcome to take part – just meet near St Giles Church at 9.30am for lifts up by 9.45am. Wear strong shoes and gardening gloves. Let Jim Kirke know in advance via jimkirke@hotmail.com if you plan to attend so that lifts can be arranged – and so you can be advised if the work party is cancelled for any reason.

From Le Gavroche to the White Horse

A new head chef has joined the team at the White Horse – from one of Britain's top restaurants – with Grant Jones starting as Chef du Cuisine at our village's historic gastropub. He was due to launch his new autumn menu there on 1 October, featuring freshly caught seafood and the finest produce from local suppliers. Grant brings with him three years of experience under the legendary Michel Roux at the two Michelin-starred Le Gavroche in London's Mayfair – where he followed in the footsteps of some of Britain's best-known culinary names, including Gordon Ramsay, Marco Pierre White, Marcus Wareing, Bryn Williams, Michael Smith and Monica Galetti – as well as subsequent senior positions around the world.

Petworth literary festival signs up top authors



Philippa Gregory, Michael Ball, Sarah Raven, James Naughtie, Jeremy Bowen, Martin Sixsmith, Justin Webb, Sheila Hancock, Tim Peake, Alan Titchmarsh, Robert Hardman, Andrea Leadsom and Malcolm Rifkind are among the top names taking part in this year's Petworth Festival Literary Week, from Wednesday 25 October to Sunday 5 November. See petworthfestival.org.uk

A busy year for the village's grand old lady

The Empire Hall staged its AGM on Wednesday 13 September. Here's an abridged version of chairman Sally Blunt's report.

A relatively new management committee of hall trustees has taken office in the past year – Gillian Charlesworth as Maintenance Secretary, Stephanie Jenkins as Secretary, Jon Warren as Graffham Parish Council's representative and me adding the Chairman role to my responsibilities as Bookings Secretary, joining established members Carole Sargent as Treasurer, Diane Bellis representing Thursday Club, Sarah Lydiard-Wilson representing the Health Association, and Jill McLean representing Lunch Club. (All were elected or re-elected at the AGM.)

Thanks to them all, and to those who stood down in the past year – Fiona Mackie, Liz Nicholson, Patrick Churchward, Eira Ashby and Carol Tompkins.

The hall was handed over to us in very good condition but has been in need of some TLC in some areas. We have fitted new stage curtain drapes, recarpeted the 'floating' stage steps, renewed the cupboard fronts under the stage, replaced the window in the ladies' loo, repainted the badminton court lines and have a dishwasher ready to be plumbed in once Southern Water can resolve issues with our external stopcock.

Our website has been updated and revitalised, too, and is looking really inviting!

We are very grateful to our faithful regulars who lead valuable exercise classes in the hall, including the badminton club on Wednesday evenings, and to Anna Shawcross who runs a very successful osteopathy service from the treatment room most days of the week, with Serena Cooper offering physiotherapy on a Friday and Graffham Health Support Association's podiatry service once a month. (For a schedule of all the regular events offered in the hall, see page 49.)

We have seen many fun events happening– concerts, plays and the annual Burns' night dinner dance. They all involve a great deal of work – thanks to all involved. Their excellent marketing locally and well beyond our borders meant they were often sold out before everyone in the village managed to procure tickets! Please don't miss out on this autumn's concerts by Charlie Austen on 7 October and Los Palmas 6 on 18 November (see pages 6 and 10).

In the spring we saw the welcome return of a very colourful Easter market, and the Christmas fair will be back on 2 December. All hands-on-deck are welcomed – please offer help in any way you can, making the hard work not only lighter but

more fun! If you are new to the village, you would be made particularly welcome.

There have been the usual village group events – for St Giles Church, Graffham Garden Group and Graffham Down Trust amongst others.

We hosted a 100th birthday party, had a few wakes remembering past village members and the hall was even used on Christmas Day for a family dinner. There were also lots of children's parties, including at Halloween for the whole of the school last autumn. The word is still going round that the hall is a great space for children to have fun too!

And, of course, we are all very grateful for the return of the much-treasured Post Office on Tuesdays, following its absence as a result of the security breach suffered in another outreach location.

All of us involved at the Empire Hall look forward to seeing the whole community using this tremendous village asset to the full in the months ahead.

Thanks to everyone who comes together to look after this 'grand old lady' of the village – the committee of trustees, our wonderful cleaner Pauline, our regular users and all who help stage and enjoy everything that is offered in the Empire Hall.

Coming to a screen near you – thanks to lottery

The Empire Hall has been awarded almost £10,000 by the National Lottery Fund towards the installation of a state-of-the-art projector, screen and sound system. Confirmation of the grant award came as this edition of *Graffham Parish News* was going to press.

The equipment will give the village's 'grand old lady' capability to screen films, live sports and national events. It could also be used by the many clubs and societies that use the hall to host quiz nights, lectures and the like.

Empire Hall Management Committee Chairman Sally Blunt said: "This will make the hall an even more valuable asset for our community. A great deal of detail still needs to be finalised – exactly what equipment to fit and when and so on – but it is great news and very many thanks to everyone involved in making this successful application."



Sue's second letter from Buckingham Palace

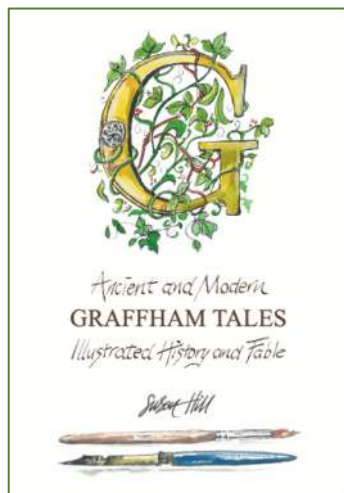
Graffham artist Sue Hill, of Graffham House, has received another letter from Buckingham Palace.

