

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 411

FREE

MAY 2025



Our cracking Easter market
Celebrating St Giles 150th landmark
Bring out the bunting for VE Day!



On the cover: Stallholders and volunteer helpers line up for a team photo, with organiser Sally Blunt in the front, before the crowds flocked in to one of Graffham's most successful Easter markets in recent memory on Saturday 12 April. More pictures and a full report on pages 28-31.

Contributions and contacts The editors are always pleased to hear from you at editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

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Writing from the Rectory: Looking back and forwards

Looking back is something which may bring us pleasure or regret. Looking forwards is something we may approach with anticipation or fear. Which do you find easiest? Which comes most naturally to you?

It can be rather too easy to dwell on the problematic past and fear the uncertain future – the daily news certainly encourages this in us. Looking back in anger or ahead with despair does not help anyone though – it disturbs the possibility of any peace within ourselves. There is a place for honest appraisal and realistic planning. Within this, and without losing this, it is also beneficial to take every opportunity to celebrate the good that has taken place and be hopeful of blessings to come.

The Easter season is the right time and place for this, rejoicing in God's validation of Jesus' example and divine authority through resurrection and looking forward to the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, to hearten and empower us. This celebratory and anticipatory context in which all Christian people are called to live is in itself a cause for rejoicing,

► *Continued on next page*



Dozens of posies were distributed to the Mums of the parish – along with a few Dads – at St Giles' Mothering Sunday service on 30 March, made by a party including (from left) Rosemary Sutton, Janet Wakeford, Sue Hill, Bridget Lewis, Jill Knight, Ann Brown and, in front, Beanie Bradley.



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► *Continued from previous page*

a consolation and a source of peace, no matter what else may be seeking to disturb our composure.

Our St Giles Church also has rather a good opportunity this year to focus on looking back and forwards in celebrating the 150th anniversary of its rededication following significant rebuilding in memory of Samuel Wilberforce (1805-1873).

His story is a part of our church history. He was Lord of the Manor of Lavington Park in our parish – which in his time accounted for much of our community, including not just today's Lavington Park (today the grounds of Seaford College), but also what is now Lavington Stud and Estate, Westerlands, Haylands and much else around them. He was also a well-known ecclesiastical figure as Bishop of Oxford and then Winchester. As son of the anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce, he was active himself in slavery reform and scientific controversy, notably over Darwin's views on natural selection.

Samuel's untimely death, in a fall from his horse while visiting friends near Dorking in Surrey, prompted such a response that it made possible the rebuilding of our church in contemporary high church ecclesiastical style. We are glad to take the opportunity to reflect on his life and that turning point in our church's much longer history of nearer a thousand years, to celebrate this renewal and look forward in hope to further blessings, as good Christians should.

We invite you to celebrate and be hopeful with us this year. Plans for the 150th anniversary celebrations so far include the publication of a Graffham village cookbook (do contribute!), a church embroidery project, and celebratory service on the anniversary itself on 2 November this year (see next page). And maybe the promise of some improvement to the church of our own. We hope you like our new 150 celebratory logo as much as we do – thank you Karin!

Ascension Ascension will be celebrated by a special service on Ascension Sunday, 1 June. Each year we wonder if we should hold this Sunday service high up on the Downs or if not outdoors in our churchyard, weather permitting. We haven't yet decided for this year – we shall see!

Every blessing



Reverend Vivien

Celebrating 150 years since St Giles was rebuilt

Plans are starting to take shape for celebrations later this year to mark the 150th anniversary of the rebuilding of St Giles with a special service scheduled for 2 November, exactly a century and a half after the church was formally rededicated.

Back in 1875, that ceremony was led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, accompanied by the Bishop of Chichester and three other bishops – of Winchester, Rochester and Ely. Today's Bishop of Chichester says he will attend this autumn's event. Other leading members of the local church and civil communities will also be invited, along with all members of the parish congregation.

A special logo has been designed to mark the occasion, created by village graphic designer Karin Skanberg – and unveiled in this edition of *Graffham Parish News*. The emblem will appear on all St Giles items throughout the rest of the year – and on the cookery book of villagers' favourite recipes (see below).



While St Giles dates back to the 12th Century, it was substantially rebuilt in the Victorian era as a tribute to Bishop Samuel Wilberforce. Son of the anti-slavery campaigner, he was, through his marriage to the eldest daughter of the former rector of Graffham with Woolavington John Sargent, our local “lord of the manor” as owner of what is today Seaford College, Lavington Stud and Estate, Westerlands and most of the rest of Graffham and East Lavington. He went on to become Bishop of Oxford and then Winchester before dying in 1873, aged 67, after falling from a horse while on a visit near Dorking, in Surrey.

First recipes submitted for Graffham cook book

Recipes have been coming in for the Graffham Cookery Book which is being compiled to mark the 150th anniversary of the rebuilding of St Giles Church on 2 November. Fiona Mackie, who is leading the project, says: “We’ve received some wonderful submissions but still need many more to reach our target of 150 – so don’t be shy in sharing your best-loved recipes!” Please send as soon as possible any recipes for soups, starters, fish, meat, vegetarian dishes, vegetables, puddings, cake and biscuits, and preserves to her by email to fionajmackie@hotmail.com or hand delivered to Chelsea Cottage, The Street.

Licence for Seaford chapel weddings revoked

The licence for weddings at Seaford College chapel has been revoked by the Bishop of Chichester. Banns of marriage can no longer be published there either. Both changes took effect from 3 March.

They come as the Church Commissioners are proposing selling the former St Peter's Church of Woolavington to Seaford College for its continued use as the school chapel. Seaford has been leasing the building for this purpose since June 1972 when the church was declared closed for regular public worship. Since then, St Giles has served as the parish church for both Graffham and Woolavington.



Seaford College teachers George Vernon and Sara Reynolds were among the most recent to marry at the former St Peter's Church, now the school's chapel, in August 2023.

Bumble Findlay RIP



We were sad to learn, as this edition was going to press, of the death of Bumble Findlay, peacefully on the morning of Wednesday 16 April at Amesbury Abbey in Wiltshire.

She had been a leading member of the village community since moving into Upmeadow Lodge, Graffham Road, East Lavington, in 1982 with her husband, Brigadier Allan Findlay OBE, who died in late 2009.

Her funeral is being planned for the afternoon of Thursday 15 May at St Giles Church, and afterwards in the Empire Hall. A full tribute will appear in next month's edition.

South Downs celebrates its 15th birthday

The South Downs National Park is marking its 15th birthday on 31 March by launching a public consultation on a new draft partnership management plan, setting out its priorities for the next five years.

Liz succeeds Michael as PCC Secretary

The Parochial Church Council of Graffham with Woolavington (PCC) has two new members, including a new PCC Secretary, following its annual parochial church meeting at St Giles on Sunday 6 April.

Graffham Parish News editor Michael Blunt is stepping down from the PCC and as its Secretary after five years – he was originally co-opted for six months! – but will remain editing this magazine and sit on the PCC's Community Group.

He is being succeeded as PCC Secretary by Liz Jenkins, who originally moved to Graffham in 1970 when she and her late husband Jim bought Tinkers, in The Street, which was then derelict. They lived in a caravan while he built Squirrels in its garden, before refurbishing Tinkers itself. Their son Fergus attended the playschool at the Empire Hall. Their daughter Tamsin was born while they were living in the village and when she grew up she was a teacher at Graffham School before it merged with Duncton in 2007.

Liz and Jim moved to Coultershaw in 1974, but her mother Phyllis Nicholl stayed at Tinkers until she passed away in 2002 and Liz has maintained close links with Graffham throughout.

Elected to the PCC also for the first time was Chris Leaver, of Wallace Square, while Marie Bracey, Barbara Edge, Dinah Lamming and Beanie Bradley were re-elected. Ginny Barrett and Cindy Bradley were re-appointed churchwardens, Marie Bracey as Lay Deputy Chair, Dinah Laming as Treasurer and Howard Pescott as Safeguarding Officer.

The PCC's accounts for the past calendar year show that is raised more money than in living memory, at almost £80,000 in the 12 months, helped by several grants towards its roof maintenance project. That work also accounted for higher than usual expenditure, at £83,000, up by nearly £30,000 on the previous year. The £3,000 annual deficit was covered from surpluses accrued in previous years. You can read the PCC's annual report and accounts at bit.ly/stgiles-TAR2024

Rev Vivien also noted "with great thanks" that Caroline Perry, of St Giles Place, had offered to provide part-time admin support to St Giles.



Rev Vivien presents outgoing PCC Secretary Michael Blunt with a painting of St Giles by Sue Hill.



Incoming PCC Secretary Liz Jenkins



The Foresters' interior is looking brighter and smarter – while there are new seating areas outside, where the garden has been getting the TLC treatment too.

Feedback's fab for refreshed Foresters

The Foresters Arms reopened on Thursday 3 April after closing for just a few days as its licence transferred to new hands. A consortium of regulars rallied round enthusiastically to give the inn a thorough clean, freshen up and lots of TLC, making it brighter, prettier and more welcoming. Their hard work seems to have been well received by customers – the first of whom were at the bar even before the doors had officially opened again.

