

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

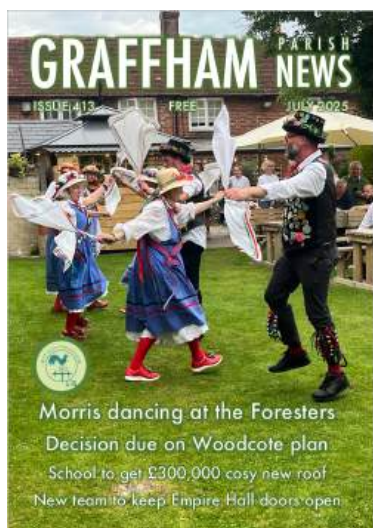
ISSUE 413

FREE

JULY 2025



Morris dancing at the Foresters
Decision due on Woodcote plan
School to get £300,000 cosy new roof
New team to keep Empire Hall doors open



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On the cover: A troop of traditional Morris dancers from Fishbourne strutted their stuff at the Foresters Arms on the evening of Friday 13 June – before inviting locals to join them in giving it a go. Their performance was over before the heavens opened at the end of the hottest day of the year so far.

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

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Member editor 2025 Award Winner 2022
Association for Church Editors

Writing from the Rectory: Entertaining angels unawares

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

So says the writer of the letter to the Hebrews 13.2. Whenever we have chance to offer any kind of hospitality it's a grace and a privilege to do so. As we may not always appreciate how much it may mean to those receiving from us and what a blessing it is upon us, it's good to be reminded of this.

We have good opportunity to offer hospitality here in Graffham, especially in the summer months with visitors arriving to walk and cycle and stay and enjoy our places of hospitality. The church is also delighted to welcome visitors to services. In May this included a group of Italian tourists to West Sussex. What better way to experience English culture than to attend a Church of England service?

Another day with a generous opportunity to 'entertain angels unawares' is (or was, depending on when you read this) Saturday 28 June this year. You will doubtless have noticed (or will notice) extra activity in the village on a day celebrating two weddings at St Giles Church, with many people providing a welcome.

Converging on Graffham from near and far to celebrate wedding couples with connections including New Zealand and Germany, visitors are kindly being hosted in numerous locations in the village, vergers are directing to pews and Graffham Infant School loos. The school is also kindly allowing space in its playground for parking – and Seaford College is helping too on a day they are welcoming their own visitors for sports and speech day, by opening its West Gate to enable guests to park on the verge to the east.

(If you are reading this before the day of the wedding, while we will have stewards to help manage the traffic and parking, with two weddings and Seaford's sports and



Messy Church went wild on Thursday 12 June – in the wonderful outdoors at Lavington Stud and Estate.

Report and pictures on page 49.

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speech day co-inciding, please take extra care on local roads and avoid the end of the village near the church if you can.)

The noted Tallis Consort is visiting to sing for one wedding and our own St Giles Little Choir for the other, with appropriate accompaniment for both. Bellringers are coming to ring out the bells of St Giles in celebration for both.

The Foresters is hosting one reception and another local venue the other one. It's a great opportunity for Graffham to provide a lasting memory of a village with warmth, friendliness and kindness, helping make 28 June 2025 a happy and memorable day for Ella and Marcus, and for Paul and Michaela, and for all who love and wish to celebrate with them.

A chance to turn strangers into friends.

It is testament to this village that I have no doubt we will achieve this. A big thank you from me to everyone contributing, and to all who offer a welcome to visitors Sunday by Sunday in church, and day by day in Graffham village. You too are angel messengers of His love, serving those conveying God's love to us in return.

With love,



Reverend Vivien



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Cindy Bradley 07787 516522

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stgilesgraffham.org



@stgilesgraffham



The buttercup meadow to the right (west) of The Woodcote's original pub building could become a tree-covered car park and site of a new high-end restaurant plus a barn if planning assent is given – which many fear may block this view of the Downs.

Woodcote planning decision due by 1 August

The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) says it will decide by 1 August whether to allow The Woodcote to triple in size. Graffham Parish Council is urging it to refuse permission. As this edition went to press, more than 110 public comments had been submitted to SDNPA, ahead of its 23 June deadline – extended from the original 3 June date – with all but five of them opposing the proposal.

The SDNPA's planning committee is due to meet next on Thursday 10 July at 10am at South Downs Centre Hall, Midhurst. Whether The Woodcote will be on the agenda will not be confirmed until the agenda is posted five days ahead of the meeting. Members of the public are able to attend – or you can watch the meeting live or by 'catch-up' via its YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/@SDNPACcommittees. The public and parish councils are able to speak at its meetings, in line with the 'public participation' protocols detailed on its website.

Almost a hundred people, mainly residents along with representatives of The Woodcote team, attended Graffham Parish Council's planning committee at its meeting at the Empire Hall on Wednesday 4 June. Because of time constraints, the number of speakers was limited. Ten spoke against the proposal, and two of the developer's team members in favour. The parish councillors agreed unanimously that, while the proposal would deliver some benefits, these did not come near to outweighing the negatives. They felt it was not in line with many of the SDNPA's planning policies and breached a number of the National Planning Policy Framework requirements. Mirroring the submissions made by members of the

► *Continued on next page*

Hedge trim ruffles feathers

One of the exchanges to set the Graffham Parish Council planning meeting aflutter came when Colin Barker, the councillor leading on environmental issues, pointed out that he had written to The Woodcote team a year ago, after they had cut the hedges around their fields during the bird nesting season, pointing out that this was contrary to all advice and potentially in contravention of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. He said he received a polite response assuring that this would not be repeated – yet it was, just a week before last month's Empire Hall meeting.

Jim Dover, Director of Estates for Ledmore Estate, The Woodcote's owner, replied that it was more of a tidying up trim rather than a cut and his understanding was that this was permitted.

The RSPB encourages landowners, particularly in rural areas, to leave hedges untouched during the nesting season, to provide the sort of habitats in which wild birds thrive. Its website notes: "March to September marks the main nesting season, so it's crucial we don't disturb birds during this time. All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law – the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This makes it illegal, with certain exceptions, to deliberately take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. So, we recommend only cutting between 1 September and 28 February."

It adds, however, that you may legally cut vegetation year-round, as long as no active nests are moved or damaged, and recommends that, if a hedge has to be trimmed during the summer, a careful check is made first that no birds are nesting there and then using manual rather than power tools.

► *Continued from previous page*
public, key concerns were the overall scale of the development being put forward in this rural, tranquil location and the level of additional traffic it would generate on narrow country lanes, potentially endangering pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists.

The councillors were particularly worried as well over its impact on the local rustic character, parking provisions, drainage issues and its conflict with the area's international designation as a 'dark skies' region. They were also unsatisfied with responses given by representatives of the applicant to a number of questions raised and what they felt was incomplete information covering several key issues.

You can see the proposal and public comments made, and submit your own views to the planning authority, at bit.ly/woodcote-planning or go to the SNDPA public planning portal (see below) and search for The



Almost 100 attended the meeting in the Empire Hall on 4 June, at which of Graffham Parish Council's Planning Committee agreed unanimously to object to The Woodcote's proposal to triple its size.

Woodcote or enter SDNP/25/01323/FUL. The web address is <https://planningpublicaccess.southdowns.gov.uk/>

CPRE and Friends of South Downs object to proposal Among the more than 100 objections to The Woodcote proposal filed with the South Downs National Park Authority are submissions from CPRE The Countryside Charity, once more widely known as the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and the Friends of the South Downs, the only membership organisation dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of the region.

They state that the proposal would break several SDNPA policies and be contrary to several key elements of the National Policy Planning Framework. CPRE says: "The proposal, due to its size, location, scale of change of the development and change in the setting would have a significant effect. The proposed landscape and design is of a high quality but is entirely in the wrong place and not suitable for the proposed location."

Owner's birthday bash lights up sky The Woodcote was the venue for owner Glen Manchester's 60th birthday celebrations on Saturday 14 June, with three Spitfires flying in formation for several overhead turns to start things off,



building to a crescendo with a deafening and dazzling fireworks spectacular to music close to 11pm. Comments posted to Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard gave the former many 🇬🇧❤️ while the latter got multiple 😡😞 emojis.



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Architects' drawings filed with the planning authorities show how the approved changes to Nonnington Hall (in black and white, left column) compare with the current building (in colour, right side) – from the north.

Nonnington Hall renovations given go ahead

Plans for renovations and extensions to Nonnington Hall, one of Graffham's biggest houses, have been approved by the South Downs National Park Authority.