Last summer, she received one from the late Queen, thanking Sue for sending her one of the tea towels Sue had designed and had manufactured to mark the Platinum Jubilee – and wishing Graffham all the best for its special events to celebrate the landmark.

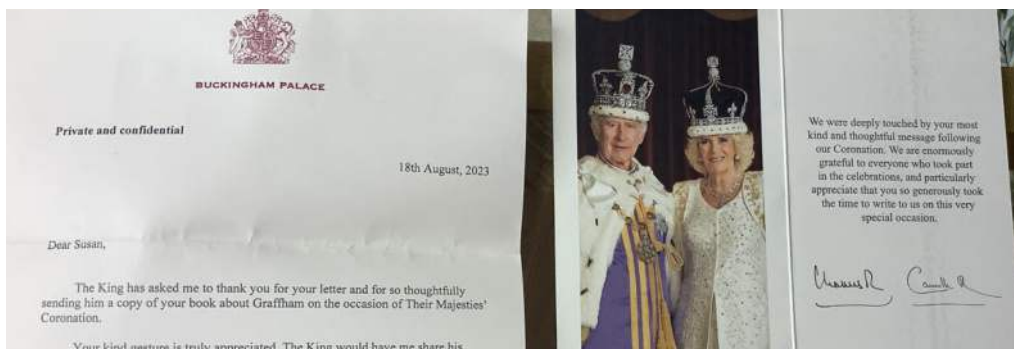
This year, Sue sent King Charles and Queen Consort Camilla a copy of her book *Graffham Tales, History and Fable*, written in her copperplate handwriting and illustrated with her watercolour paintings to mark the coronation and sold in aid of an orphanage in Tanzania.

She received a response from his Correspondence Secretary reading: “The King has asked me to thank you for your letter and for so thoughtfully sending him a copy of your book about Graffham on the occasion of Their Majesty’s coronation. Your kind gesture is much appreciated. The King would have me share his sincere thanks for your loyal sentiments, and convey to you his warmest good wishes.”

It was accompanied by a card with, on its front, artwork used in the invitations to the coronation and, inside, a photograph of the King and Queen taken in the robes and crowns they wore on the day, along with a printed message with their signatures underneath.



The book Sue sent the King and, below, the letter she received in response.





Carole at her Boswells Cottage, with Jim lurking in the borders.

Two Graffham gardens open for charity

Two Graffham gardens opened their gates to the public in the early September Indian summer to raise funds for charities – Marie Bracey’s Marsh Farm at Woodcote and Carole and Jim Kirke’s Boswells Cottage, on The Street. Teas and cakes – with late afternoon fizz too at the Kirkes’ – were an added bonus, at Marsh Farm on Tuesday 5 September, when both gardens welcomed visitors from a garden group at Stoughton and the following day, when villagers were invited.

Marie raised some £350 for St Giles while Carole and Jim collected around £600 for Dementia UK on the busier Wednesday.



Marie shows visitor Chantell Ilbury some of her flower beds (centre) and two of the beautiful borders on display during the garden open days.

From Town Hall: Planning, energy and fly tipping

Our representative on Chichester District Council, John Cross, provides the latest in his regular updates on his key issues of focus right now.



Five months since being elected, I am finally beginning to get a grip on the roles and tasks I have been assigned as well as meeting all the parish councils, committees and interest groups across the Fittleworth ward I represent. This has been a steep learning curve, but fascinating.

The top topic in my inbox is planning. District councillors are independent from the planning officers, so we cannot be involved in the detail of an application, unless it goes to the planning committee, but we can ask questions and hopefully make access and the process more coherent. If you do ask me to intervene, I will not give opinions or thoughts on the application's merit because, should the application come to the planning committee, then I would not be able to speak or vote. This would clearly not be in the interest of the applicants who live in this ward.

Surgeries: John Cross will be hosting Chichester District Councillor surgeries outside Graffham Village Shop on Saturdays 30 September and 21 October, from 10am to 12noon. He says: "Come along and chat if there are any issues you'd like to raise."

Chichester District Council is currently promoting a range of home energy efficiency grants. Residents can apply for help to fund air source heat pumps, insulation or solar panels. Check whether you are eligible and find out more by visiting warmerhomes.org.uk or calling 0800 038 5737. Tips on how to reduce

your carbon footprint, along with online calculators that offer personalised advice can also be found at chichester.gov.uk/climatechange

We continue to work with the other districts and borough councils in West Sussex and government agencies – Sussex Police, His Majesty's Revenue and Customs, the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency and the Environment Agency – to crack down on fly tipping. Using the powers from all five agencies, we've taken action to make sure that commercial operators are legally operating and disposing of waste responsibly. Our aim is to disrupt the activities of those looking to fly tip materials in our beautiful district and to ensure that potential fly tippers know that there will be consequences. You can find out more at westsussex.gov.uk/news/workingtogether-to-scrap-fly-tipping/ You can report fly tipping at chichester.gov.uk/reportflytipping.



*Do you have
apples to spare?*



*Why not make an apple crumble for our
local homeless charity, Stonepillow?*

Crumblethon 2023



Your crumbles must:

- 🍏 Be freshly cooked, and not pre-frozen, so they can be delivered straight to Stonepillow for freezing.
- 🍏 Contain NO nuts.
- 🍏 Be in the foil containers which fit in the charity's freezers – you can get one (or more!) from Ann Brown on 01798 867561 at Frederick House, Jan Brind on 01798 867619 at Occam Cottage or St Giles Church from 8 October.
- 🍏 Have their container lids placed silver side down, with the crumble's contents written on the lid if they are not just apple – pear crumbles, or apple with blackberries, are OK.
- 🍏 Be delivered to Ann Brown at Frederick House on Monday 16 October.

From the registry: Sue Garrard, 1948-2023

Sue Garrard passed away on 31 August, after a brave struggle with cancer. She had lived at Sweet Briar, on Graffham's Selham Road, for nearly 30 years with husband David. Here's an edited version of the eulogy delivered at her funeral, at St Giles on 13 September.