Cindy Bradley, who was behind the improvements and design changes, said: "It has been heartening to receive so much positive feedback and so many kind messages of support and appreciation. The pub's had such a busy time since re-opening, which has been great. If you haven't yet come to see the changes we've



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Pavilion, Graffham Rec

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Foresters team members are joined behind the bar by regulars who helped give the pub a deep clean and freshen up, while on the public side are the first customers served after reopening on 3 April: (from left) Kate Farrington, Chris Emberson, Dima Makara, Pete and Beanie Bradley, Andy and Sandra James, Angelina Tymofiichuk, Jason Weller, Nick Dent, Sebastian Gorbea and Cindy Bradley.

made, then please do! We'd all love to see you – but if you want to eat then do please book first to avoid disappointment!"

All the front of house and kitchen staff have been retained. Their overall aim is to ensure The Foresters remains a relaxed and welcoming traditional village inn offering fine ales and wines (the wine list has been renewed) and good quality fresh home cooked food prepared on the premises. Chef Sebastian Gorbea will be drawing on his Argentine roots and passion for food to offer weekly specials and regular changes to the menu while retaining the favourite classics, with something to appeal to everyone, including vegetarians and vegans.

Outside, a 'undercroft' dining area has been added, offering four more tables – ideal, when combined, for large groups. The garden has been given some green-fingered love, too, making it even more appealing in these late spring days and lighter evenings.

The enhancements also extend to the the inn's three, beamed en-suite B&B rooms upstairs, complementing the three self-contained cottages either side of the pub for longer-staying guests.

The changes follow David Gordon-Smith and John Holbeck calling time on their seven years as landlords of pub that has been at the centre of Graffham life for some two centuries, after resurrecting it when it had been closed for some two years.

Ann leaves HSA committee after 16 years

Ann Rowney stepped down from the committee of Graffham Health Support Association (HSA) at its AGM in the Empire Hall on Tuesday 6 April – after 16 years, many of them as its Transport and Prescriptions Officer, arranging lifts for thousands of trips for medical appointments for its members and delivering medication to the village for them.

She was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a gift by HSA Chairman Sarah Lydiard-Wilson on behalf of her fellow committee members to thank her for her massive contribution over the years. Sarah said: “Ann has given the HSA so much in time, knowledge and effort and has been a stalwart of so many areas. She will be very much missed by us all. Our thanks to her for all the amazing things she has done over the years and our best wishes for the future.”

Ann’s prescription duties have been taken on by Mary Taylor, who continues to serve as the association’s Secretary. Arranging transport is now shared on a rota basis by all committee members. The space on the committee resulting from Ann’s departure has been filled by Yvonne Churchward. All other committee members were re-elected. Besides Sarah and Mary, they are Zoe Jones as Treasurer, Tracey

Cluse as Membership Secretary, Karin Skanberg as Equipment Officer, and Gill Dover and Fiona Jacob.

Sarah also thanked the association’s “wonderful volunteers for their continued support covering an increasing number of journeys required”.

For just £5 a year for adults, and free to under 21s, the HSA offers its members transport to and from medical appointments – from a stay in hospital to a routine dental check-up – when they can’t drive themselves, free collection of prescriptions from Petworth Surgery to Graffham Village Shop, the loan of a wide-range of medical equipment (including crutches, wheelchairs and bathing aids) and other benefits.



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THURSDAY 8 MAY 2025



Graffham's

Graffham's

Let's bring out the flags and
bunting as only Graffham can!

Prize for the best decorated house/road frontage

Afternoon Communal tea party in the garden of
The Foresters Arms

6.30pm St Giles' bellringers join the national 'ring out'
celebration

Evening Village party at The Foresters Arms
VE Day-themed menu and music

Put on your best VE Day frocks and togs for all events!

Watch for details on Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard

Remembering VE Day – Our Betty was there

The bells of St Giles will ring out on the evening of Thursday 8 May, as they will in many other towers across the nation, to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day – bringing back mixed memories for one Graffham resident in particular, *writes editor Michael Blunt.*

Betty Bradley, of Rickstones, in The Street, was living in Middlesex and working in London as the war in Europe came to an end. As one of the few still alive who experienced the biggest celebrations the country has seen, she was interviewed by the BBC ahead of the anniversary, with her recollections to be released at around the time of the big day itself. Now a sprightly 97-year-old, who recently joined her sister's 100-year-old birthday party, Betty was coming up for 18 when Nazi Germany surrendered. She had met her future husband Maurice a couple of years before and he had just been recruited into the Fleet Air Arm.



Betty and Maurice in their engagement photograph.

With typical British understatement, she said: “When the end of the war was announced, it was a great relief.” She went in to the centre of London with her mother-in-law-to-be and spent the day walking around – including down The Mall to Buckingham Palace where they saw King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and their daughters Princess Elizabeth, in her Army uniform, and Princess Margaret come out onto the balcony several times.

Betty remembers: “You can imagine the cheering that went on! There were just thousands, millions, of people in London. We walked down Whitehall afterwards. At least we tried to – I felt as if I was being carried off my feet by the crowd, with so many young people in their uniforms. When we got there, we saw Winston Churchill speak from the balcony of the Ministry of War. It was a very, very

exciting evening. Nearly every road in the country had its own party – people took tables and chairs out and provided food, particularly for children. We decorated the houses and had the lights on, which was the most exciting thing for us – no more black outs!”

While the black-outs had been an inconvenience, she also vividly remembers the horrors that the war wrought: “Nearly every night, the sky was red with flames, especially in the dock areas – they got it extremely badly and my father worked for the Port of London Authority. He came home every evening and then did his fire duties in the docklands. He got very little sleep.

“There was a great deal of damage. I can remember going past St Paul’s Cathedral



Betty in her Graffham garden, for her BBC interview.

which had a huge hole in the road in front of it – with a bus in it. We had a railway near our home with ack-ack guns along it, and when they fired, my goodness, you felt as if the roof would blow off.”

More happily, she remembers the great war-time spirit, with everyone pulling together to make the most of what they had, making do and mending.

But, she points out, while VE Day brought peace to

Europe, war in the Far East raged on for another three months, and it would take years for life to return to normal – for Britain, and for Betty herself. She was hit by shrapnel during the Blitz while in an air raid shelter in the garden of her home. She was treated in hospital “for a short while” then had to see a doctor once a week.

Rationing remained in place for several more years. When Betty wed in 1947, she needed coupons to buy necessities like sheets for her new married life, and food was still restricted when her son was born three years later.

Thirty or so years on, she and Maurice moved to Graffham – 44 years ago now. Although he is no longer with us, she remains an active member of the community, with a mind and a memory as sharp as a pin.

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NEW HEIGHTS
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Property watch

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

Topleigh Stables, Graffham GU28 0NZ: Detached house in smallholding. Four bedrooms, three bathrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner. 211 sq m (2,270 sq ft). Studio barn, stables, greenhouse, other outbuildings. Six acres, pasture, woodland, wild swimming pool. Guide price £1.95 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 12 Apr.*



St Anthony's Cottage, Duncton GU28 0JY: Detached Grade II listed house built in the 1860s as a school and presbytery. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility. 142 sq m (1,528 sq ft). Garden. £1.1 million. *RH & RW Clutton, Petworth 01798 303593. Listed 2 Apr.*

Tudor Cottage, Tillington GU28 0RA: Grade II listed detached house, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen/diner, conservatory, study, hall. 232 sq m (2,497 sq ft). Double car barn, workshop, utility. Gardens. Guide price £895,000. *Barrington and Co, Petworth 01798 309657. Listed 3 Apr.*



The Mouse House, Cocking GU29 0HE: Semi-detached period cottage, two bedrooms, one bathroom, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen. 63 sq m (684 sq ft). Outbuilding, garden. OIR £375,000. *Henry Adams, Midhurst 01730 771345. Listed 4 Apr.*

Willett Close, Duncton GU28 0LA: Detached house, four bedrooms, two bathrooms plus cloakroom, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, conservatory. 202 sq m (2,175 sq ft). Integral double garage. Gardens. Guide price £805,000. *GL and Co, Storrington 01903 966281. Listed 24 Mar.*



Road closures planned for this month

Selham Road, between the T junction by the Three Moles and Ambersham, is due to be closed on 27 May for carriageway surface repairs.



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AWARDS



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Crimestoppers

Sussex Police's log of incidents locally in recent weeks. If you have any information which might help, please report it.

A van had one of its windows smashed and tools stolen from inside while it was parked in Graffham on Monday 7 April. In what could have been an April Fool's prank, a car was stolen from Petworth's Angel Street on 1 April when the owner handed its keys over for a test drive – and it was never returned. On 4 April, a vehicle had its rear windscreen smashed and boot searched although nothing was taken, at Colworth Down, West Dean. The next day, the window of a car was broken and a handbag stolen from inside at Harting Hill. Police advice on how to keep vehicles safe from theft or damage can be found at www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/vehicle-safe-and-sound/

Woodfire Camping Ground, at Westerlands, had gas cannisters stolen on Good Friday 18 April, after thieves cut padlocks and pipes to remove them.