In a ruling made on 28 May, it gave the go-ahead for a two-storey extension on the north side to be replaced along with the construction of a new single-storey extension on the south and another to the side with some reconfiguration of the interior. Externally, rendering can be replaced or added over the elevations, new windows fitted and current ones replaced and new dormers added on its southern side.

Nonnington Hall was bought in 2021 by Emma Wallace, who has since brought the farm there back to life. When she applied for planning permission last autumn she said: "It's been decades since Nonnington Hall benefitted from serious attention. It's got cracked windows and is drafty and damp. All in all, it's in much need of some tender loving care, which is what I want to give it, while respecting the wonderful building's history."



Three Moles' Dancing Queens: Regulars, first-time visitors and friends of the Selham pub put on their best dancefloor moves for the first of its special summer events – a performance by Abba Inferno, one of the Swedish stars' top tribute bands, on Saturday 14 June. For other events planned, see What's On on pages 54-55.

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Infant school to get £300,000 cosy new roof

Graffham Infant School is to have a cosy new roof – costing some £300,000. The project has already been approved by the education teams at the Diocese of Chichester and West Sussex County Council – with funding allocated – and now just needs final sign-off by South Downs National Park Authority planners. The aim is to carry out the work during the coming summer holidays and finish it off in the long vacation a year later, to minimise disruption to the school and for the health and safety of its children.

The current roof has been leaking for a while, causing concern that the lath-and-plaster ceilings inside the building might collapse. Some of the tiles have slipped down the steep roof after the original timber pegs holding them in place failed.

Also, because it was originally built in Victorian time, it has no insulation at all, making it expensive and inefficient to heat. Adding to the challenges, the school occupies one of only two buildings within the diocese education portfolio that is Grade II listed and is in a conservation area, so any renovations have to be carried out particularly sensitively.

The plan is to replace the pitched roof covering the original school building, using handmade tiles fixed using aluminium pegs, while introducing ventilation to the roof spaces and upgrading the insulation. Roof timbers will be replaced or reinforced if necessary. Lead flashing in valleys and around chimneys will be renewed and skylights replaced. Inside, lath-and-plaster ceiling finishes, where they have been subject to damp and disturbance, will also be renewed. All will be done on a like-for-like basis, in sympathy with the special building that it is.

Three bat surveys have been conducted at twilight to ensure the works are not likely to disturb wildlife and the roof closely examined by a drone – which made the day for the pupils who were at school at the time.

It will be the third public building in the village to have roof works in the past year after steeplejacks made repairs to the top of St Giles Church last autumn and tilers carried out maintenance work on the Empire Hall in the winter.



The school's roof will be renewed and insulated during this coming and next summer holidays.



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)

Applications

Rose Cottage, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NL: Replacement of existing windows with new timber casement windows and replace existing double glazing with thinner heritage double-glazed units. Underfloor heating to ground floor. Wall panelling in two bedrooms. SDNP/25/02199/LIS. *Received 23 May 2025. Validated 23 May 2025. Consultation to 27 Jun 2025.*

The Last Post, Graffham Common Road, Graffham GU28 0PU: Two-storey storage building for private use associated with dwelling, to provide equipment/workshop facilities in association with woodland management. SDNP/25/01269/FUL. *Received 26 Mar 2025. Validated 23 May 2025. Consultation to 25 Jun 2025.*

The Rectory, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NL: Intention to fell one ash tree. SDNP/25/02083/TCA. *Received 16 May 2025. Validated 16 May 2025. Consultation to 19 Jun 2025.*

Graffham Infant School, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NJ: Replacement and repairs of pitched roof covering including upgrading insulation, and associated works. SDNP/25/01581/LIS. *Received 11 Apr 2025. Validated 28 May 2025. Consultation to 3 Jul 2025.*

Decisions

Nonnington Hall, Nonnington Lane, Graffham GU28 0PX: Two storey front extension. Single storey rear and side extensions. Recladding external elevations. New and replacement windows. New rear facing dormer windows. SDNP/24/03481/HOUS. *Approved 28 May 2025*

High View, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QE: Relocation of previously approved new dwelling following demolition of existing. SDNP/25/01469/CND. *Approved 10 Jun 2025.*

Red Oak, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NP: Reduce height of Portuguese Laurel tree by 1.5 metres. SDNP/25/01561/TCA. *No objection raised 22 May 2025.*

Gallows Hill House, Graffham Common Road, Graffham GU28 0PT: Fell and trim various trees. SDNP/25/00505/TPO. *Approved 14 May 2025*

Appeals

Tangletrees, The Rec, Graffham GU28 0QA: Replacement dwelling, ancillary building and associated landscaping including ha-ha and pond. SDNP/25/00047/REF. *Appeal against refusal of permission lodged 15 May 2025.*

Property watch

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



Beck House, South Ambersham GU29 0BX: Grade II detached house with cottage. Four bedrooms, three bathrooms plus cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner, utility. 400 sq m (4,308 sq ft). Double garage, barn, stable. Garden of 2 acres. Guide price £2.5 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 28 May.*

The Drive, Wallace Square, Lavington Park GU28 0FG: End of terrace house, three bedrooms, two bathrooms plus cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner. 109 sq m (1,171 sq ft). Garden, garage. Guide price £695,000. *Savills, Petworth 01798 303558. Listed 4 Jun.*



Willow Cottage, Beechwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0NA: Grade II listed detached house. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, drawing and dining rooms, kitchen/breakfast room. 165 sq m (1,779 sq ft). Two double garages. 41.6 acres including woodland and chalk stream. Guide price £2.25 million. *RH&RW Clutton, Petworth 01798 303593. Listed 29 May.*

Easebourne Collection, Easebourne GU29 9BG: A variety of new-build houses. Guide price for the four-bedroomed, two-bathroomed one pictured here £1.25 million. *Metis Homes, Easebourne. 01730 771436. Listed 9 June.*



Morgan Court, Station Road, Petworth GU28 0FE: Retirement apartment. Two bedrooms, one bathroom plus cloakroom, kitchen/reception room. Communal lounge and guest suite available for visitors. £250,000. *McCarthy & Stone, Bournemouth. 03455 564122. Listed 9 June.*

Lutener Road, Easebourne GU29 9AT: End terrace Victorian cottage, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, living and dining rooms, kitchen. 72 sq m (777 sq ft). Off street parking. Guide price £425,000. *EXP, London. 03304 609968. Listed 5 June.*



Graffham Parish Council seeks new clerk

Graffham Parish Council is seeking a new clerk to support its plans to ensure the village remains a vibrant, welcoming and well-run community, as incumbent Caroline Davison stands down after two years in the role.

Chairman Gillian Charlesworth said: “Our councillors are active in their roles, and we are looking for an efficient, proactive and friendly person to work with us to cover council administration, financial management and coordination between councillors, residents and other local bodies.

“The role will suit a qualified clerk looking to take on a small additional council or an experienced administrator who wants to expand their skills. Training will be available for the right candidate and the outgoing clerk will hand over the council’s administration in very good order.”

The job will start at five hours a week but may extend to seven to ten hours a week in the future, at an hourly rate of between £21 and £25 depending on experience. For further information contact Gillian at gillian.charlesworth@graffham-pc.uk or on 07973768924.

Other council news

£1,500 to be spent on repairing Rec access road

Graffham Parish Council is donating some £1,500 to the village’s Recreation Ground to spend on repairs to its access road at the junction to the lane from the War Memorial where drainage works have recently been carried out.

Trust fund makes £2,500 one-off donation to school

The Katherine Maud Guilloid Fund, a charitable trust set up a century ago for the benefit of the local area and administered by Graffham Parish Council, is to make a one-off donation of £2,500 to Graffham Infant School, to provide special support to pupils and their families. Under the terms of the trust, half of its annual income is given to Graffham Village Health Association, a quarter to the Thursday Club and the rest distributed at the parish council’s discretion for charitable grants to persons or institutions connected with the village, principally preserving and maintaining footpaths and assisting pupils at the school.

Auditors approve parish council accounts

Auditors have given Graffham Parish Council a clean bill of health for its accounts for the past financial year.

New line-up to keep Empire Hall's doors open

A flurry of hands has been raised to serve on the Empire Hall committee of management trustees since out-going Chairman and Bookings Secretary Sally Blunt warned a month ago that the village's 'grand old lady' might be forced to close without new blood.

