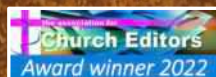


GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 393

FREE

NOVEMBER 2023



GRAFFHAM

PETWORTH
DUNCTON

SELHAM
MIDHURST

Christmas Fair's just weeks away
This Clive McBain painting could be yours
Your raffle tickets inside this edition



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Writing from the Rectory: Remembrance, response

This is the time of year when we fulfil our duty of remembrance for those who have given their lives in the line of duty in time of war. Although we do this formally from the First World War onwards, there have always been times in history when people have stepped up to protect their families and communities in response to a call from 'king and country' and paid a heavy price. It is right to remember all who died in this way, those whose wounds remained with them, and the families who lived with grief thereafter.

Remembrance looks back, sometimes a long way. We live in times, however, where war is a present reality and a cause for outrage now, right across this Earth. We look with compassion on so many innocent civilians caught up in crossfire between warring groups and countries in the news. We pray earnestly for peace, for a change of mind and heart among leaders, which places people's well-being above all other consider-

► *Continued on next page*



Villagers gather at the War Memorial for last year's Remembrance Sunday service.

Drivers asked to show respect

In line with Graffham tradition, motorists are being asked to avoid driving past the War Memorial during the service of remembrance there on Sunday 12 November from 10.55 am. Although there will be no formal road closure in force, marshals will be out to encourage vehicles to detour between Graffham Village Shop and the 'Pound' junction. For details of all remembrance services in the village, see page 51.



Priest in charge:
01798 867199

Reverend Vivien Turner
hello@stgilesgraffham.org

Churchwarden: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113



stgilesgraffham.org



@stgilesgraffham

► *Continued from previous page*

ations. Peace is elusive, however, for which some blame God. Though this is hard, when it is people's choices which lead to warfare and God who grieves for the lost. So, as well as remembering, this is a time of year to fulfil another sacred duty, that of response to warfare today, not just as it affects our own country and citizens, but human beings anywhere:

- Bringing people to mind who are going through nightmare situations for themselves and their children, who have lost their homes and loved ones and are cast into unknown precarious futures.
- Offering our own compassion and grief to join with God's divine pity. Supporting where we can.
- Lamenting because the truth is hard, and hard to bear.
- Continuing to pray resolutely for peace, and uphold those who work for it, or are facing the aftermath of its absence.

On Saturday 11 November at 10.30am, we will hold a Service of Vigil and Lament at St Giles Church – an opportunity for remembrance for those who have suffered in the past, and a present response towards those who suffer today. All are welcome to come and keep vigil and offer prayer. This service will conclude with the traditional two minutes' silence at the church's memorial in the belltower, at 11am and as people depart, our bell will toll.

On Sunday 12 November at 9.30am, one hour earlier than normal, a requiem eucharist service will be held at St Giles Church. This timing is to allow for attendance at Graffham War Memorial, where a service of remembrance will be held, with children present, and with the laying of wreaths, beginning just before 11am. There will be an Evensong service at All Saints Chapel at 4pm that day, with the reading of the roll of honour.

If you can, please attend whichever of these Services you can. Otherwise, take time to remember and look with compassion on the sufferings of people today. Offer these sacred duties which give integrity to our community. And pray for peace.

Every blessing,



Reverend Vivien

Repairs to be carried out to St Giles' roof

Steeplejacks are due to climb onto the roof of St Giles this month to carry out repairs aimed at plugging leaks and keeping the church watertight long into the future – replacing broken tiles, cleaning and repairing gutters, renovating flashing and, where necessary, replacing battens and felt, focussing on the area where the nave meets the belltower.

While some roof tiles were replaced six years ago, this is believed to be the first time in decades that the building has benefitted from such a major project. The roof has suffered from leaks in wet and windy weather in recent years and was given a given a close inspection using a drone with a high resolution camera earlier this autumn.

The repair work is expected to take a couple of weeks to complete, overseen by the Parochial Church Council, led by Fabric Group members Stuart Lewis and Phillip Turner, supported by architect Simon Dyson, working in liaison with the Diocese of Chichester. Four contractors were invited to pitch for the contract. A Sussex-based specialist firm with considerable experience of working on ecclesiastical buildings was eventually selected.

The project is expected to cost up to £30,000. Applications have been made for grants from a number of trusts and charities that support work like this on churches, with any outstanding sum to be met from church reserves built up over the years – and any villagers who would like to contribute.

Repairs to blistering plaster and repainting walls inside the building and other enhancements have been put on hold until the roof repairs have been completed. It follows the installation a year ago of a new eco-friendly pew heating system.



Repairing St Giles' roof is expected to cost up to £30,000 and take weeks.



Would you like to contribute towards the cost of repairing St Giles' roof? For easy ways to donate, see stgilesgraffham.org/giving or point your phone camera at this QR code.

Broadband work moves to Woodcote Lane

Roadworks to instal the village's ultra-fast broadband have moved on to Woodcote Lane. Contractors for BT OpenZone were scheduled to start on this stretch on 23 October, to Friday 3 November. The following two weeks will see Hoyle Lane getting the treatment.

- Cathanger Lane will be closed during the day from Monday to Wednesday, 6-8 November, for Balfour Beatty to undertake drainage works in the road outside Main Wood Cottage.
- For all roadworks details, see [one.network](#)

Thursday Club to hear of Lavington plans

Bianca Pitt, of the Lavington Estate, will be speaking about her plans for regenerating the 650-acre property straddling Graffham and East Lavington at November's meeting of the village's Thursday Club on Thursday (you guessed it!) 9 November at 2.30pm in the Empire Hall. All welcome.

Bianca and her husband James, who have lived for around a decade on Graffham's border with Hoyle, bought the former Lavington Stud two years ago, after it had been used by the Buchanan-Macdonald family to rear and train race horses for around a century. They quickly expanded it by also taking on the ancient scarp woodland of Graffham Down and the Queen Elizabeth Forest.

Crumblethon one shy of its all-time record

A near record 34 fruit crumbles – just one shy of last year's biggest yet total – were baked by Graffham cooks in the village's annual 'Crumblethon'. They were delivered on Tuesday 17 October by joint organiser Jan Brind to local charity Stonepillow, for heating up and serving to the homeless. Besides the bakes, the Crumblethon appeal generated a cascade of canned and dried food from the parents and children of the Lavington Park Federation schools, also for Stonepillow.

Graffham Down Trust work party dates

Graffham Down Trust's next work parties are on Sunday 29 November and Saturday 9 December. Everyone's welcome – 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 it is cancelled for any reason.

Bronze bench given to remember late Queen

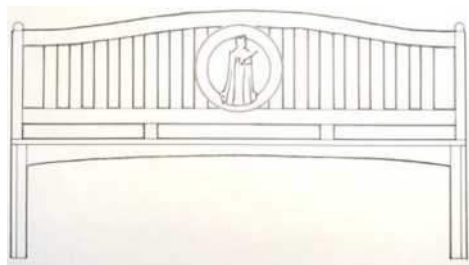
A bronze bench, commemorating the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth II, is to be installed in St Giles' churchyard this month – one of only four commissioned, and a gift to the church by charitable trust The David Laing Foundation.

It will sit securely on newly-created paving by the outside wall of the Lady Chapel, on the building's south side, where it will best catch the sun. Cast from a wooden bench, it is said to have a completely natural look. The new Graffham bench is due to be blessed at a family service at St Giles on Sunday 19 November at 10.30am.

The four benches commissioned are being gifted to parishes with close connections with the trustees of the Laing Foundation – among them Stuart Lewis, who is chairman of Graffham Parochial Church Council's Fabric Group, looking after St Giles' building and churchyard.

The first of them will also feature a life-size sculpture of Sir John Laing, who developed the Carlisle-based family building firm into the national enterprise it became, with the rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral after World War II one of its best known projects. This statue depicts him at a moment of prayer at Cumberland's Furness Abbey, at a time when his business faced ruin, and he was wracked with a sense of shame that he had let down his father and the men employed by the firm. He pledged that, if his troubles could be solved, he would give most of his earnings to good causes. He returned later to exactly the same spot to make good that promise. Today, the charitable foundations he founded have a collective value of £300 million, with more than £10 million distributed each year to worthy recipients. Its Beatrice Laing Trust gifted £5,000 towards St Giles' new pew heating system a year ago.