Planning applications and decisions

Details for Graffham and East Lavington filed with the South Downs National Park since our previous edition (for details, see bit.ly/sdnp-planning)

Planning decisions

Little Bury, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QG: South Downs National Park and Chichester District Council planners say that an agricultural building at Little Bury can change its use to provide holiday accommodation – but owners Howard and Penny Jennings will still need to obtain planning permission for the revised design of the structure and various other associated approvals. SDNP/25/00362/PA3R *Decision dated 26 Mar.*

Denham, Graffham Road, East Lavington GU28 0QF: Single storey rear extension, rear porch, front porch and replacement of rear windows and doors. SDNP/24/05003/HOUS. *Approved, 15 Apr 2025.*

Planning applications

Perrott Farm, Woodcote Lane, Graffham GU28 0NZ: Removal of existing hall stair case, repositioning of hall steps and levels and reconfiguration of utility room. SDNP/25/01079/LIS. *Received 13 Mar 2025.*

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Westerlands to hold Food and Nature Fest

Westerlands, East Lavington's regenerative farm, is hosting its first South Downs food and nature festival on Saturday 7 June. It says the event will be "celebrating biodiversity and challenging the way we think about food and farming".

It will feature walks, discussions, shared food and speakers "who are passionate about the environment and sustainable living", including

- No-dig guru and author Charles Dowding.
- Nature activist and author Roger Morgan-Grenville, sharing his experiences and advocacy for wildlife.
- Wild food and survival expert Richard Prideaux, offering tips and stories about foraging and living off the land.
- Trailblazing and award-winning owner of Tillington's Horse Guards Inn Sam Beard.
- Nature writer and campaigner Mark Cocker, sharing his insights on the natural world.

As the day winds down, a sumptuous fire-cooked dinner will be served, prepared by Woodfire Camping and featuring locally sourced ingredients and meat from Westerlands itself.

Tickets, at £95 each, from www.westerlands.com/.../south-downs-food-nature-fest



Southern Water raises charges by almost half

Southern Water has been detailing its plans for improving the service it offers after hitting customers, who include residents of Graffham and East Lavington, with a price rise of almost 50 per cent. From 1 April, its average household bill rose from £1.31 to £1.93 a day.

In justifying the increase, the utility said that its average water and wastewater bill had gone up by just 0.5 per cent, from £437 to £439, since 2014, while inflation had soared by a third, energy bills by 43 per cent and council tax by 48 per cent.

It added: “We’ve worked hard to keep our bills low for many years and will continue to do all we can to keep them as affordable as possible. However, to deliver the things you’ve told us matter most and keep up with inflation and rising costs, we now need to increase bills. We’ve been given the go ahead for our biggest ever investment programme, meaning we can make a significant step change in improving things for our customers and the environment.”

In Sussex alone, it plans to invest £570 million by 2030 to:

- Upgrade almost a hundred storm overflows to improve the quality of water released into the environment and reduce the number of releases overall by as much as half in some areas.
- Major improvements at its water supply works, increasing the quality and quantity of water available, while providing a more reliable service and less risk of any loss of supply.
- A water recycling scheme near Littlehampton, to transfer water to the Pulborough area, providing up to 15 million litres per day by 203.
- Improvements to 447km of river across the county.
- Further improvement to treatment processes and storage to increase the amount of waste that can be treated and remove more nutrients from the water before it is returned to the environment, helping to protect bathing waters and shellfish beds.

For more on its plans and what to do if you are struggling to pay its increased charges, see www.southernwater.co.uk/help-and-support/why-is-my-bill-going-up/

West Sussex County Council added 4.99 per cent to its council tax last month, meaning another £85.59 a year for the average Band D property holder. Chichester District lifted its council tax by 2.99 per cent, which equates to £5.58 more annually for the average Band D property holder. A change in calculation methodology meant a slight decrease in the precepts charged on average by both Graffham and East Lavington Parish Councils.

From Town Hall: Grants and local government

Our representative on Chichester District Council, John Cross, provides his regular update on his key issues of focus right now.



Grants and concessions Chichester District Council (CDC) in April started allocating its grants and concessions budget for the coming year. The fund has been increased – and the amount for each grant has been increased, too. To be eligible, applicants should be a parish council or charity – full details in the grants and concessions page of the council’s website.

Small grants of less than £2,000 can be processed relatively quickly. These are generally for the community’s benefit – for a new lawn mower or new facilities for sports clubs or village halls, for example. Larger grants, of up to £25,000 or in exceptional circumstances up to £50,000, need to be submitted to the council’s Grants and Concessions Panel. Anyone interested in one of these larger grants would be wise to contact the council and discuss the application in advance – its officers can help with the process.

Local government review I have written about the Local Government Review several times recently. Chichester District Council and its counterparts across the county are now waiting for the Westminster government to give them clear guidance on many points to enable them to make an informed recommendation on how they should be combined in the future. So, until then we wait.

Meantime, CDC has reviewed its asset register and put together an asset transfer policy. The council has many assets that have for various reasons come into its ownership – which it is now open to transferring on to another relevant local body, be they parish councils, local clubs, village halls or the like. It cannot just give away its assets – it has to demonstrate ‘best value’ – but should there be an asset on its register that is of interest to your organisation, then you should contact the council. There’s a list of assets on the CDC website.

Fly tipping There has been an increase in fly tipping in some areas locally. We can all play a part in helping reduce this. If you are employing a builder or other contractor, then you should ask to see their ‘waste carrier licence’ or search for it on environmental.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-broker or call 03708 506506. If they do not have a licence then you shouldn’t be using them. Should anyone be caught fly tipping waste that can be traced back to you, then you are likely to be fined as well as them.

Kathleen (Kath) Rough 1942-2025

Known to so many of us as the smiling face behind the counter of the village shop, Kath's 62 years spent in Graffham meant that she crossed paths with villagers past and present. Her death on the 27 March yields an opportunity to celebrate her whole, 83-year long life, writes Philippa Sanders.

Kathleen, a name that she chose to revert to in her final years, was born in Chichester on 6 February 1942. Weighing around 31lb, she was not expected to survive, and legend has it that her death certificate had already been written out. Survive she did and grew up in a tiny cottage which existed where the Westhampnett retail park now lies.

Her father, George Santon, had been one of the Jarrow marchers and remained in the South after meeting Kath's mother Jayne. An idyllic childhood was spent roaming the fields and swamps that surrounded the house, along with her older brother and younger sister. Their adventures would take them right up to Goodwood House, where they would swing on a tree out front and make ghost noises from their hiding places.

After leaving school, Kath's first job was as a cashier in Sainsbury's in the city's North Street. Promoted quickly to chief cashier, she memorably led her 'girls' in some industrial action when the management insisted that the cashiers wear short sleeves even in the winter with the doors to the street wide open. Kath and the girls won and the policy was changed.

Before long, Kath had met and married Rod, who moved in the same social circle.



Kath with Rod on their wedding day.

May 2025

Rod's family had owned Graffham's Marsh Farm and after marrying on 23 March 1963 the newlyweds moved into 2 Woodcote, just down the road from it in the village. It was to be their joint home until Rod died in 2016, then Kath's on her own for the rest of her life.

Before long the family grew. Two boys – Andrew and David – were followed by a daughter, Lucy. Rod worked in local factories and Kath

transferred her retail experience to the smaller environment of the Graffham village shop. Her reliability meant that she was retained through successive owners of the business – John and Hilda Holland, Janet and Roger Mozley, Malcolm and Mavis, and Caroline. She was particularly close to the Mozleys, and when Kath finally learned to drive at the age of 50, Margaret Mozley sold Kath her car.

Kath relished the freedom this offered and was easily spotted along The Street, kitted out in a hat and scarf in all weathers. She had a particular dislike of snow and a certain villager, now local landlord, would open the door to the shop and call provocatively in her direction: “Snow, snow.”



Kath lived 62 years in Graffham.

Kath’s knowledge of her customer base was valued by one and all – she knew how thickly people would like their bacon sliced and would head into town to replenish the stock if necessary. She knew exactly which customers she could tease and those that she couldn’t.

Kath was involved in many activities around the village. She would attend the Good Companions group that met at Brookdene House once a month and helped out at all of the fêtes and fairs, regularly manning the bouncy castle. She loved knitting and would often say that she was ‘off upstairs to knit.’ The family knew better than to disturb her. Her skills were such that she could sit and knit in the dark, and the family recall the sound of her clicking needles through many power cuts.

Much more outgoing than Rod, Kath loved dancing and could be relied upon to get the dance floor going. She would line-dance up to three times a week, both in the Empire Hall and in Chichester. She never completely lost her connection to the city, though the family knew that she had gone native when she switched from the *Chichester* to the *Midhurst and Petworth Observer*.

One of her last visitors as she lay in hospital was Stella, her best childhood friend of 75 years. Shortly before she died, Kath was able to enjoy a final fish and chip supper with her entire family, with whom she had always been close. They number three children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. All of whom adored her. She will be sorely missed.