Sue was born in Rustington 75 years ago, on 26 August 1948, into a tight knit, very loving family. She was the eldest of four siblings, with two sisters, Lynda and Jane, and brother Paul.

She met David while they were both teenagers in the early 1960s, when they took part in visits to France as part of the Chichester and Chartres twinning organisation. This started Sue's genuine love of France, a country which she visited on many occasions over the years with her husband and family.

In the early days, David and Sue were only allowed to see each other at weekends. They used to go to the cinema together and to ballroom dancing lessons.

They were married in 1970 and went on to have two children, Simon and Nicola, whom Sue brought up to be loving, caring individuals with a boundless love of nature and the great outdoors. While Simon is now based in the USA, Nicola has remained living locally.

Sue spent her whole life caring for others. She felt called to be a children's nurse, something which started at the tender age of 16, when she worked as a children's nanny. Later she progressed through her nursing training until she became a fully qualified staff nurse. She went on to work at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, assisted in the ophthalmic theatre at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading, worked in the Special Care Baby Unit in Torbay General Hospital, and finally nursed for many years in the Day Surgery Unit at Chichester's St Richard's.

She also had a lifetime's love of horse-riding, a love which she has passed on to her grandchildren. She kept horses at Norwood Equestrian Centre, here in the village, for nearly 30 years. She also very much enjoyed swimming, ski-ing, sailing, canoeing and hiking.

While living on the edge of Dartmoor, the family regularly hiked to remote locations on the moor, enjoying the craze for letterbox stamp collecting. Holidays were spent camping on the coast of South Devon, in Southwest Ireland, Scotland, Brittany and Croatia.

With David she completed the South Downs Way twice and walked many of the

local long-distance trails, such as the Serpent Trail and the Sussex Literary Trail.

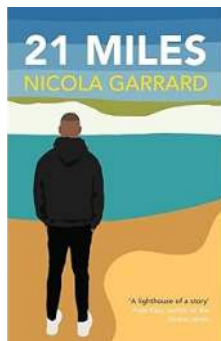
She was also a keen photographer, a long-time member of Midhurst Camera Club, and a competent artist who met weekly to paint with friends in the Chichester Art Society.

She had a particular love for folk music and sang regularly at the Chichester Folk Song Club, with the South Downs Folk Singers and St Giles' choir. She also kept the beat, playing the Irish bodhran, in a little folk music band.



Gardening was a particular pleasure for Sue, and she tended her garden, full of beautiful flowers, throughout the summer months. She would spend many a summer's evening listening to the nightjars, who churr loudly on nearby Ambersham Common.

Everyone who ever met Sue will agree that she was one of life's angels. She was full of energy and sparkle, had an amazing sense of humour and a lovely smile. What a bright, positive and delightful person she was, and a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother, as well as being a good friend to everyone she ever came to meet and socialise with. She was the loveliest of ladies and will be sorely missed. Rest in peace, dear Sue.



Sue and Dave Garrard's daughter Nicola has just seen her second novel for young adults published – by HopeRoad on 28 September. *21 Miles* follows the adventures of teenager Donny, the hero of her first book, *29 Locks*, who this time finds himself stranded in France without his passport, forcing him to experience the life of asylum seekers desperate to cross the English Channel. *21 Miles* is available from all good high street and online book shops. Nikki was due to hold a launch event and signing at Petworth Bookshop on Friday 29 September.

From the registry: Weddings

It's been a busy time for weddings in the parish – with three since our September edition went to press, including two on one day at St Giles.



George and Sara, 26 August

Two of Seaford College's best-known teachers – Director of Performing Arts and Houseparent Sara Reynolds and Director, Head of Middle School and English teacher George Vernon – were married at the school's St Peter's Chapel on Saturday 26 August.

College chaplain Father Colin Datchler officiated at a packed service. Sara wore an off-the-shoulder white dress, most excitingly, she pointed out, with pockets! George was in a light blue three-piece suit adorned with a buttonhole made of feathers collected from their conure parrot, Harley.

The bride and entourage arrived in a 'Twisted' Land Rover Defender courtesy of friend Dom Tribe, before Sara's bridesmaids (including her daughter Cecilia) were joined by friend Edward Hawkins (singing bass) to serenade her down the aisle on the arm of her son, Wilson, with *Soave Sia al Vento* from Mozart's *Così fan Tutti*.

The flowers in the chapel were foraged from George's parents' home, beautifully transforming the chapel into a wildflower garden.

The wedding reception, at Seaford College, was awash with “words, music and builders' equipment” in the form of table centres made up of the families' favourite reads, folded into hearts, bricks from their house at Graffham's Guillods Cottages and roses made of old sheet music and old tomes, all created by Sara and George.

The wedding signs and much of the furniture at the reception were all taken from the happy couple's home, bringing their love of self-renovation and building to the fore – a gin bar made from an old potting table was key to festivities, and the trowel used to cut the wedding cake ‘cemented’ the themes.

Guests agreed that the stunning catering from the fabulous chef Cavill Perrin and the Holroyd Howe team at Seaford surpassed many a Michelin-starred restaurant, proving that personal friendships very much played a large part in an 'at home' wedding for the very happy couple.

Callum and Kathryn, 2 September

For the second time this summer, a local lad married a bride from the USA at Graffham's St Giles Church.

After Rowan Mason, of Gallows Hill, Selham Road, exchanged vows with Emily Drake, from Atlanta, Georgia, in July, come 2 September and it was the turn of Callum Macqueen, who grew up at The Old Rectory, to slip a ring (featuring diamonds passed down from his great grandmother) onto the finger of Kathryn Girsakis, who hails from near

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Detroit, Michigan. The couple met in London, where they both now live (in Wandsworth) and work – he as a chartered surveyor, and she as an executive manager with internet giant Google. They chose to marry at St Giles because Cal spent most of his younger years right next door, where his parents Sandy and Georgie still live. He also proposed to her up on the Down above his old stomping ground, eight months ago, so this is a special place for them both.