She announced last autumn that she will be stepping down from her roles from September, after almost 12 years' service in total. In an update to the annual meeting of the parish in late May (see June's *Graffham Parish News*) she advised that Anna Shawcross, who uses the building to provide her osteopathy services, would succeed her in the Booking Secretary position – but nobody had stepped forward to fill the post of Chairman.

Since then, however, there have been lots of offers of help. The trustees have named Ollie Robinson-Boulton, Graffham raised and now landlord of The Three Moles, as Chairman-elect, supported by partner Tom Richardson who will become Maintenance Officer, freeing incumbent Gillian Charlesworth to focus on her role as Chairman of Graffham Parish Council. With long-serving Treasurer Carol Sargent also looking to retire from the committee, Anna's husband Andy Shawcross will take on this role. Secretary K Consalvi will be succeeded by *Graffham Parish*



The Empire Hall will be in the hands of a new team of trustee officers from September.

News columnist Jonathan Simons. All new appointments are subject to ratification at the hall's AGM in September.

Sally said: "The village owes a huge vote of thanks to all who have stepped up to the plate to keep this vital community asset open. We are all working now to ensure a smooth and seamless handover when the time comes so that the Empire Hall can continue to welcome all its many users and visitors into the future."



Save the date for the AGM

The Empire Hall AGM will be held on Monday 1 September at 7pm in (you guessed it!) the hall itself – a chance to review what has happened in the past year, show thanks to the outgoing committee and welcome in the new team.

FAMILY FRIDAYS

are back at

Graffham Rec

Dear Graffham and friends,

Come and join us every other Friday through midsummer – to connect, chat and relax in good company with some communal childcare.

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

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

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

11 July

4–8pm

We hope to see you there!

For further information etc, email
graffhamrecpavilion@gmail.com

Rec team re-elected after year of progress

Graffham Recreation Ground held its AGM at the Pavilion on Thursday 5 June, with all three key officers re-elected – Chairman John Bracey, Treasurer Bernard Bayly and Secretary David Sparkes who was also named to the new position of Deputy Chairman.

In his Chairman's statement, John Bracey reported on a year of sound progress, with the opening of the first phase of the new play park a high point. He paid tribute to Rachel Gerrett for leading this project. Fund raising to complete its final phase is now more than half way "so we hope to complete it during this year".

Other key achievements included the purchase of a new Solis tractor and associated equipment for cutting the grass, along with reconditioning the old small John Deere lawn tractor and acquisition of a new strimmer.

A new large flatscreen television has been installed in the Pavilion for watching sport and other programmes.

It has also been fitted with

CCTV and exterior security lighting – with a defibrillator mounted on its exterior wall. Equipment for events has also been improved, with the addition of a dozen 6ft trestle tables and 60 rigid plastic chairs.

John noted: "We are looking forward to working closely with Graffham Parish Council's new Chairman Gillian Charlesworth to put the finances of the Recreation Ground on a firmer footing, enabling us to fund our maintenance programme and on-going projects to improve the facilities it provides for the village."



Two of the past year's high points for Graffham Rec were the delivery of its new grass-cutting tractor last summer and the opening, by local MP Andrew Griffith, of its new play park.

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Lavington Estate to tackle spruce pest in woods

Lavington Stud and Estate is to fell some Norway Spruce on its land in the coming weeks to prevent the spread of a serious pest affecting the trees that has only recently been identified in the UK.

South Downs Countryside Manager Nick Heasman said: “The eight-toothed bark beetle *Ips typographus* has hit spruces in continental Europe for years, but was only found in Britain in 2018, in Kent. It prefers stressed or dying trees but, under the right conditions, it can attack healthy specimens and has the potential to cause significant damage to our nation’s forestry and timber industries. Sadly, it has been found in Graffham recently.”

In line with action by the Forestry Commission to manage outbreaks of the pest, a pre-emptive felling of a small plantation of Norway Spruce will be carried out on the estate later this summer.

It will form part of the wider restoration of its ancient woodland, designed to re-establish native broadleaved trees and the species that thrive in this special habitat. The restocking of these native trees will begin in late autumn.

The work, which has been approved by the Forestry Commission, will be done by English Woodlands, as agents for Lavington Stud and Estate, which covers 650 acres across Graffham and East Lavington, including meadowland and, on the slope of Graffham Down, woodland.

Village shop association sets date for AGM

Graffham Village Shop Association (GVSA) holds its annual general meeting on Thursday 17 July at 7pm in the Pavilion at the Rec. The agenda and other papers for the meeting will be circulated to shareholder members ahead of then.

The GVSA owns the premises operated by Jeeva and Vasu, the unit alongside currently used by picture framer Stephanie Marx and the Chapel View residential house and is responsible for the overall maintenance of the properties, for collecting rents owed by the lessees, enabling it to repay the bank loan which financed the redevelopment of buildings in 2015. It also considers improvements which will benefit the community as a whole and for safeguarding these vital village assets for the long-term future.

Villagers are encouraged to participate in the GVSA by becoming shareholder members. For more details, please contact admin@gvsa.uk.



News and weather The team that brings you *Graffham Parish News* every month – the editorial team, our printer, regular contributors and the score-strong squad that slips 12 copies a year through letterboxes of each of the 300 or so properties throughout the village, come rain or shine – gathered for a thank-you party hosted by the magazine's publishers, Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council, on an early June evening after a rare day of rain, forcing a change of location from the editor's garden to the Empire Hall.

Graffham singers' trace tracks of their years

A goodly number of Graffham singers will be performing in Petworth Chorus's mid-year concert *The Tracks of Our Years*, at the town's Herbert Shiner School on Saturday 12 July evening. The event will feature "some of the songs that you have loved for so long", from Mozart and Fauré to Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, Spice Girls and Take That! Doors open at 5.30pm to allow time for parking, erecting gazebos and setting up picnics. The singing starts at 6.45pm with an interval for your picnic from about 7.30pm. The second half should end by around 9.30pm. For more details and tickets, see petworthchorus.co.uk/the-tracks-of-our-years



Save the date for Graffham's Fete

Bank Holiday Monday 25 August

Roads to west and north close for repairs

Roads to the west and north of Graffham will be closed for much of early July for long-awaited repairs to potholes and bumps, worsened when the lanes were used as cut-throughs while Midhurst's North Street was closed two years ago following the fire at the Angel Inn

West Sussex County Council has arranged for the lane between the village and the A286 at Cocking Causeway is to be resurfaced from Wednesday 2 to Tuesday 8 July with lining to follow the following week between 9 and 13 July. The work will be carried out between Graffham's Perrott Lane, right along Polecats and Bex Lane, to the A286's Heyshott turning – with the road closed for much of this time.

Selham Road is also listed for closure from 2 to 8 July for resurfacing, from the Graffham Common Road right up to its junction with the A272 at Halfway Bridge.

For details, see one.network/uk/westsussex

Petworth's Dr Polden hands over to Dr Jennings

Dr Christin Polden left Petworth Surgery, where she had been part of the clinical team for 15 years, at the end of June to relocate to her native Norway. She is being succeeded by Dr Emily Jennings. In a farewell message to her patients, Dr Polden said: "I am moving so that my children can experience life in their home country. It has been an absolute privilege to care for you and your families. Thanks for the trust and kindness shown me throughout my time here." Dr Jennings graduated from medical school in 2017 after working in the media for a decade. She joined the Petworth team two years ago as a GP registrar.



Crimestoppers

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

Petworth's Co-op store was broken into on the night of Tuesday 10 June and closed for all the following day as police investigated the crime scene and workmen carried out repairs. The shop said its security measures, including fog cannons, hindered the intruders.



Thursday Club members line up on the canal side ready to board their barge...

Thursday Club takes to water for strawberry tea

Graffham's Thursday Club took to the water for its annual mid-summer strawberry cream tea – and held it on a Friday, 6 June. Sixteen members and friends joined for the event, on a boat on the Wey and Arun Canal, leaving from Loxwood.

Although the club usually meets on Thursday – hence its name – no sailings were available on that day in June, so it signed up for the Friday instead which, said member Ann Rowney, “suited us very well as it was a lovely sunny day”.

Ann added: “The skipper and crew looked after us really well – and one of us actually saw a kingfisher on the riverbank, a very rare sight, which caused a little bit of excitement! All in all, it was a lovely way to spend an afternoon and everyone enjoyed the outing – thanks to Diane Bellis for organising it.”



... before taking to the water and heading below deck for their slap-up cream tea.