That first bench will, appropriately, be placed in the grounds of Furness Abbey early next year. Besides Graffham's St Giles, the others will be sited in Grafton Underwood, Northants, and in Brill, Bucks.



The design of the brass bench commemorating the late Queen that will be installed at St Giles this month.

Support St Giles while you do your Christmas shopping You can raise funds for St Giles Church whenever you shop online – at zero cost to you. To find out how simple it is, just go to stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online



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Plans for Graffham Festival 2024 firm up

Plans for a Graffham Festival in June next year are taking shape after a well-attended public meeting held in the Empire Hall in late September – and your ideas are wanted to help build the programme.

Initial suggestions include open art studios, a weekend of open gardens, a flower festival, a live band, various concerts – including potentially a chance to celebrate talents from within the village – and a poetry ‘open mic’ evening.

A committee has been formed to steer the project through, led by Phil Jones and including Richard Davidson, Jude Sennitt and Jim Kirke.

They are working to hold the festival across a week in mid-June.

Phil said: “We really want this to be a fun experience for the whole village – for those coming along to just one of the events or those

organising a particular event. The intention is to encompass all elements of the arts to appeal to all tastes and ages. So please don’t be shy in raising your hand with an offer of help or with an idea for something that could be featured.”

You can contact Phil at graffhamfestival@mail.com

Summer festivals in Graffham have a long tradition. They have been given a fresh breath of life in the past decade or so, staged in alternate years from 2014 – until Covid struck. While ‘the arts’ has generally been the theme, they have also previously centred on science and food and drink.

Snap! Village life, animal, colour, reflections...

The categories for the photographic classes in Graffham Garden Group’s 2024 summer show – scheduled for Saturday 13 July – have been revealed:

- Graffham village life
- A splash of colour
- Under 16 age group...any photograph
- Animal
- Reflections

All villagers are eligible to enter – and you now have more than eight months to take your prize-winning snaps!



Council to spend £20,000 on playground

Graffham Parish Council has agreed to contribute £20,000 as ‘seed funding’ towards upgrading the playground at the village’s recreation ground.

The investment is its biggest single outlay yet from its ‘community infrastructure levy’ (CIL) fund. CIL was introduced nationally by the government around a decade ago. Financed by property developers, funds generated must be used to improve local facilities, not to cover a council’s general on-going expenses.

Graffham has received a total of almost £45,000 through CIL, with £17,000 of that in 2023. The amount credited to the parish depends on the level of development authorised in the neighbourhood, so it is not known when or if it will be topped up further in the future.

Earlier this year, the parish council approved the use of around £6,000 of CIL money on four projects – a £2,000 contribution towards the new patio outside the Rec’s pavilion, tree surgery to the damaged oak at the War Memorial, installing a flagpole there and a contribution to the renovation of the old phone box at Selham. These are believed to have been the first projects in Graffham funded through CIL.

At its 4 October meeting, councillors also agreed to convert the old phone box by Pescods to house another defibrillator for the village, at a cost of some £3,500, and to renovate three of the five ‘fingerpost’ road signs in the parish.

The poor condition of these traditional signposts – opposite the village shop, at ‘Pound Corner’ and at the Woodcote Lane junction – was, one councillor said, creating a bad impression for the village. They will be given similar treatment to what neighbouring East Lavington Parish Council has recently done to the fingerpost at the Norwood Lane junction, with a professional renovator giving them a complete overhaul, at a cost approaching £3,700. The other two signposts in Graffham parish – at the Topleigh and Last Post junctions – were not considered to be in urgent need of repair. The plan is to renovate them as a community project.

The council is also considering giving up to £4,250 from its CIL fund as a 50 per cent contribution towards a replacement tractor and finishing mower for the Rec but elected to delay a decision on this while assessing whether alternative sources of funding for it can be identified.

The aim is to use the £20,000 allocated to the upgraded Rec playground to gain matching finance and other funds from bodies issuing grants, like Sports England, Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority. Donations from individuals are also being invited. Plans for giving the play area a

complete overhaul were originally floated early last year as a potential Platinum Jubilee project for the village (*Graffham Parish News*, April 2022), when individuals in the community were invited to get behind it with donations.

Graffham Parish Council Deputy Chairman John Bracey, who also serves as Chairman of the Rec Committee, said at the time: “We want to turn

the playground into something all of us can be proud of, that blends with its surroundings and gives children great enjoyment – a long-lasting asset for the entire village, making Graffham an even more attractive place for all of us to live.”

The Pavilion itself was given a £100,000 upgrade a decade ago after a fund-raising drive underwritten by a £50,000 Lottery Fund grant, while Graffham Tennis Club’s two courts were resurfaced and the fence around them upgraded this September, thanks to a £8,000 grant from Chichester District Council.

- A revised budget for the current financial year was also approved by Graffham Parish Council at its 4 October meeting at the Empire Hall – with the projected deficit of up to £2,000 to be met from its reserves.

Operating income is forecast at £13,000, almost entirely from the precept it receives from households and businesses in the village as part of their council tax. Expenditure is predicted to reach £14,000, reflecting the recent impact of inflation on its overheads. The biggest chunk of this, some £8,000 in total, is spent on administration – its clerk, training, audit, IT equipment etc. Other main elements included £2,600 towards running costs of the Rec and £2,300 on ground maintenance around the village, including mowing around the war memorial, churchyard and other public spaces.

In view of the projected operating deficit for this year, the council will consider at its November meeting whether to raise its precept for the first time in many years.

Although delayed by the election of new councillors in May, a change of clerk and associated data transfer difficulties, its accounts for the previous year have been submitted for external audit.



The oak tree at the War Memorial lost one of its lower boughs in October, the third in five years. A tree surgeon tidied it up and carried out other necessary safety works to its branches, on behalf of the parish council. Logs were left for villagers to use as firewood.

An early festive message from Jeeva
Don't mess about this Christmas
- support your local suppliers!

New: Hot
weekday
breakfast
rolls



Fresh hot
paninis now
available all
day!

Graffham Village Shop will be offering
turkeys for Christmas raised in our very own
village to highest outdoor standards
- on a farm off Norwood Lane.

You can't source more local!

Other poultry and meats, also from local farmers and
suppliers, will be available, along with
all your fruit, veg, wine, beer
and spirit needs
- all the festive fare you
need, from your village shop!



Watch for the order form through your letterbox or
available from the shop soon!

Selham phone box's golden crowning glory

The traditional red telephone box opposite the Three Moles on the border of the parishes of Graffham and Selham has been given a thorough renovation, inside and out, complete with gold leafing of the coats of arms above its side windows.

The work, funded partially with a grant from local parish councils and other donors, was carried out professionally by Ralph's Restorations with Osborne Signs applying the golden finishing touches.

The restored phone box is still home to Selham's defibrillator, but now also houses a number of leaflet holders to provide local information to residents and visitors.



Selham's phone box sparkling after its renovation



Coffee morning

with Hugh and Ann Brown
at Frederick House,
Graffham

**Friday 17 November
from 10am**

to raise funds to
help decorate
the school's outdoor loo
(which they kindly let church goers use)

Bring and buy cakes, bakes
and other goodies
to help swell the coffers!



Followed by a treat hunt in the churchyard

Sunday 29 October 5pm

*Bring a torch or lantern and carved pumpkins
- and come dressed to scare Rev Vivien!*

Vicky honoured with Order of St Richard

‘Our’ Vicky Chase has been inducted into the Order of St Richard at a special ceremony in Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 30 September. The award was launched in 2019 by the Bishop of Chichester to recognise exceptional service to parishes, the diocese and local community.

Vicky was one of just 40 to be honoured this year – along with Gerald Gresham Cooke, of nearby Tillington, who contributes the regular Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) column to *Graffham Parish News*.

They received their awards – a badge bearing the episcopal coat of arms of St Richard attached to a ribbon, and a certificate signed by Bishop Martin – from Bishop Ruth of Horsham.

Besides the recipients’ families and friends, the ceremony was attended by the Lords Lieutenant of East and West Sussex, and High Sheriff of East Sussex. Rev Vivien was there as one of Vicky’s guests.