The date was chosen to coincide with the long Labor Day weekend in the USA, to make it easier for her family and friends to travel across the Pond to be with them on their big day, swelling the ranks of the congregation to a near capacity 131. As friends and family took their seats, the bells of St Giles rang out.

Wearing a white wedding dress and a family heirloom as a head piece, Katie walked the 100 yards or so from The Old Rectory to the church, with her father Dr Michael Girskis and, as her matron of honour, her sister Kelly Seinfeld.

She carried a bouquet, made by Cal's mother Georgie, of English roses, peonies, Sussex flowers and greenery.

As she entered St Giles, which Georgie had decorated too, helped by florists Fig + Flower, with white woodland flowers and greenery, joint best man Dougal Williams walked ahead playing Highland Cathedral on his bagpipes.



A full pipe and drum band accompanied Katie and Cal on their walk from St Giles to their reception at the Old Rectory next door.

Cal, kitted out in black tie, was at the chancel steps to meet her, with the other joint best man Edward Bromley-Martin.

As the register was signed, two of Cal's nieces sang a number of duets. The piano and organ were played by St Giles' former organist and Seaford College teacher, Richard Bailey.

After being showered with confetti in St Giles' churchyard, the new Mr and Mrs Macqueen were marched back to The Old Rectory by a full bagpipe band for the wedding reception.

Jake and Madeleine, 2 September

There were three key reasons why Jake Burley and Madeleine Tomlinson chose to marry at St Giles: his parents live just across the A285 from the border of Graffham with Woolavington, in Dye Lane, Duncton, she has a family connection with our parish as her brothers attended Seaford College – and they both describe our church as “stunning”.

They pledged their troths there on Saturday, 2 September, a few hours before Cal Macqueen and Katie Girsakis exchanged vows there (see previous pages), making it a rare double wedding day for the Rev Vivien and the St Giles team.

The happy couple both live near Dorking where she’s an estate agent and vocalist and he runs a grounds maintenance business. Although they met originally at infant school – where Jake’s younger brother was in the same class as Maddy – they didn’t start dating until they ran into each other again at a party in 2015.

He eventually popped the question 18 months ago, while on a break in the Lake District. The rings they exchanged at their wedding were from a jewellers close to where they became engaged.

She and her father Tommy Tomlinson travelled to the church in a Rolls-Royce owned by Jake’s Godfather. She wore an ivory off-the-shoulder A-line dress and carried a bouquet of sunflowers, pink roses and wildflowers. She was attended by her sister Alexandra Tomlinson as maid of honour and four bridesmaids, all in

► *Continued on next page*



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navy blue dresses, and her niece Adelaide as a flower girl, in white to match the bride. They entered the church, which had been decorated with displays of wildflowers in milk churns, to an instrumental version of the Fleetwood Mac classic *Songbird*, to join Jake, wearing navy blue tails and top hat, his best man George Heymann, five ushers, including Jake's brother Sam, and a congregation of 120. During the service, a prayer written by Maddy's nanna was read.

They left St Giles to Natalie Cole singing *An Everlasting Love*. In the churchyard outside family and friends covered them with confetti that contained petals from the first flowers Jake gave Maddy, as the bells rang out.

The new Mr and Mrs Burley motored away in his Dad's light blue convertible MG sports car to their reception at Mr and Mrs Burley senior's home in Dye Lane – taking the short cut through Seaford College. The tables there featured flowers pressed from bouquets given by Jake to Maddy over the years, from their own garden and from her grandparents' borders.

The newlyweds later drove off in a LandRover Defender with a tent on top, for a honeymoon of camping in Scotland before heading early next year for the sunshine of Cape Town and Mauritius.

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Letters to the editor: The column YOU write

From Steve Gray, Rector of Graffham with Woolavington 2010-2013: September's edition of Graffham Parish News was another wonderful job! Though I no longer live in the village, I love reading the magazine. Congratulations on such a successful edition again! Fond wishes. *Editors' note: Many thanks, Steve! Anyone can subscribe to receive Graffham Parish News via Royal Mail – just email editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com for details – or read it online.*

Need a helping hand...? Graffham with Woolavington's Parish Priest Discretionary Fund is available to help any parishioner in real financial need. Funded by donations to St Giles, it's already come to the rescue of multiple individuals and families in the village hit by the cost of living crisis. Contact the Rev Vivien to find out more.

Crimestoppers

Sussex Police updates on crimes reported across the local community.

Police are reminding residents to keep windows and doors locked when they are out, side gates locked at all times and ladders and tools put away after a spate of burglaries locally – including one at Graffham's Woodcote Lane. Other homes have been burgled in recent weeks at Petworth's Hampers Green, and in Duncton, Fernhurst, Goodwood, Lodsworth, Midhurst, Northchapel and West Dean.

Meantime, vehicles have been stolen from Midhurst and Petworth and broken into at Cocking, Easebourne, East Dean, Elsted, Kirdford, Midhurst (three incidents), Petworth, Tillington and South Harting.



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Barbeque boys: Lamb, burgers and bangers served to perfection by Jim Kirke, Murray West, Chris Wilson and the rest of their team of chefs.

Sun shines on another great Graffham fête

Once again, the sun shone on the recreation ground for Graffham's summer fête on August Bank Holiday Monday.

As well as the usual fun-packed activities, teams led by Marie Bracey, Jim Kirke and Richard Gyles, not forgetting Jeeva and his ice cream-maker, kept the many visitors, local and distant, fed and watered throughout the afternoon. Indeed, the selection, and standard, of the carrot and lemon drizzle cakes in the pavilion set the Graffham Noticeboard

Words:
Bill Barrett

Pictures:
**Michael Blunt
and others**



Everything stops for tea: Revellers sup a cuppa in the fête sunshine.