School report: Nature and books as term ends

Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools are back in the classroom after their Easter holidays. Business Manager Jenny Godfrey reports on a busy end to the spring term – and some key developments as the summer term begins.



Top marks for Duncton We are thrilled that the recent SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) review at Duncton described the school as a thriving, inclusive, and nurturing community where children and adults alike flourish. The report highlighted that “Duncton’s broad curriculum provides an abundance of opportunities well beyond the essentials” and that “uniqueness and difference are embraced and celebrated”. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our staff team, governors, children, and wider school communities for helping to making Duncton a truly special place. The full report can be accessed via our school website graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk.

Wraparound at Graffham and Duncton Our new wraparound provision, run by JC Sports, started with the beginning of this new summer term. The breakfast

FITTLEWORTH GARDEN TRAIL

Returning to our traditional May Bank Holiday Dates

Join us on

Sunday 4th & Monday 5th May 2025

all in aid of St. Mary's Church, Fittleworth

This year we have 13 Garden plus other attractions generously opening their gates

We'll be offering Teas, Sandwiches and Cake along with Plants and other attractions including the ever popular Miscellaneous stall as usual in The Village Hall

Village Hall open from 1.30pm and Gardens open from 2-6pm

£7.50 for tickets under 16 go free

clubs run for an hour before school, from 7.45pm, and the after-school provision will be open until 6pm. As well as providing much-needed support for working families at both our Graffham and Duncton schools, there will be lots of new activities for pupils to enjoy.

Star-gazing and egg-rolling As our spring term was winding down, pupils from both schools took part in some fantastic enriching activities. Highlights included an evening stargazing event at Graffham and our annual Year 6 residential trip. The end of the spring term was marked with joyful church services at Graffham and Duncton, led by Rev Vivien and Rev David respectively. The service at Graffham was followed by the annual egg rolling competition – a tradition that dates back many years.

Having a laugh Well done to everyone involved in our Comic Relief fund-raising efforts this year. Our Graffham and Duncton schools raised £247.64 through various activities including the Friends of Graffham and Duncton donating their weekly cake-raffle takings from both schools.

Governor vacancy To help us fulfil our duties effectively, our governing body needs a balance and diversity of skills, experiences, characters, backgrounds, perspectives, attributes and abilities. We're looking for local people who are keen to make a difference to the children at our schools and are motivated to do something for their community. By far, the most important quality is enthusiasm, with a passion and commitment to support our school. If you are interested in finding out more, please email clerk@dunctonjunior.org.uk



Headteacher Charles Beckerson helps pupils look to the stars.



Rev Vivien leads a joyful service for Graffham School in St Giles.

Graffham Parish News' marvellous May quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers on page 55 (no cheating!)

- 1 Ben Barnes, former international and Head of Hockey at Seaford College, won how many England caps: [a] 38, [b] 138, [c] 238?
- 2 What is the connection of Bury House with *The Forsyte Saga* novels?
- 3 The new High Sheriff of West Sussex, Dr Timothy Fooks, is the first person to hold the office for a second term since when: [a] 2022, [b] 1551, [c] 1326?
- 4 May Day has been a public holiday across the UK since when: [a] 1946, [b] 1953, [c] 1978?
- 5 What do Croydon, Manston and Cublington airports all have in common?
- 6 Which of these is a member of the rose family of plants: [a] apple, [b] orange, [c] beetroot?
- 7 Unlike Monty Don, who didn't want to go to Chelsea in a 1978 single taken from the landmark new wave album *This Year's Model*?
- 8 Which British singer and actress, who had a smiley UK Number One single in 2006 with the first song she wrote, will be 40 on 2 May?
- 9 Who did Rory McIlroy beat in a play-off to win last month's US Masters?
- 10 Which comic actor, who was 70 earlier this year and a Goodwood regular, played Nigel Small-Fawcett in the James Bond film *Never Say Never Again*?



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NAFD Member



Concorde talk raises £2,000 for Empire Hall

Every seat was sold for a second 'flight' by Concorde from Graffham on Friday 4 April, raising £2,000 for the Empire Hall. 'Honorary Graffham resident' Mike Bannister, former British Airways Chief Pilot for the supersonic airliner, shared stories and pictures from his career, joined by *Graffham Parish News* editor Michael Blunt, who had worked with him as the airline's Chief Press Officer. Every one of the 125 tickets available was sold. It was the second capacity audience for their talk. The first was held in October, in aid of St Giles Church, with scores left on the waiting list.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

East Lavington

Monday 19 May at 6.15pm

Sixth Form Café, Seaford College

An annual update on what East Lavington Parish Council and all other key local organisations are doing for the community, including the parish council organisation and possibility of mergers with other parish councils and the proposal to reduce speed limits within the parish.

All residents of the parish are welcome to attend

Graffham

Wednesday 21 May at 7pm after social drinks from 6.30pm

Empire Hall

An annual update on what Graffham Parish Council and all other key local organisations are doing for the community, including initial proposals for a village plan setting out priorities for coming years.

All residents of the parish are welcome to attend



The three films GEM plans to screen at the Empire Hall next winter.

GEM completes first full season since pandemic



Graffham Empire Movies is planning to screen three films in the Empire Hall next winter having just completed its first full season after its two-year hiatus following the Covid pandemic and its first using the Empire Hall's new state-of-the art audio visual system.

GEM has twin aims – to bring the cinema to the village and raise funds for the Empire Hall.

The trio of blockbusters booked for Saturdays when the nights start drawing in again towards the end of the year are:

- *Conclave*, on 13 September – BAFTA's 2025 Best Film and this year's Oscar winner as Best Adapted Screenplay, based on the Robert Harris novel about the election of a new pope, starring Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci, John Lithgow and Isabella Rossellini.
- *A Complete Unknown*, on 18 October – Tracing the meteoric rise of a young Bob Dylan (Timothée Chalamet) in the early 1960s, with eight Oscar nominations.
- *Bridget Jones, Mad About The Boy* on 22 November – The latest in the popular, hilarious series, with all the stars from its forerunners.

In the past year, GEM screened six films in the Empire Hall – *Wonka*, *Summerland*, *Little Women*, *Wicked Little Letters*, *One Life* and *Thelma*. Audience numbers were slightly down on pre-lockdown levels, at an average of 37 per screening, but not the lowest in GEM's 19-year history. With tickets costing just £10 for an adult and £5 for under 18s, revenue from the box office and bar – including the sale of 121 ice creams – totalled £2828.50. After contributing £1,000 to the Empire Hall's maintenance funding and paying all costs, that enabled GEM to record a surplus for the year of almost £600.

GEM Chairman Michael Blunt said: "The Empire Hall's wonderful new AV system not only enhanced the cinema experience – with its high definition projector and screen and high quality sound system – but helped financially big time, while also providing great entertainment to scores of villagers."

THE 1980s band Nine Below Zero heads here

Nine Below Zero, THE 1980s band, is booked to play at Graffham's Empire Hall early next year – after the village's 'grand old lady' played host to a successful series of varied entertainment in the season just gone.

The village's own impresario Jim Kirke laid on four gigs for us all to enjoy in the past year, attended by a total of 450 people and generating £3,000 to the building's investment fund. That is a drop on previous years' figures. Jim said: "The relatively low ticket sales were disappointing for what all those attending said had been extremely high quality events."

The hottest seller in the past season was Dan Budd as Robbie Williams with his band, which was attended by 175 people – who gave it rave reviews – followed by True Strays, who attracted 145.

Separately, the Empire Hall also featured on the Big Bang Love! UK tour by singer songwriters Ed Blunt, Daisy Chute and Hollie Rogers in January, raising more investment funds for the building.

Next up will be the Ultimate Coldplay tribute band on Saturday 11 October, with Graffham featuring on Nine Below Zero's UK tour promo T shirt on Saturday 14 March. Tickets for both are on sale now at empirehall.org.uk

Looking further ahead, Jim has booked a return on 14 November 2026 for Nile Rodgers/Chic tribute band Le Freak that went down a storm in 2023. He's also in discussions with both a Pink Floyd and a Genesis tribute band, but he warns: "Like all good things, if the village does not support, it won't keep happening!"



Tribute band Ultimate Coldplay will be the next big gig at the Empire Hall, on Saturday 11 October – with the genuine Nine Below Zero following on Saturday 14 March. Tickets for both concerts are on sale now at empirehall.org.uk





Graffham Easter Market organiser Sally Blunt with stallholders and volunteer helpers.

Easter Market makes £3,000 for Empire Hall

A colourful, sunny Graffham Easter Market raised a bumper £3,000 for the Empire Hall on Saturday 12 April – well up on the £2,400 the previous year. Organiser Sally Blunt said: “Thank you to everyone who helped make what will be the last Easter Fair I manage such fun and such a huge success – the wonderful people who helped with the setting up and putting away, the friendly and creative stallholders,



The raffle team of Matt Bond, Rich Jackson, Dave and (missing from the photo) K Consalvi sold more than 1,500 tickets at £1 each.