Vicky received her accolade for her championing of bellringing in West Sussex. For her 50th birthday earlier this year, she rang bells in 50 towers across the county in just 50 days, attracting considerable media attention. She started and finished the challenge where she originally learned to ring – at St Giles. Although she no longer lives in the village, she remains close by and continues to teach novice ringers at St Giles.

As a compliment to Vicky and her fellow recipients of the order, she joined the cathedral ringers to ring its bells in celebration at the end of the ceremony.

Rev Vivien said: “Well done, Vicky, and may bellringing continue to thrive in Graffham and throughout the county, with your support.”



Vicky with Bishop Ruth after being inducted into the Order of St Richard at Chichester Cathedral.



Dry on departure from St Giles (above), the walkers arrived drenched at Chichester Cathedral that afternoon.



Storm Babet drenches sponsored walkers



Around a dozen intrepid hikers joined for Graffham's annual sponsored walk in aid of St Giles, on Wednesday 18 October. It had been postponed from its original date in September when dreadful weather was forecast, only for that day to turn out fine after all. For the revised date, it was dry when the walkers set off from our



Coming soon...

Westerlands

Pop-Up Christmas Fair!

Saturday 16th December

Stall Holders
Christmas Carols
Pony Rides
Crafts
Horsebox Café

Well behaved dogs are welcome on the lead.
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Free-Range Chickens
will be about!

Contact us should you like join our stall
holders.

village church at 8am, but Storm Babet opened the heavens during the afternoon. They reached their destination, Chichester Cathedral, 12 miles to the south of their starting point, all the same, drenched but smiling.

Although the start and end point were identical to 2022's walk, the route was different, taking the old coach road up the Downs from Ladywell Cottage, across to Charlton, over the Trundle at Goodwood then through Lavant to our county city. Some elected to end the walk at the halfway point, while others joined from there. Early indications were that they are likely to have raised some £750 for St Giles – just in time for its roof repairs (see page 3).



Janet Wakeford and Ann Brown, looking like they could have just completed a shift on a lifeboat (above), and Vasu impersonating a figurehead on top of the Trundle's trig point (right).



From Town Hall: Concerns over our waterways

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



During the past few weeks, I have been holding a number of surgeries across the ward – two in Graffham, and one each in Sutton and Fittleworth, I will be holding another one in Bury on 4 November (11-1pm) in its village hall. These surgeries are for anyone in the ward and are not specific to the village in which they are held, so, if you do wish to speak to me face to face, that's where you will find me. I am also happy to catch up with parish councillors if they wish to join me. You may also wish to email me on my Chichester District Council email address jcross@chichester.gov.uk.

Several residents and parish councils have deep concerns about the state of the River Rother and other waterways, including the coast line many of us visit. There are numerous apps and websites that reveal the level of discharge in the locality, and by and large none of our rivers are suitable to swim in. I have spoken to colleagues at Chichester District Council, and Southern Water have been called in numerous times to account for these failings. As a district council, we have no statutory powers in relation to these discharges – we must rely on the Environment Agency. Similarly, I have spoken with officers at South Downs National Park about the rivers that run through the park. They say also, bizarrely, they have no control over the rivers and waterways that run through the park. Does this indicate that the water companies are not accountable to anyone locally and we are at the mercy of the Environment Agency to act?

This is not to say we can't do anything. My colleagues at the district council who are further up the Rother River in Harting and Midhurst have been badgering the Environment Agency about the failure of the Harting sewage works. Also, Eco Rother Action, the Rother Valley Farmers Group and landowners are playing an important role in helping to improve the quality of water by dredging ditches, reducing the sluices on the Rother, encouraging wetlands on traditional flood plains, and reducing phosphates running into waterways. These all helps when sewage isn't in the river.

- Besides serving as the councillor on Chichester District Council representing Fittleworth ward, which includes Graffham and East Lavington, John Cross has been re-appointed to serve as Chairman of Sutton and Barlavington Parish Council.

School report: Welcoming our 19 new pupils

An update from Graffham Infant School and its Lavington Park Federation partner Duncton Junior School.

It's been a busy start to the new school year and lovely to see everyone back. The school is looking fantastic after much needed refurbishments over the summer, too.

We welcomed 19 new children this September at Graffham Infants School and they have settled in so well, getting to know their new teachers and making lots of new friends. We have been supporting them to get used to the daily rhythms of school life and introducing them to art, music and PE sessions throughout the week. They also enjoyed a visit from the West Sussex Book Bus, giving them their first experience of selecting some books for their classroom. This brought much excitement, and the children couldn't wait to get back into school to read. We have



also been fortunate to have a visit from the Arts Society. The poetry workshop they ran was enjoyed by everyone.

Our older children in Year 1 and 2 have settled back in and have been enjoying our clubs offered after school. Martial Arts is new for us this term, and we are lucky to have one of our parents and governors (who is also a qualified Martial Arts instructor) to run it for us. We also continue to offer Multi-sports, Dance and Gymnastics clubs.

Over at Duncton, our Year 4 class started their forest school sessions and Year 6 had their first taster day at Midhurst Rother College.

We enjoyed celebrating harvest with assemblies at both Graffham and Duncton. All donations which the children brought in have gone to Chichester homeless charity Stonepillow.

Our Friends of Graffham and Duncton PTA continues to raise funds on our behalf. Our weekly Friday cake raffle is a big success. They also held a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan. A group of Year 5 children have been supporting this worthwhile cause by selling cake and lemonade during school hours.



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



The Los Palmas 6

'The best Madness Tribute Band in the World'



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Crimestoppers

Sussex Police updates on crimes reported across the local community.

A spate of burglaries and car crime has been reported by Sussex Police across its Chichester district, which includes Graffham and East Lavington, in recent weeks, although none have occurred in our villages.

Burglaries were reported at Petworth's Pound Street, Midhurst's North Street, Northchapel's Pipers Lane and Wisborough Green's Kirdford Road. A vehicle was reported stolen from the same village, in Durbans Road. Others were broken into and targeted for their belongings in Duncton's Willett Close, Petworth's Hampers Green, Easebourne's Buddington Lane, Midhurst's Taylors Field, Sutton's Barlavington Lane, Sutton Common and the Harting Down National Trust car park, with others damaged at Tillington's The Harrows, Petworth's East Street and Charlton's Foxhill.

Planning applications

Applications for Graffham and East Lavington filed with the South Downs National Park as this edition went to press. For details, see bit.ly/sdnp-planning

Tangletrees, opposite the Rec, Graffham GU28 0QA: Use of land to the north of the established residential garden as residential garden. SDNP/23/03708/LDE. Received 7 Sep.

Property watch

No homes locally have been posted for sale at rightmove.com in the past month.



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Weddings: Lily and Harry, 30 September

For the wedding of Selham couple Lily Evans and Harry Revell at St Giles on Saturday 30 September, the congregation was swelled by some 120 relatives and friends – plus the happy couple's two dogs, lurcher Percy and Patterdale terrier Betsy, who just couldn't miss out!






Lily and Harry had to wait till the end of the polo season for their chukka in church – he plays professionally, besides training horses.

She originally met her groom while on a working holiday in New Zealand... as a groom – to polo ponies. He was out there to ride them in matches. That was in 2017. They returned to England as friends but didn't start dating till 2020, by which time she was working, like now, as an estate agent.

They moved into East Lavington's Pottery Cottage two years ago then bought Sunnyside, in Selham, between the Three Moles and Halfway Bridge, in June this year. By then, he'd popped the question, in February, while on a trip back to the Land of the Long White Cloud where they had originally met and had her engagement ring made there. They chose to exchange their vows at St Giles



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Horticulture NPTC

because “we’ve fallen in love with the village since moving here, it’s such a beautiful church and the Rev Vivien (who conducted the ceremony) has been so lovely and enthusiastic”.

Appropriately for a polo player’s pairing, Lily travelled to St Giles in a friend’s Land Rover Defender. She wore a white gown from the suitably named bridal boutique in Chichester, Whyte Weddings, and carried a bouquet of lilies – not because of her name but in memory of Harry’s late mother Helen.

To the music of Pachelbel’s Canon in D, she was walked down the aisle by two Dads – her own father James Disney and her stepfather Gary Evans – accompanied by her sister Mary Evans as maid of honour, along with five friends as bridesmaids and a flower girl,.