Tea ladies: Sallys Pattie and Blunt (above left) and Diane Hardcastle, Ann Mathie and Jill McLean (above right) brew up, while Gay Foord makes final adjustments to the cake layout (below left) before the feeding frenzy arrives.



Facebook page buzzing in the aftermath. As ever, the dog show was a top attraction, with judges Bernard Bayly and George Grammer kept busy. We still await the entry of a St Bernard and the hilarious judge-related jokes that will follow. Probably. This year, however, it was Barbara and John's pooch Snowdrop that Edged out the competition to win 'Best in Show'.

Simon Longman's coconut shy was heavily subscribed, and Charlie Tyrrell narrowly defeated daughter Lucy to win the 'Bowling for the Sham' (the erstwhile porcine prize having been replaced by English sparkling wine).

In the Egg Toss, Lucas Thornley lobbed ova 'ova' gradually increasing distances to remarkable numbers of tossees prepared to risk an albuminous dousing and 'shellshock'. This year Charlie Gyles was victorious, narrowly 'beating' Will Caldwell, who was second for the second year running. The festivities' finale was the tug of war, always guaranteed to provide a laugh and a few strained backs.

► *Continued on page 33*



Flower girls: Carole Kirke, Gail Paterson and Nicki West at the Graffham Garden Group stand.



Coconut crackers: George White (left) and family after a successful session at the shy.



Say cheese: Brett and Katie were selling cheese from their Slow Grown Farm for the first time – with Sue Collins their customer number one.



Fashionistas: Jo Morris and the Rev Vivien manned the Fashion Exchange clothes stand – all for free or donations to St Giles.



Bricabrac bargains: There were lots of pre-loved goodies to snap up.



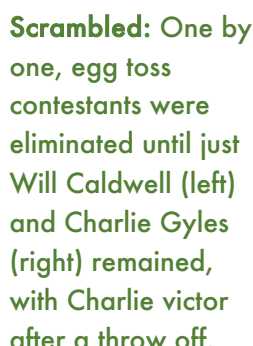
Top dogs: Dozens of our four-legged friends paraded in the show ring during the dog show. The winners of each of the individual classes line up above with judges George Grammer and Bernard Bayly, who picked John Edge's Snowdrop (right) as the overall best in show. The class to find the dog that looks most like its owner attracted five entries (below). Which do you think should have won?!





Sunny side up: As the shadows lengthened, so did the queue to join the great Graffham egg toss – to see who could catch an egg thrown from the furthest distance away, without it breaking.










Scrambled: One by one, egg toss contestants were eliminated until just Will Caldwell (left) and Charlie Gyles (right) remained, with Charlie victor after a throw off.



Pull another: The final event of the afternoon was the tug of war, with sessions for children, women (above) and men (below).



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Classic corner: The line-up of vintage vehicles attracted admirers throughout the afternoon.



Having a flutter: Holly Sabin (left) puts the final raffle tickets into the drum before chairman of the rec committee John Bracey makes the draw.

► *Continued from page 27*

The village's grateful thanks go to Phil Jones and John Bracey, who organised the event and directed operations on the day, master-of-ceremonies Michael Blunt (stepping in at the last minute), David Sparkes for organising not only the raffle (in which he was ably assisted by Holly Sabin – thanks too to the Cardigan Club for financing the not-insignificant cash prizes), but also the egg toss and tug of war. Sonya Gillespie and Victoria Caldwell constructed, and somehow maintained order in, the children's play area, Jude Sennitt and team sorted out the car boot sale and bric-a-brac. Thanks, too, to Graffham's Garden Group and local artists, the St Giles' Fashion Exchange (clothes swap) and the too-numerous-to-name hordes of helpers on whom the event depends.

The fête raised nearly £5,000, which all goes towards maintaining and improving the recreation ground and pavilion.

Nature Notes: Peregrines, the planet's fastest

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

Circling high in skies above Sussex is one of the world's deadliest predators. Peregrines are hunting above us. Scanning the avian traffic in the South East's airspace, their incredible vision locks on to an unsuspecting bird passing below and the peregrine instantly negotiates the most sophisticated aerial manoeuvre possible – they stop flying.

With wings and feet tucked in tightly, peregrines drop from the sky at an unbelievable speed – hurtling earthwards at up to 200 mph – the fastest creature on our planet.

Everything, even the eyelids and nostrils on this bird, are built for speed. Like a bomb made out of muscle, bone and feathers, it'll decimate any victim in its path.

We're fortunate to have these amazing birds here in Sussex. During World War II, their taste for pigeons (including those carrying wartime messages) saw peregrines



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Wings outstretched, a peregrine falcon caught on camera over Chichester Cathedral.

treated as if they were on the payroll of Mr Hitler himself. The Secretary of State for Air declared war on these falcons and issued the 'Destruction of Peregrine Falcons Order'. The birds were slaughtered, their nests destroyed. After we gave Adolf the old heave-ho, peregrines were left alone and numbers began to recover. But they were to face an even more deadly threat than the British Government – Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (or DDT to its friends).

Farmers worldwide had started spraying a variety of wonderful new chemical insecticides all over the countryside to improve post-war yields. These invisible poisons hit the bird at the top of the food chain the hardest. In 1958 there were 650 pairs of peregrines in Britain. Six years later there were 68.

Concerns over their decline sparked an investigation which led back to the source of the peregrine poisoning and the world's eyes were opened to the reality of the damage that these chemicals could cause to our environment – and to us.

Rachel Carson wrote *Silent Spring*, the environmental movement was born. and green was upgraded from a sort of yellowy-blue colour to an entire way of life.

Today, perched on our county's cliffs or on city centre ledges high above the organic food-filled shelves and kitchens in the streets below, the killer that kick-started an environmental uprising stands defiantly overlooking the town like a beaked Che Guevara – a feathered testament to revolution, strength and tofu veggie burgers.

The closing weeks of summer have seen plenty of activity at the Rec, including some informal Sunday afternoon football games.