Graffham's annual meeting of the parish

The timing of Graffham's annual meeting of the parish, in the Empire Hall on 21 May, meant that we were unable to cover it fully in last month's edition, so we catch up here.

'Always plenty of issues to tackle here' – Chairman

Here's an abridged version of Graffham Parish Council Chairman Gillian Charlesworth's annual report to the village.

This may be a small village – but there are always plenty of issues for Graffham Parish Council to tackle. In the past year, we have looked at speed limits in the village, footpath and road maintenance, environmental issues, the possibility of merger with East Lavington Parish Council, maintenance of St Giles' closed church yard and additional car access through Seaford College's West Gate.

We have also had a change of chairmanship, and I would like to thank Roger Coakes for leading the council as chairman until January this year. I also warmly thank our clerk Caroline Davison and my fellow Councillors for their support and hard work on behalf of the whole village.

Rachel Gerrett has achieved great progress on the children's play park through extraordinary hard work and determination to raise the necessary funds. Fiona Jacob has led us in our consideration of planning applications, an aspect of our work that is set to become ever busier over the next few months with some major developments to consider. Colin Barker has been relentless in his pursuit of environmental issues and maintenance of our wonderful network of footpaths. As Deputy Chair, John Bracey is a huge support and has led on a wide range of actions including the Recreation Ground, which he chairs. He also managed the installation of our new defibrillators at the school and the Recreation and in the old phone box at Pescods. This means that we now have five defibrillators in the village.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the many volunteers who make Graffham the vibrant and welcoming village it is. Besides those delivering their reports 'live' at the annual parish meeting, they include:

- Carole Kirke and the Graffham Garden Group who raise funds and spend time enhancing the village with planting and maintenance in various spots, including the war memorial.
- Volunteers at the Rec who mow the field and playground and help to maintain the Pavilion.



- Jim Kirke and the Graffham Down Trust who maintain an area of Downs for us to enjoy.
- The Thursday Club led by Diane Bellis and the Lunch Club hosted by Sarah Lydiard Wilson and Jill McLean which give so much pleasure to their members every month.
- Phil Jones and his team who gave us such a fun and memorable Graffham Festival.

Now turning to parish council activities over the year. Funding village needs is one of our most important roles. The parish council provides an annual grant of just over £2,500 to the Rec, of which the council is a trustee. From Community Infrastructure Levy funding, we allocated £20,000 to the new children's play park and funded the new defibrillators.

We also administer the Katherine Maud Guillod Fund, a charitable fund set up nearly a hundred years ago, through which we have made regular payments to the Graffham Village Health Association and the Thursday Club. Through this fund, we have also helped with footpath repairs and are currently considering an allocation of funding for play therapy support for vulnerable children at Graffham and Duncton Schools.

We hope soon to receive a grant to enhance the War Memorial as part of VE and VJ Day commemorations and will also allocate village funds to this project. Communication from the Parish Council to residents of the village is critical. We

► *Continued on next page*

► *Continued from previous page*

need to ensure that you are informed about our meetings, our activities and our decisions. At our last meeting we agreed to start development of a new parish council website which should be ready in a couple of months.

During this year, we conducted a survey on road speeds which showed wide support for a 20mph speed limit. We are now working with our county councillor, Tom Richardson, the village school and other local parishes to bring about this change.

We have proposed a merger with East Lavington Council, with the aim of doing more together to enhance our villages through pooling resources. This has yet to be decided.

This forms part of a village plan that Graffham Parish Council is proposing, to enable our community to prepare ahead and ensure it and its assets are well maintained on a long-term basis, enabling the council to prioritise on issues that the residents agree are important and ensure the community remains well managed and vibrant well into the future. We will be seeking your feedback and input on this in the months ahead.

• *For more on the proposed village plan, see last month's Graffham Parish News.*

Caring for our environment and rights of way

Colin Barker summarises his activities as Graffham Parish Council's lead councillor for environmental issues and rights of way.

Environment Letters have been sent to the South Downs National Park Authority and the Environment Agency bringing to their attention Graffham Parish Council's concern with regard to the disused oil well at Baxter's Copse, on the west side of the parish near Hoyle. We are concerned that after so many years of it not being in use, the well's concrete cap could potentially be leaking methane. We have asked for this to be checked without delay. The oil well at Singleton has recently been sold by Igas to Star Energy. It now no longer produces oil, only gas, which indicates it is coming towards the end of its productivity. So we should ensure that the Baxter's Copse facility remains in good condition before Star Energy leaves this part of the world.

Weed killers and slug pellets I am concerned over the impact on our local environment of the continued reliance on weed killers and slug pellets by villagers. Surely everyone must be aware of the damage these cause to both insects and wildlife? I'm so pleased to witness wildlife gradually becoming more abundant

Village organisations provide updates

Around a dozen representatives from key village organisations presented reports and answered questions at the annual meeting of Graffham parish, among them:

- The Rev Vivien Turner on behalf of St Giles Church and Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council.
- Charles Beckerson, Headmaster of Lavington Federation Schools, including Graffham Infant School.
- Sally Blunt, Chairman of the trustees of the Empire Hall.
- Clive Rowntree, for All Saints Trustees.
- Chris Wilson, on behalf of the Graffham Village Shop Association.
- Fiona Jacob, for the Graffham Health Support Association.
- John Bracey, Chairman of Graffham Recreation Ground committee.
- Rachel Gerrett, lead for the Graffham Play Park initiative.
- Michael Blunt, Editor of *Graffham Parish News*.

here in Grafham, with more owls, slow worms, always lots of bats in the evening and even a large adult hedgehog showing up in our garden – the first in more than 20 years! Plus of course the welcome return of the house martins at Calloways this spring, an indication of the greater insect life in the vicinity and environmental improvements being made within the village.

Footpaths and byways The storms earlier in the year meant that our footpaths and byways required greater clearing than just regular annual maintenance, especially along the slopes of the South Downs. This involves quite a lot of detective work to find out who owns what, but most are now open again following a few prompts – so many thanks to all those responsible. Unfortunately, the condition of some in the village still leaves a lot to be desired with a few still remaining impassable.

Hedges and verges The maintenance of the village's hedges and verges involves me contacting parishioners with usually a polite request for them to trim back overgrowth that is becoming a danger to road users. Mostly these requests have been acted upon and roadside hedges and verges here are generally in a good state.

Ditches Some of the larger land owners have been carrying out some really good work maintaining ditches recently. Some of these ditches have not been taken care of properly for many years, and with the weather pattern being as it is now, having a properly working ditch is a vital part of any land management.

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Letters to the editor: The column YOU write

Something in Graffham Parish News or the village caught your eye? Drop us a note at editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com We're always pleased to hear from you!

Support our village! There has been a significant display of energy and passion dedicated to protecting our village recently. For all those connected with Graffham, whether current residents, former residents, or individuals contributing for their personal reasons, there are additional ways to support its preservation and ensure its future viability.

The essential components sustaining our vibrant and lively atmosphere include our flourishing village shop, infant and primary school, successful pubs and restaurants, community facilities like the Empire Hall, recreation ground and a functioning church. Combined with our small population of around 500 people, this forms an ecosystem that is increasingly rare and endangered across the nation. There is much that can be done by everyone to protect this unique character of Graffham.

Firstly, it is crucial to patronise the local shop, pubs and The Woodcote restaurant. They depend significantly for survival on the summer tourist trade, events at Goodwood and nearby polo centre in Midhurst. Unfortunately, the support from Graffham and neighbouring villagers alone is insufficient to sustain them.

Secondly, volunteers are desperately needed for nearly all organisations that facilitate and enrich the spirit of the village – our parish council, the Empire Hall trustees committee, the Rec Committee, the Tennis and Bowls Clubs, the Graffham Village Shop Association committee, the Friends of Graffham and Duncton PTA, Graffham Down Trust, the Thursday and Lunch Clubs, Graffham Garden Group, the bellringers, the Graffham Health Support Association and many more. Currently, much of the volunteering is done by a few dedicated individuals – and, without them and these organisations, the village's vitality would greatly diminish.

For those who no longer reside or have never lived in the village, contributions through donations to various charities and institutions are also immensely helpful. The church consistently requires funds for maintenance. If this does not appeal to you, the Empire Hall, recreation ground, infant school, and Graffham Down Trust are also appreciative of any support.