Harry, wearing traditional tails, was supported by his closest friend Edward Smith as best man and five ushers.

During the service, Lily’s longest-standing friend Cydnei Fitzsimmons and Harry’s stepmother Jenifer Revell both delivered readings.

As the bells of St Giles rang out, the Land Rover that had driven her to church carried the new Mr and Mrs Revell to more revels at Graffham’s Haylands Barn.



Newly married Lily and Harry get the confetti treatment.

Graffham Gourmet: The White Horse

A new regular feature in which our food and drink critic checks out a local eatery. As an amuse bouche, we try the White Horse, recently re-opened after a thorough refurbishment.

The White Horse has catered for Graffham thirsts and stomachs for more than a century. Taken into new ownership in the summer with a new restaurant orientated focus, it has since been given a complete renovation with a chic new look inside and out, including a private dining room – and now has a new Chef de Cuisine, in Grant Jones, who trained at arguably Britain’s best restaurant, Mayfair’s Le Gavroche. The White Horse has clearly set out its table – to establish itself as one of the region’s top destinations to dine and stay, while still promising the warmest of welcomes to locals.



I visited one evening in early October with three dining companions to try Grant’s new Tasting Menu – seven courses that will change every month or so, with each plate sized not to overwhelm individually but to leave you feeling well fed at the end, all while giving the kitchen team a chance to show off their full range of skills. As one of my buddies said, it was brilliant, different and delicious.

After a drink at the refurbished bar, complete with its new woodburner, we took to our table in the renovated conservatory, tastefully redecorated and pleasingly comfortable. If it had been daylight outside, we would have been enjoying that amazing view across the White Horse’s newly landscaped garden across the fields to the northern escarpment of Graffham Down – surely one of the best restaurant garden panoramas in England!

Opening the batting on the menu was lightly creamed Chichester sweetcorn soup, served with a few kernels in the bowl and the soup poured over them from a jug. It set the bar Olympic high for the six courses to follow. Next, sea bass tartare with fir apple potatoes grown across the Hampshire border by Grant’s Dad, followed by venison carpaccio, from a fallow deer in North Marden. First of the ‘main’ courses was line-caught hake with clams on wilted spinach, then roasted partridge



Chef de Cuisine Grant Jones in the White Horse’s dining room

with game jus and a side of new-in-season squash. We rounded things off with a selection of local cheeses and, finally, a plate of dessert tasters.

The set price for the seven-course taster menu is £120 a head, but you can choose most of the individual plates from the restaurant's a la carte menu, which now offers something new virtually every day – the sweetcorn soup at £10, for instance, or the roasted hake as a main at £28. For those with a sweet tooth, a la carte desserts include sticky toffee pudding with butterscotch sauce and vanilla ice cream, at £8.50, or ice creams or sorbets at £3 a scoop.



A selection of White Horse dishes.

To accompany our meal, we shared a bottle of very drinkable Langedoc Domaine de Mont d'Hortes rosé at £40. Fizz lovers could quaff, from among eight choices, a glass of Roebuck, from just across the A272, at £13.50, or Treviso Prosecco (£7.50). Its Champagnes range from £73 a bottle. The selection of 18 whites start at £34 a bottle, and the 18 reds at £40. Its comprehensively stocked bar continues to offer a range of local ales, including Langham's Session Bitter, at £4.80 a pint.

The evening we were there, Grant popped out from the kitchen every now and then to explain what was what and where the ingredients were sourced from – all as locally as possible – and the table service was impeccably efficient and friendly.

Verdict: We all left looking forward to a return visit. The White Horse is setting its sights high and, on first impressions, already meeting them, with standards you're more likely to find in a top London restaurant than rural Sussex. An excellent choice for a special occasion or treat – or just a pleasant drink.

Opening hours: 12noon-11pm Tuesday-Saturday, and Sunday lunchtime.

Contacts: whitehorsegraffham.com, 01798 867331.

GRAFFHAM EMPIRE HALL

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Harriet Rowntree on 01798 867536



Dance practices in the Empire Hall:
Sunday 7th, 14th and 21st of January 2024
4-6pm, £2 per session



GRAFFHAM CHRISTMAS

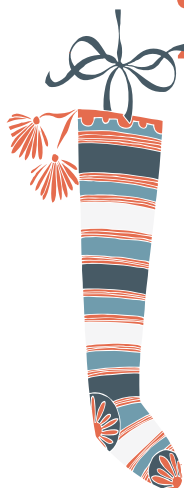


FAIR

SATURDAY



2 DECEMBER



11AM - 2PM EMPIRE HALL

Auction • Raffle • home produce • crafts •
mulled wine • music • mince pies
and much more

Full details on next page and at stgilesgraffham.org/christmasfair

All the fun of Graffham's Christmas Fair

Graffham's Christmas Fair will take place as usual in the Empire Hall on the first Saturday in December – 2 December from 11am to 2pm. The Christmas tree will be sparkling, festive music playing, mulled wine, mince pies and hot sausage rolls ready to serve up, making it the perfect place to pick up some Christmas presents while catching up with friends and neighbours.

It's also one of the main fund-raising events of the year for St Giles, helping our beautiful, historic and peaceful village church meet its near £60,000 a year costs for maintaining its building, bells and burial ground and everything it does for the community – wedding venue, support for our schools, the bereaved, needy and



homeless, Sunday and special services ... So please support the fair generously!

There are some amazing lots up for grabs in its auction – see from page 28.

And also an astonishing line-up of goodies you could win in its raffle – see page 27. Tickets are circulated with this magazine – so there's no excuse not to enter!

Cracker: Flashback to 2022's Christmas Fair.

As ever, the home produce stand is expected to do a roaring trade, with its delicious cakes, buns, biscuits, jams, pickles and other treats created by the village's cooks. A number of locals will be manning craft stalls – potter Joanna Morris, artists Izzy Barrett and Sue Hill, and cuddly toy maker Tracey-Jane Thompson. Fiona Mackie will be running a stall offering jewellery and trinkets – all donations welcome! And you'll also be able to pick up garden bits and pieces, and more. Di Bowden is in charge of the children's activities, while the air will be filled with an assortment of festive favourites.



THE HOME PRODUCE STAND NEEDS YOU!

If you can contribute any goodies, please contact Gillian Charlesworth on 07973 768924 or at dalehousefemail@gmail.com



Graffham Christmas Fair's remarkable raffle

Some wonderful prizes are up for grabs in the 2023 Graffham Christmas Fair Grand Raffle – thanks to the generosity of the many donors from across the village.

Four books, each of five tickets (costing £1 a ticket), have been delivered with this edition of *Graffham Parish News*. Don't feel you have to buy them, but it'd be lovely if

you do! If you want more, they are available from Graffham Village Shop – and at the Christmas Fair in the Empire Hall on Saturday 2 December 2023, from 11am until the raffle is drawn at 1.30 pm.

To enter, fill in each ticket stub with your surname, phone number and, ideally, your email address. Then:

- Hand in your stubs and payment (by cash or card) at the Graffham Christmas Fair on Saturday 2 December 2023 before 1.15 pm.
- OR at Graffham Village Shop before Saturday 2 December 2023. Insert your stubs and cash payment in a sealed envelope marked 'Christmas Fair Raffle'.

The draw will be made on Saturday 2 December at about 1.30 pm at the Christmas Fair in the Empire Hall. Winners will be notified. Good luck – and thanks again to all the prize donors!



Your raffle tickets have been distributed with this magazine.

Some of the great raffle prizes up for grabs:

- A fab festive hamper
- Another amazing hamper
- Box of six Wine Society bottles
- A voucher from Petworth's BEAR
- A festive wreath
- A super garden plant support
- A golf umbrella
- Bottles of grog
- Christmas crackers
- Other wonderful goodies

For full list of prizes and details, see stgilesgraffham.org/christmasfair



The happy elves drawing the raffle at 2022's Christmas Fair.

Graffham Christmas Fair's amazing auction

Prizes worth a combined £10,000 at full commercial value are up for grabs in Graffham Christmas Fair's 2023 auction at potentially knock-down prices, thanks to many generous donors – unique experiences or treats that, normally, money could not buy, delicious food and drinks, many sourced from within our own village, and some fab 'not on the high street' items that would make perfect presents for Christmas.