The home produce team – Gillian Charlesworth, Gay Foord and Diane Bellis – sold out long before the doors closed, even though some, like Elsa and Roy Barden, had difficulty choosing which of the delicious goodies to buy.



The market attracted a steady stream of visitors from the opening to closing time.

the amazing café team, the bakers and preservers contributing to the home produce stall, Beanie Bradley and her Easter egg hunt gang, Jacky Gregory and the raffle team and all those who so generously donated prizes and everyone who came to it – and there were a lot of you! What a fantastic, friendly and fun market it was!”

The Easter Market is one of the main fundraisers to maintain our unique village hall and keep its hire charges as low as possible for villagers. Numbers attending the event were the highest since well before the Covid

► Continued on page 31



The lunch and tea ladies (from left) Trish Wilson, Anne Mathie, co-ordinator Carole Kirke and Denise Clay sold virtually every slice of those mouth-watering cakes, gallons of tea and coffee, and served up every piece of 12 quiches for lunches.

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► Continued from page 29

pandemic, despite many being away on early Easter holidays. Almost £1,000 worth of wonderful raffle prizes, generously donated by local businesses and individuals, brought in half the market's total proceeds. The home produce stall sold out way before official closing time, while the café never had a break. The Easter egg hunt proved a great hit with the youngsters, while the many stallholders – selling goodies ranging from beautiful baby blankets to garden ironwork, wooden bowls and boards, freshly home baked bread, Slow Grown Farm cheese and charcuterie, woollen goods, colourful bags and rugs, vintage items and artwork – all did a roaring trade.

		Who won what in the raffle
1	Two tickets to Goodwood Revival	Hugh Brown
2	Two tickets to Goodwood Racecourse	Mary Taylor
3	Spa and lunch for two at Midhurst's Spread Eagle	Sue Samways
4	Family ticket to Weald and Downland Museum	Betty Bradley
5	Family day out to West Dean Gardens	Annabel Heaton
6	£100 voucher for Maharaja Drinks	Janie, of Fernhurst
7	A bottle of fizz from Hennings of Petworth	Nettie Lanaghan
8	A big chocolate Easter egg	R Richardson
9	£10 voucher from Midhurst's Wizzbit Toys	Andy Patterson
10	Two model vintage lorries	Rosie Blunt
11	A jar of Graffham Village Shop strawberry jam	Phil Jones
12	A bottle of Merlot wine	Jane Pine-Coffin
13	A bottle of Sauvignon Blanc wine	Karin Head
14	A bottle of Cava rose wine	Leo Marks
15	A child's blanket	Jacky Gregory
16	A purse/wallet from Midhurst's Sorella	Beardsley
17	Hair treatments from Petworth's Serena Jones	Diane Hardcastle
18	A china tea pot bird feeder	Tina Hudson
19	Two lavender scented candles	Philippa Sanders
20	Boots No 7 Hydrate and face and eye treatments	John Head
21	Toasted Crumpet soap/Baylis & Harding skin care	Marie Bracey
22	A box of chocolates from Midhurst's Red Cards	David Ross
23	A bottle of Exton Park English sparkling wine	Sam Adams
24	A night's B&B at The Woodcote	Zoe Jones
25	Lunch for two with wine at The Woodcote	K Consalvi

Graffham Garden Group's special treats

Graffham Garden Group kicked off its programme of visits for 2025 with a trip to the internationally renowned five-acres of Vann, in Hambledon, with 30 members and friends joining – the biggest turnout for any of the club's outings yet.

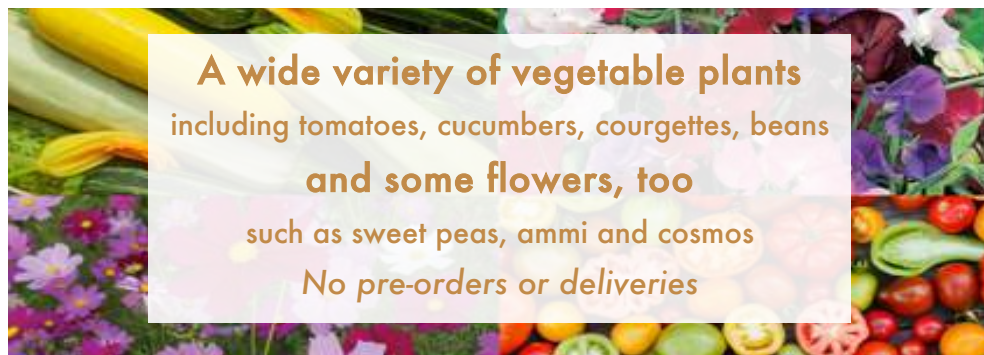
It has also now firmed up plans for its August date – which promises to be particularly special. The destination is not far away – Woolbeding Gardens near Midhurst where the Head Gardner, Paul Gallivan, himself will welcome the group before the visitors are left to wander round the gardens. The group's outings co-ordinator Nicky West said: "I am really hoping we get a good turnout for this trip as the National Trust does not normally offer a talk to visitors travelling there by its minibuses, as we will – let alone by the actual head gardener!"

To book your place on any of the outings, contact Nicky at nicolamwest@btinternet.com or on 07796 144647. The trips are open to all, not just members. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!

Saturday 10 May 10am

Spring plant sale

Empire Hall, Graffham



A wide variety of vegetable plants
including tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, beans
and some flowers, too
such as sweet peas, ammi and cosmos
No pre-orders or deliveries

Tuesday 13 May 2pm

Visit to Bignor Park

Bignor, RH20 1HG

11 peaceful acres, with magnificent views of the South Downs. Interesting trees, shrubs, roses, pond, unusual sculptures, wildflower areas, and a walled garden with herbaceous borders.

£5. Pay on arrival. Teas available.
Our visit will be on an NGS open day.



Monday 16 June 1pm

Visit to Stansted Park

Rowlands Castle, PO9 6DX



Walled garden, maze, arboretum with Pavilion Tea Room and Farmshop – all at what was previously the seat of the Earl of Bessborough. Optional tour of Stansted House's renowned state rooms and fascinating servants' quarters.

£10 for optional house tour – but free to Historic Houses members and 50% discount with National Art Pass.





Saturday 12 July 2.30pm

Flower and produce show

Empire Hall, Graffham



A chance to show off the results of your hard work in your garden and kitchen this summer, with classes for flowers, vegetables, fruit, baking and preserving, along with five photography classes –

-  All creatures great and small
-  Portrait
-  Nature at its best
-  Landscape/seascape

Thursday 21 August 1.30pm

Visit to Woolbeding Gardens

Woolbeding, Midhurst

A talk by head gardener Paul Gallivan before wandering around the 26 acres of garden 'rooms', now run by the National Trust and including a vegetable garden, 'The Long Walk', fountain, contemporary glasshouse and countryside views.



£1 for National Trust members, and £14 for others. Meeting time and place tba.

Sunday 21 September 1pm

Visit to Meadow Farm

Pulborough RH20 1DF



Two acres plus wildflower meadows. Colour themed beds, formal pond, avenue to the Sussex countryside. Walled garden for fruit, cut flowers and vegetables. Orchard with hazelnut walk. Wildlife swimming pond with bog garden.

£7. Pay on arrival. Teas available. We will be visiting on an NGS open day.



Tea in the Garden

Plant sale, tea and homemade cake in Carole and Jim's garden

Raising money in aid of



Sunday 18th May
2pm – 5pm

Boswells Cottage
Graffham
GU28 0NL

All welcome



Bill's bygones: Dave, Dally, Duke and Duchess

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 – May 2015: Howard Charman succeeds Richard Davidson as Chairman of Graffham Parish Council, with John Uphill as Vice-Chairman. The other councillors are Sarah Lydiard-Wilson, Simon Mackie, Sandy MacQueen and Lawrence Paine. In near-freezing temperatures, Graffham Cricket Club start the season with a home defeat to Steep by 83 runs. The Conservatives are returned with a majority at the General Election, giving David Cameron a second term as Prime Minister. On a tour of Ireland, Prince Charles meets Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams. Negative inflation is recorded in the UK for the first time since 1960. Chelsea win the Premier League, and Arsenal the FA Cup. Princess Charlotte of Wales born. Deaths of author Ruth Rendell (aged 88) and Errol Brown (Hot Chocolate, 71).

25 years ago – May 2000: Rev Keith Hyde-Dunn leaves Graffham after 13 years to become involved in retreat work and spiritual direction. Couzens of West Marden, who successfully bid £7,700 to build St Giles' lychgate, begin work, but a bid to have VAT waived is rejected. The Spring Bake, organised by Jane Pine-Coffin, raises £170. Graffham Cricket Club lose to West Sussex Wanderers (by four wickets, Mark Dally scoring 61 and taking 4-22) but defeat Lynchmere (five wickets), HM Prison Ford (23 runs, Mark Dally scoring 73) and Kirdford (one run, Mark Dally taking 5-16). West Sussex County Council starts a flexible bus service between Graffham and Haslemere. Ken Livingstone becomes the first Mayor of London – where the Tate Modern opens. Manchester United win the Premier League, and Chelsea the FA Cup. *Gladiator* released. Deaths of author Barbara Cartland (98), actor John Gielgud (96) and 101st Archbishop of Canterbury Donald Coggan (90).