Graffham Tennis Club

Courts closed for first major resurfacing in decades

Graffham Tennis Club's courts are currently closed for resurfacing – after the receipt of an £8,000 grant from Chichester District Council. It is the first time the club's two hard courts have undergone major maintenance for around two decades – since the addition of the second court.

Work began on 17 September and was expected to take between three and six weeks, depending largely on the weather. They will then not be playable for several weeks to allow them to dry out and bed down fully. The surface will be left black for the winter, with the white court lines painted on them. It will then be given a final green finishing coat in the spring. Besides the installation of new playing surfaces, the fence around the courts will also be renewed.

While work is in progress, the contractor will fence off areas around the immediate vicinity and members of the club's committee will be regularly on-site to check progress and safety, but if anyone has any concerns or questions, then contact club chairman Simon Longman on 01798 867317 or email admin@graffhamtennis.co.uk

With the new decking area outside the south end of the pavilion, along with its new picnic tables and raised flower beds, all completed earlier this year, the upgraded courts will provide facilities of which the community can be even more proud.

Club trophies to be presented this month The last adult club tournaments reached their final stages in that hot week at the end of the summer.

The Ladies' Singles was contested by Sarah Selman, holder of the title, and Chloe Turrell in her first attempt in the singles tournament. Rallies were hotly contested and Chloe emerged the victor with a score of 6-3, 7-5.

Meanwhile, the format for the seniors' tournament was meant to be mixed doubles but a slight gender imbalance resulted in Sally Pattie being designated as a man. Undaunted by this, she and Marie Bracey went on to take the title, hotly contested by the other pairs. Competition was fierce but aching limbs were salved by rosé and nibbles afterwards.





From left: Ladies' finalists Sarah Selman with winner Chloe Turrell, and seniors doubles champions Sally Pattie with Marie Bracey.

Trophies for all the club tournaments will be awarded at the pavilion on Saturday 14 October at 6pm to their winners:

- Men's singles – Matthew Syed.
- Ladies' Singles – Chloe Turrell.
- Men's Doubles – Theo Longman and Ollie Sanders.
- Ladies' Doubles – Emma Amin and Sian Green.
- Mixed Doubles – Emma Amin and Andy Craig.
- Seniors' Doubles – Sally Pattie and Marie Bracey.

Final positions in East Hants league Final positions in the East Hants summer league left the Ladies A safe in the 1st Division, with fifth place from six. Ladies B finished second out of six in Division 4. The men's team, up against it in Division 3 (out of five), ended up in the relegation position and will feel more comfortable in Division 4 next year. The Mixed Doubles team ended up second of six in Division 2.

We are only entering a Ladies A and a Mixed team for the winter, as our courts are being resurfaced, but you will be able to follow their progress in these pages in the coming months. There will also be no home fixtures until November when the courts will be open again. Our recent results:

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results				
18 Aug	Drew 4-4	Ladies' Doubles	Div 1	v Medstead A
31 Aug	Lost 1-7	Men's Doubles	Div 3	v Denmead B
4 Sep	Drew 4-4	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	v Alton A
11 Sep	Lost 3-5	Ladies' Doubles	Div 1	v Haslemere A



Graffham Cricket

Graffham Ladies played their final match of the season on Sunday 17 September against their regular opponents from West Wittering. With thunderstorms forecast, the decision to proceed was risky, and as the downpours began at the scheduled noon start time, it was beginning to look unwise. However, some smart thinking by coach Brett Creed in improvising a rain cover from the fête ‘slip and slide’ sheet and early consumption of the match tea allowed the match to begin at 2pm.

West Wittering elected to field and Graffham’s opening pair of Olive Amin and Jules Sparkes headed out to the wicket. In a new development, the match was played in a more traditional format as opposed to the pairs format, and batters were only forcibly retired on reaching 25 runs. Most of the Graffham Ladies were retired before this, allowing all but three to face the bowlers. The outfield was understandably slow after the downpours and a huge cheer went up as Denise Clay, top scorer, hit the first boundary of the innings. Further good scores were chalked up by Bella Pool and Angie Thornley on the way to a total of 65 runs in 20 overs.

In response, West Wittering fielded one very strong opening batter who was forcibly retired, and it was some time before the breakthrough wicket came for captain Louise Creed, known to Wittering as the ‘Assassin Bowler’. Her astute field placement limited the scoring, but the challenge of restricting their total to 65 was too much and the opponents reached a total of 94. Angie Thornley executed a slick ‘caught and bowled’ and Olive managed a consolation wicket on the last ball of the innings.

It was, though, the narrowest margin yet, and Brett and his adoring squad of ladies feel that next year will be the one! Training will begin again in March, and all will be welcome to join this growing band of enthusiasts.

Bill's bygones: Vodafone, 192mm, Pike

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 – October 2013: Alan Gordon presents his *Musings of a Military Man* at the parish breakfast at the White Horse. *Life of Pi* is shown by Graffham Empire Movies. Mobile Vodafone coverage in the village is lost for more than three weeks. St Jude's Day storms bring 99 mph gusts to the south of England – Graffham escapes with an overnight power cut but minimal damage. The government approves construction of the Hinkley Point C nuclear plant, due for completion in 2023 (current estimate 2028). Peter Higgs' work on the Higgs Boson particle wins him the Nobel Prize for physics. *News of the World* phone hacking trial begins.

25 years ago – October 1998: Graffham Stoolball Club finish third in the West Division League having won 16 matches and lost six. At the club dinner (held in the Deepwell Inn, Northchapel) Wendy Challen is voted Player of the Year. June Challen is presented with a rose bowl to mark her 50 years with the club. The Empire Hall hosts the start of a new badminton season, and a talk on making a 'parish map' by Kim Leslie of the County Records Office. Village rainfall for the month is measured at 192mm, second only to the "monsoon" of 1976. Launch of the Ford Focus range. Deaths of actress Joan Hickson (Agatha Christie's Miss Marple, 92) and Poet Laureate Ted Hughes (68).