Some of them are highlighted on these pages – for the complete list and full terms and conditions etc, see stgilesgraffham.org/auction You can submit your bids:

- In person at Graffham Christmas Fair in the Empire Hall on Saturday 2 December 2023 before 1.30 pm.
- By email to graffhamchristmasfair@gmail.com before 6 pm on Friday 1 December. If bidding by email, ensure you clearly indicate:
 - The lot you're bidding for – its name and number (eg A1 loop-the-loop).
 - The amount you are offering (in whole pounds only).
 - Your first and family name.
 - Your email address, telephone number and home address.



The status of each lot will be updated online regularly with the latest leading bid and bidder at stgilesgraffham.org/auction until Friday 1 December 2023 – so keep an eye on your favourite lots and feel free to increase any bid before the auction closes. Happy bidding and good luck!

AUCTION LOTS A: THRILLS AND CHILLS

A1: Loop-the-loop over Graffham

You've seen 20-year vet pilot Mark Stewart do his aerobatics over the village in his two-seater stunt plane. Now you can fly with him – with a chance to take the controls yourself!

Value: This lot fetched £250 when offered before



A2: Golf tuition with Seaford's pro

An hour-long, one-on-one lesson with Seaford College's golf pro and coach Jack Halsey, at the school's first-rate golfing facilities, which include a driving range and nine-hole course.

Value: Well over par

A3: Swallows and Amazons

A Saturday or Sunday, for up to two people, following the wind on Chichester Harbour, in a Drascombe Dabber day boat, to include a beach picnic, depending on tides and weather. Life jackets provided. No experience necessary.

Value: Bidding reached £130 when offered before



A4: Cricket tuition with Chris Adams

Catch some tips in a 45-minute one-on-one training/tuition session with Chris "Grizzly" Adams, legendary captain of our own Sussex county side and capped by England at Test and one-day international level, now Head of Cricket at Seaford College.

Value: Boundaries galore!

A5: Kayaking on the River Arun

Half a day's kayaking on the beautiful and peaceful River Arun – under the instruction of Graffham resident Jacky Gregory. No previous experience necessary – Jacky will provide tips and training. Life jacket and kayak provided.

Value: Paddles – fetched £75 last time it was offered.



A6: Training with Dogs Doing Better

Dogs Doing Better, which delivers puppy and dog training, agility and pet gun dog training, is offering a one-hour session one-to-one, by highly qualified former Graffham resident Liz Nicholson.

Value: £45

A7: Golf for four at Cowdray

Treat up to three friends (that's a foursome with you included!) for a round of golf at Cowdray Park Golf Club, described by website the socialgolfer.com as a "pretty golf course in some of the most spectacular rolling downland ... considered one of the best in the south of England."

Value: Green fees at the weekend start at £50.



A8: Exclusive use of a heated swimming pool

A day's exclusive use of a Graffham pool kept spotlessly clean and comfortably heated by Stuart and Bridget Lewis. Multiple prizes offered – so you can bid for more than one day's use.

Value: In at the deep end

A9: Golf for three and lunch at West Sussex

A round of golf for the winning bidder and up to two guests, followed by lunch, at West Sussex Golf Club, Pulborough, hosted by Sandy Macqueen. **Value:** Weekend green fees in the summer cost £175 a person.



AUCTION LOTS B: TREATS AND EATS

B1: Isle of Wight holiday home for a week

Sail across the Solent to Bembridge and stay in this top-notch holiday home, just ten minutes' walk from the beach, with its own heated and gated swimming pool, grass tennis court and swings in a large garden. Sleeping up to 10 in five bedrooms and with five bath/shower rooms, it has everything you'd expect from a top-class home away from home. See stgilesgraffham.org/auction for full details.

Reserve: £1,750 (against list price for a peak week of c £4,000)



B2: A Clive McBain original fingerpost painting

Acclaimed Graffham artist Clive McBain, a finalist in this year's internationally renowned David Shepherd Wildlife Artist of the Year competition, says this will be the last of his paintings of local fingerposts. Mounted and framed in white, it covers a total of some 289mm square.

Value: £2,500 if sold privately but sensible offers considered although the painting does have a reserve price.

B3: Meal for two at The White Horse

A meal for two with a bottle of wine (to be taken mid-week in the early months of the New Year) at the village's historic White Horse, following its refurbishment this summer and now with Le Gavroche-trained Grant Jones as its new Chef de Cuisine.

Value: Delicious



B4: Painting of your house, pet or fav view

Commission renowned Graffham watercolour artist Sue Hill to create a painting of your pet, garden, home, favourite view or whatever.

Value: Winning bids of £100 and £275 before



B5: Ritz-style garden tea party

Afternoon tea in a Graffham garden with wildflower meadow and views of the Downs. Glass of fizz on arrival, then sandwiches, scones, cakes, tea and other posh delights, served on vintage china by Sally Blunt.

Reserve: £80 a couple (up to three couples max)

B6: Sunday lunch at the Three Moles

Our award-winning Three Moles pub has earned itself a reputation for serving some of the best Sunday roasts in West Sussex. Tuck in your napkin and loosen your belt for a three-course spectacular feast for two, with a bottle of house wine.

Value: £75

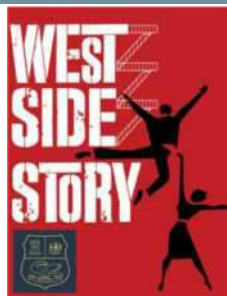


B7: Tea in a Romany caravan

Hidden in a gem of a Graffham garden is this Romany caravan beautifully restored by Philip Trower – yours to relish for a few hours for yourself with up to three friends or family members for a special occasion, with a delicious tea included. **Value:** Priceless, but fetched £100 last time.

B8: Good natural health for your horse or dog

An assessment and treatment for your animal friend. Treatment can be beneficial for relief of existing pain, to help maintain healthy joints, muscles and tendons and the assessment of poor function, which may lead to injury or discomfort in the future. Yard visits for horses (local only please). Dogs can be seen at Anna's garden chalet in Graffham. May require veterinary consent. **Value:** £50-£70



B9: Seaford's West Side Story – for four

Four tickets for West Side Story, with its music by Leonard Bernstein and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim for a story based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and set in mid-1950s New York – the next musical mounted by Seaford College, which has a reputation for staging near-professional productions. Pick a date between 13-16 March. **Value:** Bright lights

B10: Vintage port

A bottle of Smith Woodhouse 2003 vintage port, carefully preserved in a diligently tended Graffham cellar. Perfect on its own or accompanying your Christmas Stilton.

Value: £60



B11: Weekend's use of log splitter

Make light work of splitting your felled timber. If more than two matching bids are received, Stuart Lewis has kindly offered to honour both. *Value:* Fetched £50 before

B12: £75 meal vouchers for Foresters Inn

A voucher for £75 to spend in the pub on food with drinks – more than enough for a main course for two with a bottle of wine, or to treat yourselves to one of its immensely popular tapas, steak or other special nights. *Value:* £75



B13: Haircut and blow dry with Dawn

A haircut and blowdry by hair and make-up artist Dawn Quinn, in the comfort of your own home. A number of Graffham ladies won't let anyone else touch their hair!

Value: £65

Check for any new lots and
the status of your bids at
stgilesgraffham.org/auction

Any old jewellery, accessories or hats?

New for this Christmas Fair will be a stand selling pre-loved items of jewellery and other fashion accessories – necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, and scarves and hats, etc. If you have any items you no longer need that you'd like to donate, you can drop them off at the Empire Hall on Saturday 11 November between 11.30am and 1.30pm.



PAINTINGS BY RICHARD DAVIDSON



OPEN STUDIO

Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd December 11am - 5pm

Brookdene House, Graffham GU28 0NL

A pre-Christmas exhibition of recent work and greetings cards

A percentage of sales will go to St Giles Church, Graffham



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Nature Notes: Sussex's tiny aquatic monster

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

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water... It's no secret that I love *Jaws*, the 1975 movie which sent three men out into the Atlantic on a fishing boat in search of a marauding great white shark. There's another aquatic monster hunting in the ponds and shallow streams of Sussex. But to find a water shrew... you're gonna need a smaller boat.