The energy and passion demonstrated in opposing changes can equally be directed towards making positive contributions to ensure the future prosperity of the village. With best wishes to all. – **Jim Kirke, Boswells Cottage, The Street, Graffham.**

School report: Sports, VE Day and moving up

With the end of term – and the school year – in sight for Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools, Business Manager Jenny Godfrey provides her monthly update.



Break times at Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools are even more active now, thanks to some fantastic new sports equipment bought with funds raised by the Friends of Graffham and Duncton (FGD), our parent-teacher association. The swing-ball sets at Duncton have been a real hit and the balancing equipment at Graffham has sparked some great problem solving.

The summer term is always a really busy time at school – at the time of writing, pupils at both schools are practising for their sports days, to be held before the end of June, and rehearsing for the summer performance. The children had lots of fun celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE day at both Graffham and Duncton. They spent some time learning about why we celebrate this historical occasion, followed by picnics outside, making flags, eating delicious cakes and singing war songs.

We can't wait to welcome our new reception intake who will be visiting Graffham

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Children at Duncton (left) and Graffham Schools having fun with some of the new sports equipment bought for them by the Friends of Graffham and Duncton.

this term for their settling in sessions ahead of starting officially in September.

It is also a very exciting time for our Year 2 children who will be moving on to Duncton and our Year 6s who will be visiting their secondary schools this term before moving on at the end of term – good luck, everyone!

Please support our biggest fund-raiser!

The Friends of Graffham and Duncton, the village school's parent-teacher association, are looking for donations for – and bids in – its summer online auction, one of its biggest fund-raisers of the year.

Chair Amy Dean said: “We would greatly appreciate any offers - tea and cake for two at a café, a bottle of wine, free passes to an event you are organising...”

Lots already donated and latest bids for them can be viewed at www.jumblebee.co.uk/friendsofgraffhamanddunctonsummerauction20251.

Bidding closes on 18 July.

All funds raised go directly to the schools for sports and IT equipment, art supplies, books, music lessons, and more.

To donate a lot to the auction or for any queries, email chairFGD@gmail.com or office@graffhaminfant.org.uk



Hearing from a veteran about the significance of VE Day.



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Garden open day raises £1,500 for Dementia



Some £1,500 was raised for Dementia UK by Carole and Jim Kirke when they opened their garden at Boswells Cottage, The Street, on Sunday 18 May. A steady stream of visitors was treated to perfect weather, and equally perfect cakes to go with their tea. The plants on sale were quickly snapped up too.



Graffham Garden Group's summer outings

Graffham Garden Group is building up to its biggest date of the year – its summer flower and produce show on 12 July (see opposite), with two more outings planned for later this season. To book your place, contact Nicky on 07796 144647 or at nicolamwest@btinternet.com The trips are open to all, not just members. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!

Thursday 21 August 1.30pm

Visit to Woolbeding Gardens

Woolbeding, Midhurst

A rarely offered talk by head gardener himself 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.



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Pavilion, Graffham Rec

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GRAFFHAM GARDEN GROUP FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Saturday 12 July

Empire Hall

8-10am Hall open for entries

2.30pm Hall open for viewings and teas

4pm Presentation of prizes

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

*Photo classes: 1 All Creatures Great and Small 2 Portrait
3 Nature at its Best 4 Landscape or Seascape
5 Any subject (under 16s)*

The schedule of classes and full details were circulated
with June's *Graffham Parish News* –
with more available from the village shop
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Bill's bygones: Brett, Bex Mill, Burton Park

A regular feature in which joint editor Bill Barrett looks back at what was happening in the village and the wider world this month in the past.

10 years ago – July 2015: Graffham Tennis Club's ninth Tennis Week gets underway. Brett Creed and Geoff Coulson hold their Fabulous Music Quiz at the Pavilion, then double-handedly hammer Kirdford in a Twenty20 cricket midweek match at the Rec, with Brett "walloping" an undefeated 69, and Geoff taking a hat trick. The highest temperature for 12 years, and the hottest July day yet in the UK, is recorded at Heathrow (36.7°C, 98.1°F). Tim Farron is elected leader of the Liberal Democrats. Lewis Hamilton wins the British Grand Prix and Chris Froome the Tour de France. England's footballers finish third in the Women's World Cup. Deaths of humanitarian Sir Nicholas Winton (aged 106, and the subject of the film *One Life*, recently screened by Graffham Empire Movies), BBC racing commentator Sir Peter O'Sullivan (97), Irish crooner/TV presenter Val Doonican (88) and actor Omar Sharif (83).

25 years ago – July 2000: This month's meeting of Graffham Parish Council is the first for new clerk Richard Buckler, who replaces Elli Spielberg. Chairman Diana Kingsmill reports that Long Bostle has been changed to a "byway open to all traffic", contrary to the wishes of the council, while the traffic priority at Bex Mill bridge is also discussed. Graffham Cricket Club on tour defeat Chipping Norton and Stanton but lose to South Chelmsford. The body of eight-year-old Sarah Payne is found near Pulborough. Alex Salmond resigns as leader of the Scottish National Party. Reality TV show *Big Brother* airs for the first time in the UK. An Air France Concorde crashes shortly after take-off from Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport, killing 100 on board and four on the ground. Deaths of retired Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie (78) and actor Walter Matthau (79).

50 years ago – July 1975: A dilemma for the judges at Graffham Garden Group's 11th summer show when the rule that nobody can win the Ricardo Cup for best dahlias more than two years in succession means that John Holland is awarded the trophy despite the blooms of Mrs Claydon (winner in 1973 and 1974) being judged the best. Graffham Downlands School applies for planning permission to extend its existing hutted classrooms. Lodsworth Church Fête is opened by David Dumbleby. A serious heath fire at Burton Park follows weeks of dry weather. Prince Charles plays polo at Cowdray for the first time since 1972, accompanied by his "attractive, raven-haired" second cousin, and ex-girlfriend of actor Richard Burton, Princess Elizabeth of Yugoslavia. ITV airs the first series of *Celebrity Squares* hosted by Bob Monkhouse. Death of actor James Robertson Justice (Sir Lancelot Spratt in the *Doctor* films, 68).

Graffham Chronicles: Halsey Ricardo 1854-1928

In her column this month, local historian Pauline Goodwin focusses on the patriarch of one of Graffham's most noted families, the Ricardos, following publication of a book about his contribution to the Arts and Crafts movement.

I make no apologies for returning this month to the Ricardo dynasty, a lineage whose activities and influence is evident today in Graffham but reaches back to the 1880s with Halsey Ricardo, the family patriarch. He was the one who established the Ricardo home in the village – and some of his descendants still live here today.

Three years before her death in 2021, Halsey's granddaughter Camilla Bosanquet identified 14 members of the family buried in St Giles' churchyard. Among them were architects, experts on African fish, artists, suffragettes and world leading internal combustion engineers. So Halsey was the founder of a family of extraordinary talents in such varied fields. Today, Halsey's great grandson Mark Bertram reminds us that at least one of his relatives still lives in Graffham.

Conquered by Graffham's beauty he built not just his own family home here but also brought his Arts and Crafts magic to several other properties locally too.

In 1885, Halsey purchased a few acres of "pine bowered beauty" here, planting a cedar there to mark the birth of his son Harry. That tree is still standing.

His first design for this site was given the name Ravenshurst but this was never built. It was replaced by a plan for the family house originally called Woodside, but changed in 1979 by another of Halsey's granddaughters, Kate Bertram, and her husband Colin who were intent on perpetuating the family name. So it is now called



Halsey (centre) with his son-in-law Maresco Pearce and daughter Kate with a grandson, at what is now Ricardo's in around 1920.

Ricardo's. Kate was that expert on East African fish, incidentally. She was also President of Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, though lived in Graffham at Woodside.

In the two decades after buying the plot, Halsey landscaped the garden with three brick wall terraces, created an orchard and a paddock. Woodside was eventually built on the site in

1905 and a lodge added four years later.

Great grandson Mark Bertram recalls with pleasure his days spent at Woodside visiting his family. He recalls the resident staff retained by his grandfather and grandmother, Harry and Beatrice Ricardo – Mr and Mrs Bicknell who lived in the cottage at the bottom of the drive, and Evelyn (Brown), who



Family members gather for a farewell party for the Graffham house that had been their home for a century and is now named after them – Ricardo's.

gradually took over from Mrs Bicknell in the house and also moved into the lodge. He also remembers with fondness 16-year-old June Challen née Ford “who came to Woodside daily to keep us occupied, active and fed”.