50 years ago – October 1973: Attacking Shadow Labour Education Minister Roy Hattersley's plans to scrap private education, Seaford College Headmaster Rev C.E. Johnson tells parents at its speech day that the school would "never submit to this kind of tyranny". Coultershaw Mill is demolished. A poll of 2,318 residents of Petworth and Tillington to decide on the route of the bypass attracts a turnout of 52%, 87% of whom vote for the option through Petworth Park. Yom Kippur 20-day war – OPEC imposes an oil embargo on countries (including the UK) who support Israel. England draw 1-1 with Poland at Wembley and fail to qualify for the 1974 World Cup. The sixth series of *Dad's Army* starts with the "Don't tell him, Pike!" episode. Release of Elton John's seventh studio album *Goodbye Yellow Brick Road*.



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Property watch

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



Church Cottage, Graffham GU28 0NJ: Three-bedroomed wing of Grade II listed rectory, one bathroom, two further loos, sitting room, kitchen/breakfast room, studio, double garage, garden. 132sq m/1,425sq ft. Guide price £850,000. *Stride and Son, Chichester, 01243 782626. Listed 22 Aug.*

Herringboom Barn, Duncton Common Road GU28 0QP:

Three-bedroomed barn conversion, two bathrooms, vaulted reception room, kitchen breakfast room, 2.23 acre garden with farmland views. 150sq m/1,560sq ft. Guide price £1.3 million. *Barrington & Co, Petworth, 01798 309657. Listed 23 Aug.*



1 Burton Park, Duncton GU28 0QU: Grade I mansion apartment. Three bedrooms and bathrooms, drawing, dining, sitting and garden rooms, kitchen/breakfast, laundry, garden terraces, 140 acres communal gardens and parkland. 393sq m/4,229sq ft. Guide price £1.55 million. *Savills, Petworth, 01798 303558. Listed 13 Sep.*

Boderton Mews, Burton Park, Duncton GU28 0QU: Semi-detached house, three-bedrooms, two bathrooms plus downstairs cloakroom, reception and dining rooms, kitchen private patio, 140 acres communal gardens and parkland. 143sq m/1,537sq ft. Guide price £750,000. *Noahs, London, 020 3907 2957. Listed 14 Sep.*



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

Squirrels, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NL: Replace timber windows with triple glazed aluminium, guttering and front door. SDNP/23/03005/HOUS. *Received 19 Jul.*

Church Hill, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NJ: Intention to coppice one ash tree. SDNP/23/03590/TCA. *Received 30 Aug.*

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Graffham Parish News' outstanding October quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers at foot of page 46 (no cheating now!)

- 1 Which village landmark was consecrated by the Rt Rev Alwyn Williams, Bishop of Winchester, on 31 October 1953?
- 2 Which annual fair was granted by King Henry I to Ralph de Luffa, Bishop of Chichester, and is held in the city's Northgate car park?
- 3 Who became the first President of Turkey in October 1923?
- 4 Which James Bond film, the second in the franchise, was released this month in 1963?
- 5 According to Nadine Dorries' resignation letter, which brand of luxury shoes does Rishi Sunak wear?
- 6 Which city is the capital of Morocco?
- 7 Which game changing athlete, who died in March this year, cleared 2.24m to win the High Jump gold medal at the Mexico Olympics in October 1968?
- 8 What do the numbers 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13 and $2^{82,589,933}-1$ have in common?



- 9 Which fictional ursine, who made an unexpected royal appearance last year, made his literary debut 65 years ago this month?
- 10 Muttley, Zilly and Klunk were sidekicks of which cartoon villain?

Timberscapes

Born out of a family of gardeners
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- ⊗ All hard landscaping, garden clearance
- ⊗ Site/garden clearance
- ⊗ Ground works & site levelling
- ⊗ Garden walls & raised planting beds
- ⊗ Paving, decking, wooden structures
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Whoever thought we'd need a foodbank now?

Chichester District Foodbank, which includes our local foodbanks at Petworth and Midhurst, has just marked a decade in operation. Ines Garcia, its Operations Coordinator for our area, looks back at its first 10 years and a busy summer.

In June, we marked the ten years that the Chichester District Foodbank has been open with a service at Chichester Cathedral. When Joanne Kondabeka, now our Chief Executive Officer, set up the first foodbank centre in Chichester, followed by the centres at Selsey, Midhurst and Petworth, it was not expected that foodbanks would still be needed by 2023 let alone that demand would be greater than ever.



We can only keep going thanks to the amazing generosity of the public in donating food and money and of the volunteers in the district who give up their time to keep the foodbank running. In our Petworth centre, we have 30 dedicated volunteers who do a range of different roles from collecting and sorting donations, packing boxes and delivering food to helping with events and speaking to clients.

Our focus is no longer only on supplying a three-day food parcel – we want to help clients find a way out of their crisis. This means directing or signposting them to other sources of help of which they may be unaware. This can be the Citizens Advice or Supporting You, who can help to sort out utility bill payments or provide benefits or debt advice, or other charities and professionals who can provide help with a range of issues such as finding work, homelessness, mental health problems, tackling social isolation and family support.

Most wanted items on this month's shopping list Petworth Foodbank says items that it currently is most urgently in need of include tins of soup, fish and/or vegetables, baked beans and pasta sauce. 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.

Seaford College community action day In June, we were fortunate to have help from Seaford College in cleaning our foodbank. Thank you very much to all who came to help us – it was a day of solid work but much was achieved.

Petworth Fête We had our first ever stall at the fête in July. There was a great response from the public and our tombola tickets sold quickly. In total we raised

more than £700. This success was in no small part down to the many wonderful prizes that were given to us by local businesses so thank you very much to them for such generous donations.

Petworth Festival Service collection Many thanks to all those who gave to the collection during this service at St Mary's Church in Petworth in July. In total, just over £369 was raised which is a terrific contribution to our work supporting people in crisis.