Water shrews weigh 15g and measure just 16cm (and for that you get the head, the tail, the whole damn thing). Unlike other shrews, they have an amazing ability to swim and hunt underwater. They're covered in dense fur – vital insulation against the cold and wet. This sleek wetsuit also traps air bubbles, transforming the shrew into a furry Aero helping it stay buoyant. Powerful, extra hairy hind feet propel this tiny torpedo through the water.

Water shrews and great white sharks have a common feature which sets them apart from their close relatives. They both have a striking demarcation between their



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A water shrew spotted by a Sussex stream. © Derek Middleton, SWT.

dark upperparts and their white underparts. Looking from above, their black backs blend with the pond bottom or seabed. From below their pale bellies make them invisible in the sunlit water. It's a submarine survival strategy that helps conceal both hunters and hunted. And the water shrew is both.

With sharp, red-tipped fangs, shrews' jaws are as fearsome as any shark's. But the water shrew has a trick up its teeth. It's Britain's only venomous mammal. When it bites, it injects a stupefying saliva which subdues its victims.

In *Jaws*, the grizzled skipper Quint (Robert Shaw) relates the chilling true tale of the torpedoed World War II cruiser Indianapolis which sank leaving hundreds of sailors adrift in shark-infested waters. Well, my mate Barry was once bitten by a water shrew in Newhaven and his finger went all tingly for about two hours. OK, it doesn't exactly compare to Quint's tale about being attacked by a shark but the fact that a tiny shrew can make such an impact on a human is pretty impressive.

Water shrews are relentless, frenetic hunters. If a shrew goes without a meal for more than an hour, it will die. What we are dealing with here is a perfect engine, an eating machine. All this machine does is swim and eat and make little shrews. Between April and September, the mating of the shrew can produce two to three litters of three to 15 young. They live a fast, brief life. Few of them will survive for more than a year.

The best chance of seeing a water shrew is to sit by a Sussex stream as the sun sets. Bring a couple of friends, share some tall tales and wait for a shrew to strike.

Graffham Chronicles: All Saints, at 70

In her regular column, village historian Pauline Goodwin this month looks at the history of All Saints Chapel and cottages, opposite Graffham Village Shop, 70 years on from their inauguration.

On the 70th anniversary of the dedication of All Saints Chapel, in late October, it is appropriate to examine the motivation which led Colonel Godfrey and Eddy Loring generously to present the village with this precise type of building and recall the function and role they saw for it within the community.

The colonel and his wife had lived at East Lavington's Norwood Farm in the 1940s, moving later to Bishops Hill, on Graffham's Street, which they designed and built. They were prominent members of the community, with Eddy a founding member of the village's Rustics am dram group.

One of the oldest documents relating to the chapel in the Graffham Archive, from 1951, refers to it as the "Communion Chapel of St Giles and The Memorial Houses". Firstly, just this standalone title tells us why the decision was made to build the trio of cottages to accompany the chapel – because these three cottages stand as memorials to three key family members of the Loring family. Each cottage bears a memorial plaque to one of them:

- 1 Ruth Parker, who was Godfrey's aunt.
- 2 Stella Pattison, Eddy's mother.
- 3 Ottilie Loring, Godfrey's mother.

All historic pictures from Graffham Archive. Black and white photos by George Garland, courtesy West Sussex Records Office.

Secondly, this title tells us about the function of the chapel by referring to it as a "Communion Chapel" – so it was to be a supplement, not a replacement, to the provision made by St Giles' Church. This is set against the repercussions of World War II when, especially for a military family like the Lorings, all were acutely aware of the housing shortages. Indeed, at this time, several other benefactors donated money for homes for parishioners. Colonel Loring wrote that the cottages were specifically "for those residents of Graffham of increasing years who need somewhere to live which is modern, pleasant and near the centre of village life".

From the outset, Colonel Loring aimed to set up a charity for the land and the buildings. The charitable trust was finally set up in 1953. He removed himself as a trustee in the early 1960s, allowing other village people to be trustees. Regarding



All Saints nearing completion in 1953, with the speed limit sign at its front door.

the building itself, Robert Bostock was appointed to be the architect and the builders were Chapman, Lowry and Puttick, of Haslemere.

Every aspect of the style and finish was meticulously thought through, much of it influenced by the style of early churches. All Saints is a throwback. In particular, it was the practice in medieval times to attach alms houses to chapels, and early churches did not have light streaming in from an east window. All Saints has no window openings at all in the apsidal, semi-circular sanctuary around the altar, but light does have a dominant role in the chapel's design.

Modern building techniques allowed light to be thrown onto the altar using panels of prisms hidden from the congregation. It is light which dominates the space with all of its spiritual significance, literally seeing the light – in this case, a light which is present without the source being visible. Light has an uplifting effect:

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. – John 8:13



Yet another key detail which

► **Continued on next page**

All Saints Chapel's interior, full of light – a quiet, still, restful sanctuary.

► *Continued from previous page*

contributes to the quality of light in this minimalist space is the glass altar cross, designed by Colonel Godfrey Loring himself, which produces an amazing effect as the light shines through its glass prisms. The interior of All Saints Chapel was designed with one specific purpose. The space was intended to be a quiet place, a restful place, a place of stillness and reflective contemplation, a place of sanctuary for a population who still bore the mental and physical scars of two world wars.

While light played its role here, so did the simplicity of the building's design – the minimalist style avoided the distraction of a busy interior. Yet, it could also be a most excellent place for small congenial gatherings with its capacity for 36 people. To bring the chapel into village life and encourage creativity Godfrey and Eddyie persuaded local people to make pieces for the chapel:

- Percy Parry, the bicycling cassock-wearing verger, made vase stools.
- The vestry rug was woven by Mrs B. Campion.
- The service books were bound at Graffham Craft Centre and presented by Mrs Spicer of Withy Cottage in memory of her husband Dr Spicer.
- The alter candle sticks were made by George Howick who was the first occupant of 1 All Saints Cottages with his wife.

Continuing with this custom, in 2007 a group of local craftspeople and needle



All Saints' 2007 kneeler stitchers, from left: Caroline Davis, Tessa Abbot, Jan Buckley, Biddy Dimmer, Sue Davey, Janet Wakeford, Sylvia Smith, Brenda Petter, Maggie Patterson, Betty Bradley, Sylvia Smith's sister, Rosemary Sutton, Jean Page and Maurice Bradley.



The Bishop of Winchester, who led All Saints' dedication service on 30 October 1953, with Graffham's vicar Rev Michael Townroe (left) and Eddy Loring. Note the absence of houses directly opposite the chapel in the picture on the left.

workers, inspired by Sylvia Smith, spent a year embroidering a new set of kneelers for the chapel. These were finished in November 2008. The group followed in the footsteps of Godfrey Loring who embroidered the original central kneeler in front of the altar rail. Cross stitch was employed by many service personnel, as a therapy and as way to restore inner calm in quiet periods of battle.

Even more recently, in 2019, and continuing the tradition of using artisans, an unadorned oak cross was commissioned from a small firm in Devon at a cost of £208 and installed on the outside of the chapel, when it was blessed by the Bishop of Horsham. Even for the chapel's dedication – on 31 October 1953, fittingly the Eve of All Saints Day – the services of artisans were used, with photographs of the proceedings taken by George Garland of Petworth, who has now become a celebrated photographer with his collection held by West Sussex Records.

The ceremony was led by the Bishop of Winchester, Dr A T P Williams, who had previously been headmaster of Godfrey's old school, Winchester College. After the chapel service, the bishop went "to each cottage in turn where he was handed the key by a daughter of the lady commemorated and invited to bless the house."

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The following morning, 1 November 1953, Holy Communion was celebrated on All Saints Day, led by Reverend Michael Townroe, vicar of Graffham at the time.

Every single detail dovetailed together as All Saints Day was also the birthday of Eddy's mother, Stella Pattisson. According to the dedication ceremony's original order of service, the bishop stood alone outside the closed chapel door and knocked three times with his pastoral staff in order for the door to be

opened and the dedication to take place. During the service, D'Oyly Carte member Lesley Rands, who had once lived in Graffham, sang *He Shall Feed His Flock* from Handel's *Messiah*.

In 2013 Sara Carr, a Seaford College student and by sheer coincidence then living in the Lorings' former Bishop Hill home, also sang this hymn at the 60th anniversary service, led by Rev Stephen Gray, then the parish vicar.