Halsey's quest for beauty was achieved sympathetically at Woodside, according to the elegant writing of Sir Lawrence Weaver, in a seven-page feature in *Country Life* on 30 October 1909, and in the book *Small Country Houses of Today*. Weaver wrote that during this landscaping process “happily few trees needed to be felled”. He added: “The sober beauties of this Sussex home and its setting become impressive even to a casual visitor... Mr Ricardo has not dragooned nature but has slowly tempered her disorder.”

Halsey also left his touch on other properties locally. He designed elements of Grove Cottage on Popple Hill, which dates back to the 16th century. Mark Bertram recently visited this building, now home to Phil and Susie Jones, and was particularly impressed by the central chimney which is fed by four separate fireplaces. Halsey's designs were most creative in terms of decoration for fire surrounds, but also his knowledge of the science involved allowed him to build in efficiency by recycling heat within the walls and upper floors, as at Woodside. He also added a separate wing and studio to Carpenters Town in 1923 for his daughter Anna and her husband, Maresco Pearce.

Anna's son John Ricardo Pearce contributed to a survey of Graffham houses

► *Continued on next page*



Halsey's son Harry, the leading internal combustion engineer, in the house's porch in 1972 with his wife Beatrice.

and Crafts movement, alongside William Morris, whose life-long friend, the artisan tile and ceramics manufacturer William de Morgan, was one of Halsey's business collaborators.

Halsey was a highly innovative ceramicist, using relief methods of patterning to decorate his ware. In 1882, Halsey developed a new green coloured glaze which he called peach green. This proved successful and was copied by Wedgwood as a new colourway for its Jasperware, to which they gave the name Dysart green – from the Earl of Dysart's seat for which Halsey designed a mantelpiece.



Three generations of Ricardos are recorded in the front porch of the Graffham house that now carries their name.

► *Continued from previous page*

conducted by the Rev David Grant four or so decades ago, noting that a cottage on Brook Street, Carpenters Town “was built by Halsey Ricardo as a stable”. This building has been referred to as Snooke's Barn. I remember the Snookes on Brook Street, and Eleanor and Almer Snooke are laid to rest in St Giles' churchyard.

Halsey's life was packed with jaw-dropping accomplishments far and wide, as an architect and designer.

He was a leading name in Britain's Arts and Crafts movement, alongside William Morris, whose life-long friend, the artisan tile and ceramics manufacturer William de Morgan, was one of Halsey's business collaborators.

He took part in five London exhibitions of the Arts and Crafts – in 1888, 1893, 1896 1903 and 1910. As part of this, he wrote an article on furniture for an 1893 anthology, edited by William Morris, *Arts and Crafts Essays: Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society* which can still be bought today.

In their Sand's End Pottery in London, Halsey and William de Morgan collaborated to produce ceramics and tiles to be used in an innovative architectural way. Halsey was keen to use a glaze that, when used on exterior walls, would resist the polluted atmosphere of 19th Century London. A project to benefit from this type of exterior tiling was one of his best-known designs – the gateway to Calcutta, the city's

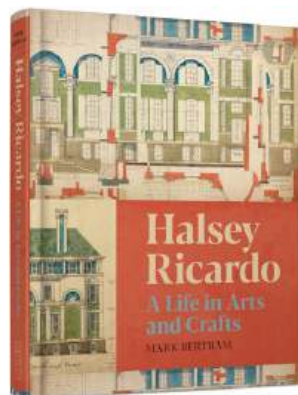


Halsey, in the centre, with his family topping and tailing gooseberries in their Graffham garden in around 1920, from left: Anna, Esther, Beatrice, Harry and Kate.

Howrah Station. Twelve 12 P&O liners also took these designs around the world. His most famous work using these exterior glazed tiles was Debenham House in London's Holland Park, designed in 1905 for the head of the department store. Its outside was completely faced with waterproof glazed bricks and tiles, including the roof. His granddaughter Camilla Bosanquet says it paid for Halsey to build Woodside.

Halsey's understanding of beauty alongside sympathetic and flawless design was the hallmark of everything he designed – buildings, furniture, artefacts and tile – remarkable artistry charted by great grandson Mark Bertram, also an architect, in a book *Halsey Ricardo, A Life in Arts and Craft*, published this spring, in which he described his forebear as being “deservedly recognised as a champion of the Arts and Crafts movement”.

Halsey Ricardo died on 15 February 1928, aged 73, in Graffham. Marked by a plain stone, he was interred in St Giles' churchyard, in the village where he chose to lay his head and make his family home.



Mark Bertram's book *Halsey Ricardo: A Life in Arts and Crafts* is available via its publisher at a 20% discount on the regular £55 price, with free delivery within the UK, for purchases using the code Halsey20 via www.lundhumphries.com/products/halsey-ricardo

Nature Notes: Catch a cricket before they're all out

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

I'm a huge fan of trashy sci-fi B-movies and they don't come any better (or worse) than 1957's *Beginning of the End*. It's the usual story – over-eager government scientists intent on increasing crop yields inadvertently create giant irradiated grasshoppers the size of doubler-decker buses which set about destroying Chicago. There are some similar creatures lurking around Sussex. Admittedly, they're not big enough to start stomping on Selham any day soon but they're still mighty impressive.

The great green bush cricket can claim to be Britain's biggest insect. Yet this Godzilla of the undergrowth is surprisingly hard to see. Its long leaf-like body blends in amongst the brambles rendering it almost invisible. Bug eyes, impressive jaws and twirling antennae give it some monster movie credentials, but there's nothing to fear from this harmless native.

There are about 35 species of crickets and grasshoppers (*Orthoptera*) in Britain. Crickets differ from grasshoppers by having much longer, thread-like antennae and they 'sing' by rubbing their wings together (while grasshoppers rub their legs



Graffham Down Trust Annual Picnic

Sunday July 6, 2025 from 10 to 1 pm

Featuring a butterfly walk and moth trap led by our own, Michael Blencowe

Meet outside St Giles Church at 9.45

Picnic on the Downs for all ages at 12:30pm

Bring a picnic and join us in Bowley's Reserve at midday

Westerlands will be providing burgers as well!

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against their wings). This song or stridulation is the male's way of romancing a female – who, if interested, will reply.

The best chance of finding the great green bush cricket is to head out on a warm late summer evening and listen for their downland duets. They make a loud, incessant rattle – imagine a maraca player after drinking too much coffee.



A great green bush cricket in a downland flower meadow. ©Bruce Shortland Wildlife Trusts.

I was leading a wildlife walk through the flower-rich meadows of the South Downs recently and was blown away by the wall of sound created by hundreds of crickets and grasshoppers. But it became apparent that not everyone could hear this orthopteran orchestra. The sad truth is that as we get older our ears can't tune in to the higher frequencies produced by these insects and, species by species, they fall silent to us.

I have a compilation CD of the chirps and buzzes of Britain's crickets and grasshoppers – a sort of *Now That's What I Call Stridulation*. I played it this morning and track 24 had gone. It was there a few years ago but now... silence. I've started to lose my crickets! The beginning of the end.

It isn't just me who will be hearing less wildlife in the future. Our countryside is becoming quieter as crickets, bees and birds vanish. Over the decades, changes in agricultural practices have made large parts of England quieter. The *Silent Spring* predicted by Rachel Carson in 1962 has seeped across every season.

- In July, get out and listen to the sounds of summer before they fade. 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:



michaelblencowe.com

Out and about: A call to disturb cocoa time

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

Nightjars arrive hereabouts from Africa in May, hatch two broods and then return to the Dark Continent in September. They are nocturnal, hunting for insects at night, remaining camouflaged on the heathland ground during the day. Their distinctive churr we hear is the male call and is supplemented by wing-clapping in



flight with the aim to attract the female. When we moved to Graffham many moons ago, we used to go out to watch and listen for nightjars on Lavington and Heyshott Common. The churring occurs just at twilight, from about 9.30 to 10pm. Unfortunately, that coincides with cocoa time, and it is often difficult to rouse oneself to leave the house. Whether they call around dawn as well I have never had the singleness

A nightjar against a darkening sky.

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Graffham's Gallows Hill at twilight – your best chance of a nightjar encounter locally.

of mind to discover. My photographs of adult birds are not very impressive. On Heyshott Common I thought I got video of nightjars flying against the darkening sky and clapping their wings. It turned out though that the noise was a faulty camera lens clicking in and out. It was not until after the Sussex Wildlife Trust took over Graffham Common in 2009 and opened it up that the nightjars moved in closer to home. Standing at the top of Gallows Hill, you get the best chance of a rewarding encounter. However, one night we just opened the kitchen window and listened to this moving chorus without having to dress at all for the occasion.