Kids Lunch Packs This summer we delivered 82 boxes of food to children in the Petworth area including the surrounding villages. Our lunch packs are provided to children who normally receive free school meals due to low income and include store cupboard staples to help cover the loss of those meals in the main school holidays. These boxes were packed for us by Seaford College students and staff, and all the food was paid for by parents of children at the college. In addition, we were given freshly baked bread from SØDT bakery. We are so grateful for all this incredible support.

In case of need For assistance from the local foodbank, call it on 01243 773687 or Help for Hardship on 0808 208 2138.

Graffham support: Our village has been a big supporter of the Petworth Foodbank. Besides the help given by Seaford College and its teachers and students (see main story), a number of local residents serve as volunteers. Many others make regular donations of food and other items at the collection point outside Graffham Village Shop. Collections at the Harvest Lunch in the Empire Hall last and this year were given to the Petworth Foodbank. And St Giles made a further donation of £400.

Ford Open Prison chaplain to talk at Petworth

The chaplain of Ford Open Prison, between Arundel and Littlehampton, will be delivering this year's autumn lecture to Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT)





on Friday 6 October at St Mary's Church, Petworth, at 7.30pm. The title of the Rev Stephen Gurr's talk is *Pastoral Care: More than just Tea and Sympathy*. All are welcome – and PACT says it will be particularly relevant to



solicitors, carers and healthcare professionals working in emotional support.

Who's doing what at St Giles in October

Here's the rota for 10.30am services on Sundays this 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

	Welcomer	Reader	Reading
1	TBC	Bill Barrett	Exodus 17 v1-7
8	Yvonne Churchward /Fiona Mackie	Phillip Turner	Exodus 20 v1-4,7-9,12-20
15	Holly Sabin	Rich Sabin	Exodus 32 v1-14
22	Mary Coakes	Roger Coakes	Exodus 33 v12-end
29	TBC	Ann Brown	1 Kings 8 v22-30
	Flowers		
	1 & 8	Diane Bellis	
	15 & 22	Ginny Barrett	
	Cleaning		
	Jill and Robert Knight		

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.

Quiz answers (from page 43): 1 All Saints Chapel. 2 The Sloe Fair. 3 Ataturk. 4 From Russia With Love. 5 Prada. 6 Rabat. 7 Dick Fosbury. 8 They are all prime numbers (the last the highest currently known). 9 Paddington. 10 Dick Dastardly.

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.

September				
30	Sat	12.30pm	Lily and Harry's wedding	St Giles Church
October				
1	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 17	St Giles Church
8	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 18	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
10	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
14	Sat	10am-12noon	Bellringing practice	St Giles Church
15	Sun	9am	BCP Matins	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
17	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
18	Wed	From 8am	Sponsored walk to Chichester Cathedral (see page 5)	From St Giles Church
		7pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
22	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for St Luke's Day	St Giles Church
24	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
25	Wed	2.30pm	PCC Community Group meeting	Nettie Lanaghan's
29	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist celebrating 70 th anniversary of All Saints Chapel	All Saints Chapel
		5pm	Halloween Family Service followed by torchlit treat hunt in the churchyard	St Giles Church
31	Tue		No morning prayer or Pilgrims	
November				
11	Sat	11am	Armistice Day prayers	War Memorial
12	Sun	9.30am	Requiem Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
		11am	Service of Remembrance	War Memorial

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

September				
30	Sat	10am-12noon	Chichester District Councillor John Cross surgery (see page 16)	Outside Graffham Village Shop
		12.30pm	Lily and Harry's wedding	St Giles
		7.30pm	Graffham Down Trust quiz night	Empire Hall
October				
1	Sun		Chichester half marathon	Chichester
3	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society Midhurst lecture on history of wallpaper	Methodist Church Hall, Midhurst
4	Wed	7pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall
		10.30am	Arts Society West Sussex lecture on <i>Outstanding Female Photographers</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
6	Fri	7.30pm	PACT autumn lecture by Ford Prison chaplain (see page 45)	St Mary's Church, Petworth
7	Sat	9am-2pm	Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst
		7.30pm	Evening with Charlie Austen (see page 6)	Empire Hall
		7.30pm	Candlelight concert: Vivaldi's Four Seasons and The Lark Ascending	Chichester Cathedral
8	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
11	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
12	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club AGM (see page 3)	Empire Hall
14	Sat	9.30am	Graffham Down Trust work party	Meet by St Giles
		6pm	Tennis Club presentation of trophies	Pavilion
15	Sun	11am	Racing Season Finale	Goodwood
16	Mon		Deadline for delivering your crumblethon crumbles (see page 17)	Frederick House
18	Wed	From 8am	Annual sponsored walk in aid of St Giles, to Chichester Cathedral (see page 5)	From St Giles
20	Fri		Seaford College half-term (to 5 Nov)	
21	Sat		WSCC schools half-term (to 29 Oct)	
		10am-12noon	Chichester District Councillor John Cross surgery (see page 16)	Outside Graffham Village Shop
25	Wed		Petworth Festival Literary Week (to 5 Nov) (see page 11)	Petworth
		12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
28	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
29	Sun	2am	Clocks go back one hour	

29	Sun	5pm	Halloween Service followed by torchlit treat hunt in churchyard (see page 1)	St Giles
30	Mon		Camping and Caravan site closes for winter	Graffham

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

²**Lunch 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 Fitness¹	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath²	Empire Hall
Tuesdays	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath²	Empire Hall
Wednesdays	9-10am	Yoga³	Empire Hall
	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group⁴	Pavilion
	11.15am-11noon	Pilates⁵	Empire Hall
	7-8.30pm	Badminton⁶	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath²	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise⁷	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga³	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic⁸	Empire Hall

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

¹**Fitflows Fitness:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

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

³**Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 867009.

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

⁵**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

⁶**Badminton:** Contact Louisa Thomas, at louisa9000@hotmail.co.uk. All welcome.

⁷**Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

⁸**Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.



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