Like all things associated with All Saints Chapel, this hymn was not chosen by chance. Its words contain the whole essence of the chapel's function:

*Come unto Him, ye
That are heavy laden,
And He will give you rest.*



The 70th anniversary of All Saints Chapel's dedication ceremony will be marked by a special parish eucharist service there on Sunday 29 October at 10.30am.



TAIZÉ PRAYER

song, prayer and silence

Sunday 26 November 6.30pm,

All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite the village shop)

All welcome to this short ecumenical service using a pattern of worship from the Taizé Community

Two of Graffham's sports clubs wrap up their summer with end-of-season festivities while the cricketers show off their new kit.



Graffham's lady cricketers, with coach Brett, sport their new team kit.

Graffham Cricket

Graffham ladies' cricket team – the Valkyries – had a chance to sport their new kit, sponsored by Graffham Village Shop, for the first time on a sunny Sunday 15 October at an end-of-season friendly, arranged by coach Brett Creed, who was presented with his shirt by Jeeva himself.

Training will begin again in March but look out for one of Brett's bingo nights in the dark days of January or February.



Jeeva presents Brett (left) with his shirt.



We are the tennis champions, from left: Emma Amin, winner of ladies and mixed doubles, Andy Craig (mixed doubles and East Hants league men's player of the season), Chloe Turrell (ladies singles – that's her daughter Fenella here!), Marie Bracey and Sally Pattie (seniors' doubles), and Theo Longman (men's doubles).

Graffham Tennis Club

Club trophies presented The end of season awards ceremony celebrated the club's winners in the internal tournaments at the Pavilion on Saturday 14 October. Besides the champions listed in October's edition, awards were also presented to:



East Hants League Men's player of the season, Andy Craig.

East Hants League Ladies' player of the season, Sarah Selman.

At the event, club chairman Simon Longman highlighted the club's successes on court and the £8,000 grant from Chichester District Council, masterminded by Richard Gyles, that enabled the club's two courts to be resurfaced at the end of the season, for the first time in around two decades.

Latest league results The winter season of the East Hants League has begun with Graffham fielding two teams. The Mixed Team enjoyed promotion last year and nervously approached their first game in Division 1 against Medstead A. A thrilling encounter ensued, with Graffham represented by Andy Major, Emma Amin, James Phimister and Olive Amin. The respectable 4-4 draw augurs well for the season. Meanwhile, the Ladies Team in Division 2 christened the new courts with an emphatic 7-1 victory over Newman Collard. Home fixtures this month:

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: November					
Wrap up warm and come and watch!					
4	Sat	2pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore
25	Sat	10am	Ladies Doubles	Div 2	v Denmead

Graffham Bowls Club

By Secretary Liz Pegram

September marked the end of a very good bowls season, with 12 win in our matches with other clubs, against nine losses.

In our internal cup finals, played on 2 and 3 September, Kym Pegram won the Police Shield, Wendy Folkes took the Hulbard Cup and Charlie Tyrrell the Robertson Cup.

The season was rounded off with a very enjoyable evening of candlelit bowls when we were joined by the families and friends of members. Roll on April when we start the new season!



Bowlers' end-of-season candlelit session.

Graffham Football

Sunday evenings have seen a pleasing turn-out on the Rec for informal games of football. These will continue as long as the pitch remains dry enough.

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For more details, contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.



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Bill's bygones: Hawkmoth, Madame Arcati, Apollos

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 – November 2013: Jo Oomen trumpets *The Last Post* at the village's two remembrance services. Fundraising begins to pay for six new bell ropes (at £200 each) for St Giles, where Richard Bailey leads *A Taste of France*, an evening of performances of music by French composers. Bishop of Chichester Martin Warner visits the parish. *Argo* shows at Graffham Empire Movies. In *Graffham Parish News*, Michael Blencowe reports a sighting of a convolvulus hawkmoth, wingspan 10cm, at Seaford College. Keir Starmer steps down as Director of Public Prosecutions. Sachin Tendulkar retires from all forms of cricket at the end of his 200th Test Match. Sebastian Vettel becomes Formula 1 World Champion for the fourth successive year. Deaths of John Cole (BBC political editor 1981-92, 85), and actor Lewis Collins (Bodie in *The Professionals*, 67).

25 years ago – November 1998: Graffham Rustics present Noël Coward's *Blithe Spirit* (Sue Tink excels as Madame Arcati). At its AGM, Graffham School Association chairman Russell Walker announces that fundraising efforts had yielded £8,000 in 18 months. Heyshott fireworks display attracts a crowd of 1,500. The European Court of Human Rights is instituted. Already scrapped for murder, capital punishment is abolished for all remaining capital offences in the UK. Tony Blair becomes the first UK Prime Minister to address the Republic of Ireland's parliament. Space probe Voyager 1 becomes the most distant human-made object from Earth 21 years after its launch.

50 years ago – November 1973: The Queen opens the new £5 million Medical Research Institute at King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst – a thousand anti-vivisection demonstrators are expected, but just 20 turn up. Graffham Rustics present Noël Coward's *This Happy Breed*. PC Brown gives a talk to Graffham Youth Club on *Why I like my job*. A dance to the music of The Apollos is staged by Graffham Women's Fellowship at the Empire Hall, attended by more than 80 couples. Princess Anne marries Captain Mark Phillips in Westminster Abbey, prompting a surge in demand for colour television sets. Release of The Carpenters' compilation album *The Singles 1969-1973*.



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Graffham Parish News' neuronal November quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers at foot of page 50 (no cheating now!)

- 1 How many of the men listed on Graffham's war memorial are buried in St. Giles' churchyard?
- 2 Where in Chichester Harbour does the Met Office have a station?
- 3 How old will King Charles III be on 14 November?
- 4 The "Zapruder film" recorded which event of 22 November 1963?
- 5 Which blue pigment was originally made by grinding the gemstone lapis lazuli?
- 6 Born Marie McDonald McLaughlin Lawrie, which Scottish singer will be 75 on 3 November?
- 7 How did 28-year-old Yaz Ashmawi cause a rumpus at last month's Labour Party conference?



- 8 Prior to the current one, how many series of *Have I Got News For You* have there been?
- 9 Take That release a new album on 24 November. What is it called?
- 10 Which actor, who played Constable Charlie Constable in *Carry On Constable* and M. Alfonse in *'Allo 'Allo*, died this month in 1993 aged 75?

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Could you help our local Foodbank?

Petworth Foodbank, which also covers Graffham and East Lavington, is looking for a volunteer to help with sorting donations and keeping its stock in order during the winter months, including Christmas.

Ines Garcia, its Operations Coordinator, said: “You will be working within a small friendly team and given full guidance on what to do.”



Help is needed on Wednesdays from 11 am to 1pm from late November to early February, with a break over the Christmas holiday. You'd need a good attention to detail and be able to lift up to 15kg.

To find out more, email petworth@chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Fun fund-raising concert featuring Graffham folk An evening of Abba singalong songs, the sounds of Glenn Miller's great swing era and some early Christmas favourites are promised at a concert featuring the UK Forces Veterans Show Band, with a number of Graffham residents as special guest performers, in Petworth on Saturday 25 November at 7pm – and all in aid of the Petworth Foodbank.

The musicians have served in UK forces' bands – with the Army, Royal Marines or the Royal Air Force – and who now play professionally. They'll be performing under the direction of Petworth's very own Ian Young and joined for a couple of numbers by members of the Petworth Chorus choir, featuring a number who live in our village, aiming to create a party atmosphere, also including tributes to Earth Wind & Fire, Chic, The Drifters, Tina Turner, Tony Bennett and more.

The concert is at the Herbert Shiner Hall, South Grove, Petworth. There will be free parking, a bar and a raffle, all organised by Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT). Tickets, at £16 each, are available from Austen's Home Hardware, Market Square, Petworth, or online at bit.ly/petworth-band

Most wanted items on this month's shopping list Petworth Foodbank says it is currently in most urgent need of all kinds of long-life food items, including treats (such as chocolate bars), tins of soup, milk, pasta and pasta sauces. Donations can be left in the specially marked containers at Graffham Village Shop, Petworth Co-op, 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.