50 years ago – May 1975: At his first annual vestry meeting, Rev David Grant announces that all baptisms will now be held during the main Sunday morning service. He also seeks the village's help in establishing a parish magazine. At its annual meeting, Graffham Garden Group shows *Graffham on Film* on the screen, a feature covering the events of the previous village year. Graffham Rustics present *The Gondoliers*, with John Ellerton and Maggie Paterson as the Duke and Duchess of Plaza-Toro. Vauxhall launches the Chevette, Britain's first production small hatchback. *Edward VII* airs on ITV, starring Timothy West in the title role. Derby County win the First Division, and West Ham the FA Cup. David Beckham and Jamie Oliver born.

Graffham Chronicles: The Lasseter Memories

In her column this month, local historian Pauline Goodwin focusses on one of the newest items to be bequeathed to the Graffham Archive – The Lasseter Memories, which recall a boyhood spent in Graffham a century ago.



Stephen was born in Graffham on Boxing Day 1909 and lived in the village for 27 years, until 1936. Perrotts Cottage was his family's home during some of this time.

His parents Alfred Lasseter and Mary Ann Groves West were married at St Giles in 1894, where Stephen was baptised by the village's rector, the Rev Rowley Lascelles, on 13 March 1910. The family is listed as living in Graffham until 1933 – on Graffham Common (probably close to where Heath Ridge

now stands) in the 1901 census, in Rumbold's Lane in the 1911 census, on The Street in the 1921 census and at The Grove in the electoral register of 1933, so the exact period of their occupancy of Perrotts Cottage is uncertain.

However, the name of this dwelling has had several incarnations over the years, spelt with various quantities of ts and rs, changing from Cottage or House to Farm, Farmhouse or Wood. Today, Historic England refers to this 18th Century building on Woodcote Lane as Perrott House, although it is more often known as Perrot Farm. To confuse matters further, what is now Old Perrot House, on Perrott Lane, appears in official records as Perrotts House at least until 1985.

Stephen describes the family home as “a very rough old cottage, right alongside a fairly wide brook which at times in winter was more like a river and used to flood all over the meadow”. Maps reveal that the stream emerges in Upper Blairs Copse, Woodcote.

Stephen was the last of the Lasseter's seven children. Born before him were Oliver, Sam, Rose, Dorothy, Bessie and Florrie. The age range of the children was considerable – for when Stephen was beginning at Graffham School in 1914, Oliver and Sam were being conscripted into the army in World War I. Oliver joined the Royal Garrison Artillery while his brother was enroled in the Royal Sussex Regiment. Both survived although their experiences told on them.

In the earliest days of Stephen's schooling there were 120 children at Graffham School whereas when he left, in 1923, at 14 years old, there were about 80. His first teacher was Mrs Stewart followed by Miss Smith who taught “the 1, 2 and



The Lasseters line up for a family portrait at the time of his sister Dolly's wedding in 1925, from left: (standing) Stephen's sister Bessie, cousin Mary, father Alfred with the family dog, unknown, brother Oliver, brother-in-law Ted, brother Sam and Stephen himself, and (sitting) sister Flo, mother Mary Ann, sister Dolly and sister Rose.

3 standards". The headmaster was Mr Jesse Goodacre, a Queens Scholar, who Stephen describes as a very good headteacher.

Stephen's mother Mary Ann "used to work from daylight to dark in the summertime to keep things paid for and to feed and clothe us... Also in wintertime, when the only light to use was from candles or an oil lamp, all things were done just the same. All cooking was done on the coal-fired range".

Stephen goes into great detail describing the work his father did to provide for his family. His work was seasonal and varied. Much of his time was spent working as an underwoodsman on The Furze Ground. This was a large copse on the left of what is today the bridlepath going from the Recreation Ground to Norwood Lane. Its name has changed just as the use of the land has changed over the decades. Nowadays, the trees have long since been felled and it is referred to as pasture. The copse has previously been known as Jay's Furze, part of Lavington Estate. The tall timber was owned by Lord Woolavington and the undercanopy was held in common and worked by villagers. This traditional management meant that the

► *Continued on next page*

underwood of Jay's Furze was kept clear to allow landowners to hunt. The coppiced hazel and chestnut produced straight stems for making handles of tools, hurdles and the building of houses. Incredible skill was employed by the underwoodsmen to grow these stems to a specific design with bends or twists, some v-shaped for the roofing struts of villagers' wooden houses.

Furze is another name for gorse which was grown as a crop, having many uses. Surprisingly, once threshed to remove the prickles, it was used as animal fodder. The plant also contains a resin which burns at a very high temperature, almost as high as coal. Alfred Lasseter, Stephen's father, bound these bunces or bundles of gorse very tightly together to produce 'bakers' bunces' for Fred Pescod and Richard Albury who were the two bakers in the village, baking bread in their brick ovens.

He also tackled hurdles, cow cribs, thatching, laying and trimming hedges and cut grass with his faghook and scythe. In the autumn, along with fellow villager Oliver Long, he collected apples and pears and pressed them for cider and perry.

Life for the entire Lasseter family centred around the passing seasons and the land. In the harvest fields, Stephen was occupied with gleaning and waiting for rabbits to come out of the corn. He explains: "Gleaning was picking up the corn that the machines used to leave behind. We would save this and give it to the chickens and pigs, so you see it was never wasted."

Mother Mary-Ann kept chickens and two pigs – one for the family and one to pay the butcher to prepare the meat. Stephen recalls that every part of the pig was used. Similarly, I recall a school trip to a pork pie factory and was told everything is used apart from the oink! "The fatty stomach lining was boiled to a liquid and turned into lard and the scraps which were left in the straining cloth were mixed with dried fruit, like sultanas and currants and made into pies." This seems to be a sort of mince pie filling!

Stephen remembers as a five-year-old that "as war broke out it was very hard for food and clothes". He writes: "During the wartime, most things that were useful were saved, like bottles, paper, jam jars, potted meat jars." Horse chestnuts and black berries were collected and sent away. "The school children were on one day a week picking. It was quite a big thing and it showed how things could be done." I have been told that the picking of rose hips was a priority in Graffham in those war years, as they were sent off to make rose hip syrup which was given to children as it has a high vitamin C content. Fruit was scarce. Living in this self-sufficient way was essential for the isolated villagers but losing contact with the outside world

seems to have been traumatising. Stephen chooses to include a memory from The General Strike, which lasted just nine days but those days left their mark on the young man. He was 17 at the time, in 1926, and working at the village's Pescod Stores. He recalls: "There was no news – only what was broadcast by radio. A daughter of a retired schoolmaster from India who could write shorthand listened to the radio in Pescod Stores' office and took down the news in shorthand. She would then translate it into longhand and copy it a dozen times." Stephen rode around the village on his bike and posted her bulletins on the noticeboards, so that people could read the latest news. Radios were not owned by many villagers so, for those nine days, the only contact with the outside world was her sheets of paper.



Stephen Lasseter as a lad in Graffham a century or so ago.

At first, Stephen worked behind the counter at Pescods, running errands and delivering telegrams. He describes the provisions that came in bulk and had to be broken down into smaller lots – 80lb (36.28kg) cheeses, 2 cwt (110.6kg) sacks of sugar and flour, lard in 56lb (25.4kg) blocks etc. "I have spent days packing up selling-size packets of food stuffs. I was an auxiliary postman for a time, delivering twice a day to the village by bicycle. I also did a bread delivery for about a dozen houses near the shop." He earned 12 shillings (60p) a week and increased this by working for the post office for an extra nine shillings (45p).

He worked there until 1929. He writes: "I remember the year well, because I met my darling wife, who was then Miss Margaret Daisy Hysom, and all the good times started for us both." Stephen and Margaret married at St Giles on 13 April 1936. He switched then to work for J. Randall of Lodsworth as a baker roundsman, learning a new trade. He cycled from Graffham to Lodsworth each morning at 4am. He stayed there until late 1936 when he and Margaret left Graffham and went to live in Guildford, where he died on 17 February 1979.

- Stephen Lasseter's memoir was typed up by his son-in-law Michael Boxall in October 2005, transcribed from the notebooks compiled by Stephen after his retirement in 1975.

Nature Notes: Swifts – come fly with me

A regular column by Sussex naturalist and wildlife guide Michael Blencowe, who can regularly be spotted in and around Graffham.

These are certainly uncertain times. Who knows where this planet is heading? But at the start of May I shall be looking to the sky for a sign of reassurance – the return of the Sussex swifts from Africa. Ted Hughes expressed it perfectly:

*They've made it again
Which means the globe's still working, the Creation's
Still waking refreshed, our summer's
Still all to come.*

Swifts may not look like much. They're basically two wings and a mouth, but it's hard to explain their abilities without making them sound supernatural.

Swifts are all about flying. They feed, scream and mate in the air and bathe in the rainclouds. At night they switch off half their brain, switch on cruise control and fall asleep amongst the stars. If they had their way, they would never come down. But there's one little flaw in their plan – eggs don't float. So, for just a few weeks of the year, they begrudgingly swap the open skies for a cramped nest under the eaves where they raise their young.