In June 2012, I was looking for snakes on Heyshott Common when an apparently injured bird flapped ahead of me into the bushes. I thought it might be damaged and that I could somehow help it out but it flapped off further. I happened to glance down to check my footing and I saw two fluffy balls and some broken eggshells. Yes, they were nightjar chicks and the mother was luring me away. I felt so guilty about disturbing them. It certainly shows why we should always keep dogs under close control on the commons and not let them blunder around damaging the habitat and scaring off our precious wildlife.



Two nightjar chicks on Heyshott Common.

- You can hear a recording Jonathan made of nightjars on Graffham Common near Gallows Hill at www.jonathansimons.co.uk/OutAndAbout/Sounds/NightjarClip3.mp4



GRAFFHAM TENNIS CLUB

Tennis Week 2025

Friday 18 July – Friday 25 July

Games and social events open to all villagers, friends and family!

Friday 18 July	● 4.30pm	● Pickleball
	● 5.30pm	● Parent and child tennis / ball machine
	● Evening	● Bring and share barbeque/picnic, Pavilion Bar open
Saturday 19 July	● 9.30am	● Coffee and bacon butties
	● 10am – 12.30pm	● Mixed doubles
	● 1pm	● Mixed doubles final
	● 2pm	● Parent and kids two-wicket cricket match
	● Evening	● Pavilion bar open – bring picnics
Sunday 20 July	● 10am	● Men's handicap doubles tournament
	● 1.30pm	● Men's doubles final
Monday 21 July	● 10am – 12noon	● Senior tennis
	● 4.30pm – 6pm	● Adult coaching
Tuesday 22 July	● 1pm – 2.30pm	● Adult coaching
	● 4.30pm – 6pm	● Graffham vs Rogate juniors match
Wednesday 23 July	● 9.30am – 2pm	● Junior/academy coaching
	● 6.30pm	● Ladies B doubles Hampshire League match vs Fernhurst
Thursday 24 July	● 9.30am – 2pm	● Junior/academy Coaching
	● 6pm – 8pm	● Men's team vs Haslemere C
	● 6pm – 7.30pm	● Games night – volleyball, table tennis, croquet, boules
Friday 25 July	● 9.30am – 2pm	● Junior academy coaching
	● 6pm	● Club night
	● 7pm onwards	● Club curry at the Pavilion

ENTRIES for ANY events PLEASE email admin@graffhamtennis.co.uk
or SEE BELOW and CALL or email NOW!

Richard Hopp	richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk	Junior coaching
David Sparkes	☎ 07958 655 288	Mens doubles
Simon Longman	☎ 07979 590 891	Mixed doubles
Richard Sabin	admin@graffhamtennis.co.uk	Curry Night tickets

www.graffhamtennis.co.uk



Reccy, steady, go! Graffham Infant School held its Sports Day on Graffham Rec on Friday 13 June – one of the hottest afternoons so far this year.

Graffham Tennis Club

The preliminary round robin stage of the club's annual Mixed Doubles tournament took place on Sunday 8 June with eight pairs contesting the event in two groups of four. Trophy holders (for many years!) Andy Craig and Emma Amin won Group A, while Ollie Edwards and Angie Thornley won all of their fixtures in Group B, making the final, whose date is yet to be decided, an enticing prospect.



Tennis Week begins on Friday 18 July, kicking off with parent and child tennis matches, a ball machine session and a barbecue. If you haven't experienced Tennis Week before, do study the schedule (opposite page) and join in! The best events to cut your teeth on will be the Saturday cricket match and the Thursday evening games night. Fingers crossed for the sunshine!

July sees many home fixtures, so do make sure that you use the club court booking website to check availability.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: July					
All spectators welcome!					
7	Mon	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	vs Fernhurst A
8	Tue	6.30pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Avenue A
9	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Medstead C
10	Thu	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Fernhurst B
23	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Fernhurst C
24	Thu	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Haslemere C
28	Mon	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	vs Denmead A
29	Tue	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Steep C

Grafham Tennis Club East Hants league results

28 May	Drew 4-4	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Steep C
2 June	Won 6-2	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	vs Haslemere B
10 June	Won 8-0	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Denmead A
11 June	Won 5-3	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Newman Collard B
12 June	Lost 5-3	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Ropley

Grafham Bowls Club

Members enjoyed a lovely sunny afternoon playing for our President's Trophy, which was won by Jane Riley, Andy Wood and Kym Pegram. The trophy was presented by Club President Janet Wakeford.

Spectators are always welcome at any of our home matches (see below) – or why not come along on a Monday evening at 6pm and give it a try? All you need are flat shoes. You're assured of the warmest of welcomes.

Grafham Bowls Club home fixtures: July

All spectators welcome!

9	Wed	6.30pm	vs Midhurst
13	Sun	2pm	Ladies' Day
16	Wed	6.30pm	vs Stedham
24	Thu	6pm	vs Billingshurst
27	Sun	2pm	Jubilee Shield
31	Thu	6pm	vs Petersfield



Competition was tight in Grafham Bowls Club's 2025 President's Shield tournament – with Kym Pegram, Jane Riley and Andy Wood receiving the trophy from Club President Janet Wakeford.

Graffham Parish News' jaunty July quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers on page 59 (no cheating!)

- 1 Which Graffham alehouse was nicknamed “The Grindstone and Bottle”?
- 2 Which Graffham resident was a Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 2004?
- 3 Up to how many kilometres from the coast does the Sussex Nearshore Trawling Byelaw exclusion zone extend: [a] 40, [b] 14, [c] 4?
- 4 Britain's lowest unemployment figure of 215,000 was recorded in July of which year: [a] 1955, [b] 1985, [c] 2005?
- 5 *The Red Vineyard* was the only painting by which artist, who died 135 years ago on 29 July, aged 37, to sell during his lifetime?
- 6 Which Virginal English entrepreneur will be 75 on 17 July?
- 7 Who is the most recent golfer successfully to defend his Open Championship title: [a] Tom Watson, [b] Lee Trevino, [c] Pádraig Hamilton?
- 8 The Rev John Hartley defeated Irish aristocrat Vere St Leger Goold in which major sporting competition in 1879?
- 9 Which fictional, avian-named, musical TV family featured Shirley Jones (as a widowed mother of five) and her real-life stepson David Cassidy (right)?
- 10 Which *Carry On* film was released in July 1964: [a] *Camping*, [b] *Spying*, [c] *Up the Khyber*?



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'SONGS OF PRAISE' IN THE GARDEN

Sunday 31st August 3.30pm -
Occam Cottage, The Street, Graffham

Come and sing some favourite hymns
in the style of 'Songs of Praise'.

If you have a favourite hymn please let us know
what it is, and maybe why you have chosen it, and what
it means to you. We will sing the most popular ones.

All are welcome - whether or not you choose a hymn.
There will be cake too!

Please send hymn choices to Chris Leaver at
goneaway@btinternet.com before 15th August.

Thank you!



Milly with parents Callum and Katie – and being serenaded by a lone piper outside St Giles after her baptism there on a sunny 25 May.



Bagpiper marks Milly Macqueen's baptism

Just like her father Callum several decades before her, Milly Catherine Macqueen was led out of the church after her baptism by a lone bagpiper, in full kilt dress.

It wasn't the only family tradition followed – her names were chosen in honour of her maternal grandmother.

The service was conducted by the Rev Vivien on Sunday 25 May at St Giles, where proud parents Callum and Katie had wed in September 2023. They chose the date



Just one of the floral decorations in the church for Milly's baptism.

to coincide with a long bank holiday weekend here in the UK and also in Katie's native USA, to enable as many family and friends to attend as possible, including Katie's sister Kelly, who was one of the four godparents.

Although Milly, at six-months-old, is unlikely to remember much of it, the church was beautifully decorated with flowers by her grandmother Georgina Macqueen.



TAIZÉ PRAYER

song, prayer and silence

Sunday 27 July 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

Messy Church goes wild, at Lavington

The weather was wonderful for Graffham's first Messy Church Goes Wild, held at Lavington Stud and Estate, thanks to the Pitt family with great assistance from manager Sissy Theobald. The barn and grassy area in the shelter of the Downs provided a perfect location with its view over the open countryside.