Who's doing what at St Giles in November

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

	Welcomers	Reader	Reading	Refreshments
5	Jill and Robert Knight	Jan Brind	Revelation 7 v9-end	Jan and Robin Brind
12	Stuart and Bridget Lewis	Sally Blunt	Amos 5 v18-24	None
19	Diane Bellis	Sue Hill	Matthew 25 v31-end	Phillip Turner
26		Phillip Turner	Thessalonians 5 v1-11	

RINGING and SINGING

To join Graffham's bellringers or occasional choir, contact Rev Vivien on 01798 867199 or at hello@stgilesgraffham.org

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 47): 1 One, Sydney George Paull. 2 Thorney Island. 3 75. 4 The assassination of President Kennedy. 5 Ultramarine. 6 Lulu. 7 He sprinkled glitter over Keir Starmer. 8 65. 9 This Life. 10 Kenneth Connor.

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.

October

29	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for 70 th anniversary of All Saints Chapel (see from page 36)	All Saints Chapel
		5pm	Halloween Family Service followed by torchlit treat hunt in churchyard (page 12)	St Giles Church
31	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel

November

5	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
7	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
11	Sat		No Bellringing Practice	
		10.30am	Service of Vigil and Lament	St Giles Church
12	Sun	9.30am	Requiem Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
		11am	Service of Remembrance	War Memorial
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
14	Tues	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
15	Wed	2.30pm	PCC Worship Group meeting	Occam Cottage
17	Fri	10am	Coffee morning to support Graffham Infant School (see page 11)	Frederick House
19	Sun	10.30am	Family Eucharist with blessing of Queen Elizabeth II's bench (see page 5)	St Giles Church
21	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
26	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for Christ the King	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taize Prayer (see page 32)	All Saints Chapel
28	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	

December

2	Sat	11am-2pm	Christmas Fair (see from page 25)	Empire Hall
3	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for Advent Sunday	St Giles Church
		5pm	Advent Carol Service with Seaford College Choir	St Giles Church

What's on in and around the village

October				
28	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
29	Sun	2am	Clocks go back one hour	
		10.30am	Service to mark 70 th anniversary of All Saints Chapel	All Saints Chapel
		5pm	Halloween Service followed by torchlit treat hunt in churchyard (see page 12)	St Giles
30	Mon		Graffham and Duncton schools closed for INSET day	
			Camping and Caravan site closes for winter	Graffham
November				
1	Wed	10.30am	Arts Society West Sussex lecture	Fittleworth Vill Hall
3	Fri	6pm	Fireworks night	Midhurst Roth Coll
4	Sat	9am-2pm	Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst
		6.30pm	Heyshott Bonfire Night	Heyshott
		5pm	Petworth Bonfire Night	Hampers Green
5	Sun		Guy Fawkes Day	
7	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society Midhurst lecture on Oscar Wilde	Methodist Ch H'll, Mid't
		9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex lecture on <i>Gleaming Spires of London</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
9	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club talk on Lavington Estate	Empire Hall
11	Sat	10.30am	Remembrance service of Vigil and Lament	St Giles Church
		7.30pm	Chichester Singers perform Bach's B minor Mass. See chichestersingers.co.uk	Chichester Cathedral
12	Sun	9.30am	Requiem Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
		10.55am	Service of Remembrance	War Memorial
		7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
17	Fri	10am	Coffee morning to help decorate outside loo at Graffham Infant School (see page 11)	Frederick House
18	Sat	7.30pm	Madness tribute band Los Palmas 6 (p 24)	Empire Hall
19	Sun	10.30am	Blessing of Graffham's new bronze bench in memory of late Queen (see page 5)	St Giles Church
20	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford Coll
21	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
22	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
		7pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall

25	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		7pm	Concert in aid of Petworth Foodbank (see page 49)	Herbert Shiner Hall, Petworth
29	Sun	9.45am	Graffham Down Trust work party	Meet at St Giles
30	Thu		St Andrew's Day	
		7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents The Lost Trades and Tomorrow Bird See petworthsessions.co.uk	Leconfield Hall, Petworth
December				
1	Fri	11am-5pm	Richard Davidson's Open Studio (till 3 Dec) (see page 33)	Brookdene House
2	Sat	11am-2pm	Graffham Christmas Fair (see from page 25)	Empire Hall
3	Sun	5pm	Advent Service with Seaford College choir	St Giles

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 via 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
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
Wednesdays	9-10am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall
	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group ⁴	Pavilion
	11.15am-11noon	Pilates ⁵	Empire Hall
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁶	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁷	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga ³	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ⁸	Empire Hall

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

¹Fitflows 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 Albon on 07790 867009.

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

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

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

⁷Ease Into Exercise: Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

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

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		empirehall@gmail.com
Empire Lunch Club	Sarah Lydiard-Wilson	01798 867567
Foresters Arms	forestersarms-pub.co.uk	01798 867386
Graffham Archives	Robin Brind	graffhamarchive@outlook.com 01798 867619
Graffham Bellringers	Tower Captain	Howard Pescott 01798 867029
Graffham Bowls Club	Chairman	Sheila Allen 01798 342869
	Secretary	Liz Pegram 01798 867770
Graffham Cricket Club		Bill Barrett 01798 867113
Graffham Down Trust	Chairman	Jim Kirke 01798 867026
Graffham Garden Group		Carole Kirke 01798 867026
Graff'm Health Support Assc	Chairman	Sarah Lydiard-Wilson 01798 867567
	Membership	Tracy Rowe 01798 867020
	Transport	07391 802541
	Prescription collection	Ann Rowney ann.rowney@icloud.com
	Loan of equipment	Karin Skanberg 07920 091014

Graffham Nursery		School Office	01798 867324
Graffham Parish Council	Chairman	Roger Coakes	roger.coakes@grafttham-pc.uk
	Clerk	Vacant	clerk@grafttham-pc.uk
Graffham Parish News	Editorial and circulation: editor.graftthamparishnews@gmail.com		
	Advertising: ads.graftthamparishnews@gmail.com		
	See also bottom of inside front cover		
Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council		stgilesgrafttham.org	
	Priest-in-Charge	Rev Vivien Turner	01798 867199
		hallo@stgilesgrafttham.org	
	Churchwarden	Ginny Barrett	01798 867113
	Treasurer	Yvonne Churchward	07808 781510
		graftthampctreasurer@gmail.com	
Graffham Rec Committee	Chairman	John Bracey	01798 867760
	Treasurer	Bernard Bayly	01798 867042
	Bookings Sec	Sonya Gillespie	graftthamrecpavilion@gmail.com
Graffham Tennis Club	Chairman	Simon Longman	01798 867317
	Membership	Richard Gyles	01798 867484
	Coaching	Emma Amin	01798 867063
Graffham Village Shop		Jeeva and Vasu	01798 867700
		graftthamvillageshop.co.uk	
Graffham Vill'ge Shop Assoc	Chairman	Steve Dover	07770 499223
	Treasurer	Andy Paterson	andyp1692@gmail.com
	Secretary	Neil McLean	neil.mclean@brookorchard.com
			07971 142252
Katherine Maud Guilloid Fund	c/o Grafttham PC Clerk	graftthampc@gmx.co.uk	
Lavington Park Federation		graftthamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk	
	Grafttham CE Infant School		01798 867324
	Dunton CE Junior School		01798 342402
	Friends of Grafttham & Dunton Schools		01798 867324
Long Bostle Downland Soc		Gillian Brandt	01798 867276
MP Arundel & South Downs		Andrew Griffith	andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk
Midhurst & Petworth Observer		Nikki Jeffery	01243 534163
National Trust (Lavington Common)			01730 816638
Neighbourhood Watch		Michael Crickmay	01798 867486
Osteopath		Anna Shawcross	01798 867523
Oil Buying Syndicate		Derek Bradnum	derekbradnum@gmail.com
Petworth Food Bank			07501 921617
Pilates at Empire Hall		Nicky Capes	07990 517858
Seaford College			01798 867392
Three Moles		Ollie and Tom	thethreemoles.com 01798 861303
Thursday Club	Secretary	Diane Bellis	01798 867444
West Sussex County Council		General enquiries	01243 777100
	County Councillor	Tom Richardson	07463 785039
White Horse		whitehorsegrafttham.com	01798 867331
Yoga at Empire Hall		Deborah Albon	07790 867009



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