The problem is that in recent years most of these little gaps have been lost to renovations and modern architecture. The destruction of their homes is one of the



Graffham Down Trust May Butterfly Walk

Saturday May 10 at 12:00 noon (bring a lunch)

Meet outside St Giles Church (GU28 0NJ) at the south end of Graffham Village, at the foot of the South Downs. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



It's a steep climb up, so if you require a lift email jimkirke@hotmail.com

For more information, please email Jude Sennitt at sennitt2@gmail.com





Refugees on the wind – swifts arrive in Sussex from Africa this month.

reasons why swift numbers have fallen. They are refugees on the wind. There's something about swifts that makes me think of 1950s B-movies. You know the film – motorcycle gangs, all chrome, leather and attitude, screaming into some small American town. Our own rebels cruise into Sussex in May. They make a non-stop, longhaul flight from Africa – not that this trip bothered them. As I said, swifts are all about flying. For me the swift is the only bird that takes pure, unadulterated pleasure in flying. Other birds fly out of necessity, but swifts seem to fly for the hell of it, screaming with delight at the top of their little swift lungs – a shrill cry that is forever associated with English summers and earned them the name 'devil birds'.

By the time you read this, a new generation of Sussex swifts, born in a roof cavity, will have crawled to the nest entrance and bravely launched themselves on their first flights. And, man! What a first flight! They may not land again for two or three years! For these 'teenage' swifts, the skies of Europe and Africa will be their playground – nothing will tame them. Well, not until they meet a partner and decide to settle down in a roof of their own somewhere. But don't let this comfortable image of domestic bliss fool you –there's no taming these Wild Ones.

- You can find details of Michael's upcoming events, wildlife sightings and adventures or book him for a wildlife survey of your garden or land at:





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Out and about: Oxlips – true or false?

An occasional column by Jonathan Simons, amateur botanist and font of useless knowledge on so many things obscure and bizarre.

Wherever primroses grow in proximity to cowslips you might find the False Oxlip, the natural cross between them. The flowers are open like the primrose, *Primula vulgaris*, but supported by a single stalk like the cowslip, *Primula veris*, and not so drooping. There are many similar Polyanthas hybrids sold for gardens but the ones pictured on this page from Graffham seem natural. Its scientific name is *Primula X polyantha*.

It is 'false' because the true oxlip, *Primula elatior*, is a separate species although very similar in appearance. In the UK, it only grows wild in East Anglia but I have seen it as a dominant species in woods in Slovenia.

A well-known local historian told me a few years ago that when she was a child false oxlips used to grow in abundance in the ditch beside the grass track from the Rec to Lavington Stud Farm. Spurred on by this recollection, I inspected all the relevant ditches but with no luck. Although there were primroses galore, there were no cowslips so the hybrid would now be unlikely. However, proceeding further, I visited St Giles' churchyard and found cowslips and primroses together and one single false oxlip. In subsequent years I have found one or two there every year.



False Oxlips in Graffham.

An excellent alternative to the churchyard is the grassy field by the footpath going up to the Downs from Tagents Farm. There are cowslips in the open and, at the edge of the field shaded by the trees, there are primroses. I almost always find some false oxlips among them. Alternatively, try Heyshott village where conditions are similar but you may spot them on the banks without getting out of the car.

I have successfully sown cowslips at Milburgh Hall. Primroses grow very well by themselves and, yes, I think I have had one of the hybrids. Unfortunately, I have in the past also planted some true oxlips nearby, so now I am rather confused.

To clear my mind, I always turn to Charles Darwin. For his masterly article on these matters search the Darwin Online website for '*On the Specific Difference between Primula veris...*'.

March and April's wonderful weather has tempted everyone back to the Rec, with even the cricket pitch playable! May will see summer competitions begin in earnest.

Graffham Tennis Club

Club nights, on Fridays at 6pm, have been blessed with the sunshine every week so far. For anyone looking to join for the first time, this is the best time to come and meet other members and players.

The free coaching session provided by Richard Hopp on 6 April was well attended and showed off the skills of some of his recent Rusty Racquets students.



The Mixed Doubles B team that won East Hants' League 3, from left: Angie Thornley, Richard Bates, Lawrence Bates and Sally Pattie.

Winter league tennis has concluded with appropriately mixed results for the two mixed teams. The A team struggled without some of the stronger men players this season and finished lowest in Division 1.

By contrast, Richard Bates's B team ran away with Division 3, giving rise to the enticing prospect of Graffham Mixed A and Graffham Mixed B being in the same division next winter. Richard's team sealed the deal with a final comprehensive victory against Fernhurst B for the team of Richard, Angie Thornley, Lawrence Bates and Sally Pattie.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants league results

23 Mar	Won 5-3	Mixed Doubles	Div 3	vs Fernhurst B
23 Mar	Lost 3-5	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	vs Swanmore
29 Mar	Won 8-0	Mixed Doubles	Div 3	vs Fernhurst B

Home fixtures this month are dominated by the Ladies’ teams. Men’s and Mixed home matches will begin in June.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: May					
All spectators welcome!					
13	Tue	6pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 2	v Swanmore B
15	Thu	6pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 2	v Ropley
28	Wed	6pm	Ladies Doubles	Div 4	v Steep C

Graffham Ladies’ Cricket

With the first match of the season away to West Wittering on 4 May, training with the irrepressible Brett Creed has begun on Thursday evenings at 6pm. Normally taking place on the tennis courts at this time of year, the square and the outfield have been perfectly dry and Brett has been out pulling the big roller in preparation for home matches. With a few new members the team are hopeful of the elusive victory against West Wittering. There will be a full report in June’s edition.



Coach Brett shares some catching skills with Graffham’s ladies.

Anyone for croquet

The nearest croquet club to Graffham – Rother Valley, just off the A285 heading into Duncton – is looking to welcome new members for the 2025 season with a free taster session on Saturday, 10 May, from 10.30am to 1.30pm. Croquet is a game for all ages, all sizes and all skill levels. At the basic level it’s exceedingly simple – the first to seven points wins the game. But then the fun begins as your opponent spoils all your best laid plans and what seemed so simple now becomes a lot more challenging. If the idea of some gentle competition, a little very light exercise and

► *Continued on next page*

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► *Continued from previous page*

the opportunity to make new friends in a beautiful rural setting appeals to you then croquet may be what you're looking for.

Rother Valley Croquet Club runs regular tournaments as well as matches against other local clubs as well as plenty of social and training events. So don't worry if you're single and have never played the sport before – you'll soon make friends, have plenty of people to play with and learn the rules and skills.

For the taster session, all you need to take with you are flat soled shoes and a big smile. All the kit will be laid on for you – along with tea, coffee, cake and free parking. For more info, see rothervalleycroquet.co.uk

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Duke of Norfolk to speak at Petworth



The Duke of Norfolk will be guest speaker at Petworth Area Churches Together's spring lecture, on Friday 16 May at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Petworth. Entry is free – and there are wine and canapes for those attending. As the nation's most senior nobleman, Earl Marshal of England,



he is responsible for organising state ceremonies, including coronations, royal funerals and the opening of Parliament. Edward William Fitzalan-Howard has held this position since 2002 when he became the 18th Duke of Norfolk. His forebears have filled the role since 1672. His family seat is nearby Arundel Castle.



Foodbank's most wanted list Our local foodbank has updated its list of items most urgently needed – which you can drop off at its collection points in All Saints Chapel, directly opposite Graffham Village Shop, or at St Giles Church. Items currently needed most include:



- Conditioner.
- Cooking oil.
- Dried lentils and pulses.
- Flour.
- Fruit squash.
- Ketchup and ready-made sauces.
- Long-life fruit juices.
- Nappies, sizes 6 and 7.
- Pasta and ready-made sauces.
- Sandwich paste.
- Shaving gel.
- Sugar.
- Tinned rice pudding and custard.
- Tinned vegetables.
- Tinned tomatoes, passata.
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste.
- UHT milk and non-dairy alternatives
- Vegetarian, vegan tinned meals.



TAIZÉ PRAYER

song, prayer and silence

Sunday 25 May 6.30pm

All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite shop)

*All welcome to this short ecumenical service based around
a pattern of worship from the Taizé Community*

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.

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What's on at our village church and chapel

- All residents and visitors 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.

May				
3	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing!	St Giles Church
4	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 3, led by Rev John Bundock Reading: Acts 9 v 1-6, 7-20	St Giles Church
6	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
		3pm	PCC Worship Group meeting	Occam Cottage
7	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
		7.30pm	Petworth Area Churches Together meeting	The Rectory
8	Thu	3.30pm	Messy Church	The Pavilion
		6.30pm	Bellringing to mark VE Day's anniversary	St Giles Church
11	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 4 Reading: Acts 9 v 36-end	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
13	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
14	Wed	2pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
		7.30pm	Deanery Synod	tbc
16	Fri	7.30pm	PACT lecture by Duke of Norfolk (see p 47)	St Mary's Petworth
18	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 5 Bell Sunday Reading: Acts 11 v 1-18	St Giles Church
20	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
25	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 6 with baptism of Milly Macqueen Reading: Acts 16 v 9-15	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taizé Prayer Service	All Saints Chapel
27	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
June				
1	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Ascension Sunday Reading: Acts 16 v 16-34	St Giles Church
3	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
4	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
7	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing!	St Giles Church

What's on in and around the village

For all St Giles and All Saints events, see page 49. For sports dates, see page 44-46.