Families gradually arrived until 20 children and their parents were joining in craft activities led by Annie Ghinn, Dinah Lammings and Barbara Edge, making bird feeders, seed balls and cress eggheads. A walk outside led to a convenient spot for sitting to hear Annie tell the story of God's creation, singing a song and praying a quiet prayer of thanksgiving. Then it was time for a picnic tea together under the Messy Church tree, courtesy of Nettie Lanaghan, Barbara Edge and Bridget Lewis, more craft making and parachute and ball games led by Beanie Bradley.

The leisurely arrival concluded with an even more leisurely leave-taking in the late sunshine. The Rev Vivien said: "It was such a brilliant way to spend an afternoon together. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this first visit possible. Thank you, Lord, for a great time together."

If your family would like to come to Messy Church in the Rec pavilion this autumn, just let Henrietta Aparicio, on 07714 652856, or the Rev Vivien know.



Under the Messy Church tree (above) and making feeders for the birds.



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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PACT opens Petworth Festival and kids' club



The now traditional service to launch Petworth Festival will be held at the town's St Mary's Church on Thursday 17 July at 6.30pm, under the auspices of Petworth Area Churches Together. The speaker will be Sir Vernon Ellis, former Head of the British Council, and it will be followed by wine and refreshments. All welcome. No booking required.

Kids' club Petworth Area Churches Together's annual Kids' Summer Holiday Bible Club will be held from Monday 28 July to Friday 1 August, at Petworth's Herbert Shiner Hall. Open to all children of primary school age, it promises lots of activities, including a picnic lunch with bouncy slide and face painting. The cost is just £3.50 per child, with a maximum charge of £7 per family. To book a place, email enquiries@sylviabeaufoy.org



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:




- | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Biscuits and treats. | • Jam, honey, spreads. | • Sugar. |
| • Cooking oil. | • Ketchup, mayo etc. | • Tea and coffee. |
| • Deodorant. | • Nappies, sizes 5, 6, 7. | • Tin meat/veg meals. |
| • Flour. | • Ready-made sauces. | • Toothbrushes. |
| • House cleaning items. | • Shampoo, conditioner. | • Toothpaste. |

Need a helping hand...? Graffham with Woolavington's Parish Priest Discretionary Fund is available to help any parishioner in real financial need. Funded by donations to St Giles, it's already come to the rescue of multiple individuals and families in the village hit by the cost of living crisis. Stretched to pay for something essential? Struggling to pay for your child's school extras? No cash for urgently needed groceries? It could be the answer to your prayers. Contact Rev Vivien to find out more.

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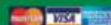


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What's on at our village church and chapel

- 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.

July				
1	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	St Giles Church
		6pm	Bell ringing practice	St Giles Church
2	Wed	10.15am	Teddy Time	Pavilion
		12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
		2.30pm	PCC Community Group meeting	Jaysfield Lodge
5	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing	St Giles Church
6	Sun	10am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 3 <i>Reading: 2 Kings 5.1-14</i>	St Giles Church
8	Tues	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	St Giles Church
		6pm	Bell ringing practice	St Giles Church
9	Wed	10.15am	Teddy Time	Pavilion
		7pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
10	Thu	10am	Graffham Infants School assembly	St Giles Church
12	Sat	10am	Bell ringing practice	St Giles Church
13	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 4 Sea Sunday <i>Reading: Amos 7.7 - end</i>	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
15	Tues		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
		6pm	Bell ringing practice	St Giles Church
16	Wed	10.15am	Teddy Time	Pavilion
20	Sun	10am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Church Family Eucharist Trinity 5 <i>Reading: Amos 8.1-12</i>	St Giles Church
22	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	St Giles Church
		6pm	Bell ringing practice	
27	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 6 <i>Reading: Hosea 1.2-10</i>	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taizé Prayer	All Saints Chapel
29	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	St Giles Church
		6pm	Bell ringing practice	St Giles Church

What's on in and around the village

For all church events, see page 53. For sports dates, see page 42-44. For weekly events, see page 57

July				
1	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society of Midhurst talk <i>The Genius of Rene Lalique</i>	Midhurst Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex on <i>Influences in Landscape Photography</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
2	Wed	6.30pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall
			Seaford College term ends	Seaford College
3	Thu	10–11am	UKHarvest community food hub	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth
	Thu	1.15pm	Duncton Junior School's postponed sports day	Duncton Junior School
5	Sat	2-5pm	Northchapel village fair	Northchapel
6	Sun	10am-1pm	Graffham Down Trust annual picnic (page 38)	Bowley's Reserve
		11am-4.30pm	Classic car and vehicle rally	Coultershaw Heritage Site
9	Wed	6.30pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
10	Thu		Festival of Speed (till 13 Jul)	Goodwood
		2.30pm	Thursday Club	Empire Hall
		5pm	Graffham Health Support Assoc volunteers' thank-you party	Empire Hall
11	Fri		Arundel Music Festival	Arundel
		4-8pm	Family Friday	Rec
12	Sat	2.30pm	Graffham Garden Group summer flower and produce show (see page 31)	Empire Hall
		5.30pm	Petworth Chorus summer concert (see page 17)	Herbert Shiner, Petworth
		7pm	Epic comedy night	Three Moles
13	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
15	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
16	Wed	10am-5pm	Pop up art exhibition featuring local youngsters, including from Graffham (see p 24)	Fittleworth Village Hall
17	Thu		Petworth Festival (till 2 Aug)	Petworth
		7pm	Graffham Village Shop Association AGM (page 16)	Pavilion
18	Fri	5.30pm	Summer performance for Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools	Duncton Junior School

18	Fri		Graffham Tennis Week (to Fri 25 July) (see page 43)	Rec
20	Sun		Cowdray Park polo Gold Cup final	Easebourne
21	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford College
22	Tue		WSCC schools term ends	
23	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
26	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		8pm	Celina Sax	Three Moles
		9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
27	Sun		Farm walk, BBQ and pop-up shop	Slow Grown Farm
		7-10pm	Blues Night	Three Moles
29	Tue		Glorious Goodwood (till Sat 2 Aug)	Goodwood

August

1	Fri	10am-3.30pm	Bignor Sunflower Maze and Pumpkin patch (till 28 Aug)	By Bignor Roman Villa RH20 1PH
		11am-7pm	Glorious Goodwood racing festival (till 2 Aug)	Goodwood
			MADhurst festival (till 31 August)	Midhurst
2	Sat	9am-2pm	Summer market with MADhurst unplugged	Midhurst
5	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
9	Sat	Afternoon	Heyshott summer show	Cobden Hall, Heyshott
		8pm	Absolutely Dragulous drag duo	Three Moles
10	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
12	Tue		<i>The Glorious Twelfth</i>	
16	Sat	10am-5pm	Vintage market	Goodwood Kennels
21	Thu		Graffham Garden Group outing	Woolbeding Gardens
		7-10pm	Petworth Chi Pride LGBTQ+ event	Petworth House
22	Fri		August Bank Hols Racing (till 24 Aug)	Goodwood
23	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
25	Mon		August bank holiday	
		From 2pm	Graffham Summer Fête	Rec
26	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
27	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
30	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		9am-5pm	Summer street party	Midhurst Market Square
		7pm	Abba tribute night	Goodwood Kennels

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.

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Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)			
Mondays	8am	Yoga with Kate (fortnightly) ³	Westerlands
	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness ¹	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	6pm in summer	Bowls Club practices – all welcome	Rec
Tuesdays	8.30am	Strength and mobility with Gemma ³	Westerlands
	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
	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
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁸ – all welcome	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁹	Empire Hall
	6pm	Ladies cricket training – all welcome	Rec
	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	8.30AM	Boxfit with Nina ³	Westerlands
	9-10.15am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	9.30am	Yoga with Kate ³	Westerlands
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ¹⁰	Empire Hall
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.

⁶**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

⁷**Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at richard@hoppcoraching.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 45) 1 The Woodman. 2 Chris Adams. 3 [c] 4. 4 [a] 1955. 5 Vincent van Gogh. 6 Richard Branson. 7 [c] Pádraig Hamilton (in 2007 and 2008). 8 The Wimbledon Men's Singles. 9 [c] Partridge Family. 10 [b] Spying.

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For more information please get in touch on:

0788-4445083

serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com

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	Book via Ring Pingo app 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 Simon Longman	simon.longman@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 Mary Taylor	mkt.bythedowns@gmail.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
Yoga at Empire Hall		Deborah Albon	07790 367009



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