April				
29	Tue	6.30pm	Community energy workshop	Empire Hall
May				
1	Thu		Woodfire Camping reopens for summer	Westerlands
4	Sun	2-6pm	Open Gardens (also 5 May) – see page 22	Fittleworth
5	Mon		Early May bank holiday	
6	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society of Midhurst talk: <i>The Great Exhibition of 1851</i>	Midhurst Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex illustrated talk on <i>Paul Cézanne, the Painters' Painter</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
7	Wed	Evening	Graffham Parish Council AGM	Empire Hall
8	Thu		VE Day 80 th anniversary – see page 9	Graffham
		2.30pm	Thursday Club meeting	Empire Hall
		6.30pm	Bellringing to mark VE Day 80 th anniversary	St Giles Church
9	Fri	7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents The Burning Glass plus Jess Oyo in concert	Leconfield Hall, Petworth
10	Sat	10am	Graffham Garden Group spring plant sale	Empire Hall
		10am-1.30pm	Rother Valley Croquet Club open day – page 46	Duncton
		11am-5pm	Sussex Art Fair (also 11 May)	Goodwood Racec'se
		12 noon	Graffham Down Trust butterfly walk – see p 40	Meet by St Giles
11	Sun	11am-4pm	National Mills Day events	Burton Mill and Coultershaw
			Folk music night	Three Moles
13	Tue	2pm	Graffham Garden Group outing	Bignor Park
		9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
15	Thu	2.45pm tbc	Funeral of Bumble Findlay – see page 4	St Giles Church
		evening	Petworth Proms (till 17 May)	Petworth House
16	Fri	7.30pm	Duke of Norfolk at PACT spring lecture – page 47	St Mary's Petworth
17	Sat		Goodwoof dog event (also 18 May)	Goodwood Estate
18	Sun	10am	Bells Sunday ringing	St Giles Church
		2-5pm	Tea in the Garden in aid of Dementia UK –p 34	Boswells Cottage
19	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington annual parish meeting then by parish council meeting – see page 25	Seaford College
21	Wed	6.30 for 7pm	Graffham Parish Council annual village meeting – see page 25	Empire Hall
23	Fri	11.30am-7pm	May Festival (also 24 May)	Goodwood Racec'se
24	Sat		Seaford College half-term (to 1 June)	Seaford College
25	Sun	10.30am	Baptism of Milly Macqueen	St Giles Church
		7pm	Blues music night	Three Moles
26	Mon		Spring bank holiday	
			WSCC schools half-term (to 30 May)	

28	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
31	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial

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

²**Graffham 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 £10 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
	8am	Strength and mobility with Gemma ³	Westerlands
	9.30am	Circuits with Gemma ³	Westerlands
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice – newcomers welcome	St Giles
Wednesdays	9–10am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group ⁵	Pavilion
	11.15am-12noon	Pilates ⁶	Empire Hall
	1.45-2.45pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching ⁷	Rec
	5.30pm	Hard core exercise with Nina ³	Westerlands
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁸ – all welcome	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁹	Empire Hall
	5.30pm	Kettleball with Gareth ³	Westerlands
	6-7.15pm	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ¹⁰	Empire Hall
	Evenings	Tennis Club evenings	Pavilion
Saturdays	8am	Boxercise with Nina ³	Westerlands
	10am	Wildstrong with Gareth ³	Westerlands
Sundays	5pm	Pickleball ¹¹	Empire Hall
	5pm	Casual football ¹²	Rec

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**For all Westerlands events:** Book online at www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit

⁴**Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 367009.

⁵**Teddy Time:** No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

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

⁷**Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at richard@hoppecoaching.co.uk, on 07904 069457.

⁸**Badminton:** Contact Christina Federowicz on 07900 055574. All welcome.

⁹**Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

¹⁰**Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.

¹¹**Pickleball:** Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417.

¹²**Casual Football:** Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.

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Quiz answers (from page 24) 1 [a] 38. 2 Author John Galsworthy lived there from 1926 until his death in 1933. 3 [b] 1551. 4 [c] 1978. 5 They closed. 6 [a] Apple. 7 Elvis Costello & the Attractions. 8 Lily Allen. 9 Justin Rose. 10 Rowan Atkinson.

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Directory: Useful local contact info

DOCTORS	Petworth Surgery	01798 342248
	Midhurst Riverbank Medical Centre	01730 812121
	Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit	01483 782334
DEFIBRILLATORS	On outside wall of Empire Hall	Code is C240Z
	On outside wall of Pavilion	Code is C159X
	In phone box outside Pescods	Code is also C159X
	In phone box opposite The Three Moles	No code needed
FLOOD ALERT for Lods Bridge	To check river level	bit.ly/lodsbridge
POLICE	In emergency	999
	Non-emergency	101@sussex.pnn.police.uk 101
BURST WATER MAINS	Southern Water	0800 820 999
POWER CUTS	Scottish & Southern Electric	105 or 0800 0727 282
99 FLEX BUS	Linking Graffham with Chichester, Petworth etc	bit.ly/99flexbus 01243 858854
All Saints Chapel Trust	Chairman Clive Rowntree	01798 867536
Badminton	Christina Federowicz	07900 055574
Bees / Swarms	Wisboro' Green Tom Moore	07984 606214/01798 343470
	B'keepers	
	Local beekeeper Murray West	evenings 01798 867048
Chichester District Council		01243 534734
District Councillor	John Cross jcross@chichester.gov.uk	07592 307027
Dog Warden	Office hours	01243 534734
	Emergency	01243 785339
Citizens Advice Bureau		03448 487969
East Lavington Parish Council	Chairman Charles Britton	charles.britton@eastlavington-pc.uk
	Clerk Amy Harte	07889 979820 eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com
Empire Hall	empirehall.org.uk	empirehall@gmail.com
	Chairman and Bookings Sally Blunt	bookings.empirehall@gmail.com
	Treasurer Carole Sargent	01798 344790
	Maintenance Gillian Charlesworth	empirehall@gmail.com
Foodbank	info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk	01243 773687
Foresters Arms	forestersarms-pub.co.uk	01798 867386
Graffham Archive	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 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	07881 698993
	Transport	07391 802541
	Prescription collection Ann Rowney	ann.rowney@icloud.com
	Loan of equipment Karin Skanberg	07920 091014
Graffham Lunch Club	Sarah Lydiard-Wilson	01798 867567

Graffham Nursery		School Office	01798 867324
Graffham Parish Council	Chairman	Gillian Charlesworth	gillian.charlesworth@graftam-pc.uk
	Clerk	Caroline Davison	clerk@graftam-pc.uk
Graffham Parish News	Editorial and circulation:	editor.graftam-parishnews@gmail.com	
	Advertising:	ads.graftam-parishnews@gmail.com	
		See also inside front cover	
Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council		stgilesgraftam.org	
	Priest-in-Charge	Rev Vivien Turner	01798 867199
		hallo@stgilesgraftam.org	
	Churchwardens	Ginny Barrett	01798 867113
		Cindy Bradley	07787 516522
	Treasurer	Dinah Lamming	graftam-pc-treasurer@gmail.com
Graffham Rec Committee	Chairman	John Bracey	01798 867760
	Bookings Sec	Sonya Gillespie	graftam-rec-pavilion@gmail.com
Graffham Tennis Club	Chairman	Simon Longman	01798 867317
	Membership	David Sanders	07590 117595
	Coaching	Emma Amin	01798 867063
Graffham Village Shop		Jeeva and Vasu	01798 867700
		graftam-villageshop.co.uk	
Graffham Village Shop Assoc	Chairman	Steve Dover	07770 499223
	Treasurer	Andy Jones	andy.jones@graftam.net
	Secretary	Ros Britton	rosalind.britton@btinternet.com
Katherine Maud Guillod Fund	c/o Graffham PC Clerk	graftam-pc@gmx.co.uk	
Lavington Estate	info@lavingtonstud.co.uk		01798 867275
Lavington Park Federation		graftam-and-duncton.w-sussex.sch.uk	
	Graffham CE Infant School		01798 867324
	Duncton CE Junior School		01798 342402
	Friends of Graffham & Duncton 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
Potholes	To report a pothole or other road problem online	bit.ly/report-potholes-west-sussex	
Seaford College			01798 867392
Three Moles		Ollie and Tom	thethreemoles.com
Thursday Club	Secretary	Diane Bellis	01798 867444
West Sussex County Council		General enquiries	01243 777100
	County Councillor	Tom Richardson	07463 785039
The Woodcote (formerly White Horse)		thewoodcote.com	01798 867331
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