

# GRAFFHAM

## PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 417

FREE

NOVEMBER 2025



All set to celebrate 150 years since  
St Giles Church was transformed

Huge support for Graffham-East Lavington merger

Your comments wanted on draft Graffham plan



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



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**On the cover:** St Giles is all set to roll out the red carpet for its 150th anniversary celebrations on Sunday 2 November. Among those expected at the revels are two bishops, an archdeacon, an MP and a descendant of the man in whose memory the church was rebuilt and rededicated in 1875.

**Contributions and contacts** The editors are always pleased to hear from you at [editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)

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Member editor 2025 Award Winner 2022  
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You are cordially invited to join us to celebrate  
our village church on this special day

150th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE  
celebrating the rededication of  
St Giles Church Graffham  
after its rebuilding in memory of  
Bishop Samuel Wilberforce

All Saints' Sunday  
2 November 2025 at 10.30am

Followed by drinks and canapés in Graffham Infant School Hall



RSVP

[stgileschurchgraffham@gmail.com](mailto:stgileschurchgraffham@gmail.com)

by 20 October 2025

St Giles Church The Street Graffham West Sussex GU28 0NJ

# Writing from the Rectory: Marching on

I'd like to express our enormous appreciation to *Graffham Parish News* editor Michael Blunt, village historian Pauline Goodwin, archivist Robin Brind and designer Karin Skanberg for all their work bringing the back story of St Giles to life in the pages of our monthly news magazine and the displays in the village as we collectively celebrate the 150th anniversary of our church's rebuilding this month. They have informed us so well about its history and the life of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, the Lord of the Manors of Graffham and Woolavington, in whose memory it was renovated and enlarged in 1875. Thank you!

My companions and I thought about this history, and how Samuel's life was sadly cut short, as we stood at his memorial on Abinger Rough in the Surrey Hills at the end of our 'pilgrimage' there last month (see page 7). We reflected on the impact of his loss on all those who knew, loved and respected him and on the outpouring

of generosity in donations leading to the rebuilding of our St Giles – which therefore resulted in our visiting that spot that day.



How proud the people of Graffham and East Lavington must have been of the beautiful church that is his legacy when it was rededicated 150 years ago – a church fit for purpose in the later 19th century, proclaiming the beauty of holiness through its

woodwork, stonework, embroidery, silverware, stained glass, pews, screen, choir stalls, pipe organ, not forgetting its state-of-the-art heating system.

This renewed church must have had a remarkable impact on the whole community entering through its new wrought iron-hinged doorways – top-hat-doffing gentlemen, be-hatted ladies and smock-wearing villagers alike. Indeed, it has had a remarkable impact over the years since then, through all the celebrations of royal jubilees and coronations and the grief of two world wars. It still has a remarkable impact today on us – the inheritors of the original donors' abundant generosity, who inherit too the challenge of keeping St Giles fit for purpose, celebrating its present and future as well as its past. We repair the stonework, the roof tiles, the plasterwork and the embroidery, we re-imagine the heating for a climate conscious world, we plan for possible improvements of our own that the 19th century world could never have imagined. Most importantly, we give thanks for blessings

received at God's hands, bring the triumphs and the tragedies of the world before God in our prayers, sing new songs and provide new stories of the church in our time. In this, we are helped because we inherit not only the church but the goodwill of those who value it still and contribute towards its wellbeing – churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike.

Church is at its best here. I see it and I am immensely thankful for it, for everyone who makes St Giles a beloved symbol of the love of God which endures through all generations. I'm confident Samuel Wilberforce too, would consider this his most valued legacy. So, let's lift the church roof in praise and thanksgiving at our 150th Celebratory Service of Rededication on All Saints Sunday 2 November – then let us go marching on!

With love,



Reverend Vivien



Donations were so generous at Graffham Infant School's and the regular parish Harvest Festivals at St Giles that the Rev Vivien had to resort to a wheelbarrow to ferry them to her car before taking them to homeless charity Stonepillow.



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

**Churchwardens:** Ginny Barrett 01798 867113  
Cindy Bradley 07787 516522

**Safeguarding Officer:** Howard Pescott  
01798 867029 safeguardinggraffham@gmail.com

 stgilesgraffham.org  @stgilesgraffham

# All set for St Giles' 150th celebrations

St Giles is all set to roll out the red carpet for its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations on Sunday 2 November, with those expected to join the revels including two bishops, an archdeacon, an MP and a direct descendant of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, the noted cleric and our Lord of the Manor in whose memory the church was rebuilt and rededicated in 1875.

The building's milestone will be marked at a special service in the church at 10.30am followed by a reception in the hall of Graffham Infant School, just across the road.

The service will be led by the Bishop of Chichester, the Rt Rev Martin Warner, with our Priest-in-Charge the Rev Vivien in support, along with the Ven Dr Tom Carpenter, making his first visit to Graffham with Woolavington since being appointed Archdeacon of Chichester last month.

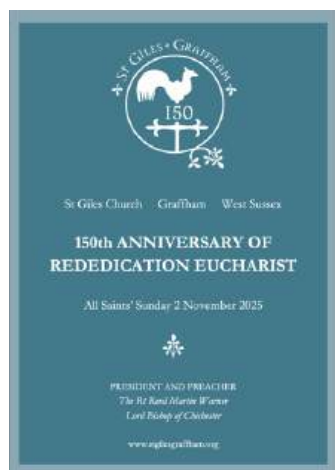
Bishop Martin will be carrying Bishop Wilberforce's own crozier, or bishop's ceremonial staff, which has remained since his death in Woolavington's St Peter's Church (now Seaford College's chapel). The school's chaplain, Father Colin Datchler, will be taking the relic from its casing there to St Giles for the occasion.

Bishop Humphrey Southern, principal of Ripon College Cuddesdon, the leading theological college

founded by Bishop Wilberforce, will also speak – as will Graffham Parish Council Chairman Gillian Charlesworth and Graffham Infant School Headteacher Charles Beckerson. The congregation will include villager Catherine Burns, whose maiden name was Wilberforce – she is a great-great-granddaughter of Bishop Samuel.

Musical alumni of Seaford College will sing solos and St Giles' own occasional choir will perform a particularly apt air. Villager Rich Sabin will play his harp and regular organists Brian Lanaghan and Martin Ridley will both be at the keys. Graffham's bell ringers will, of course, be pulling the tower sallies. The church's flower arrangers will be ensuring St Giles look as beautiful and smells as fragrant as possible.

The event will echo the church's rededication service following its rebuilding, on exactly the same day, All Saints Sunday, a century and a half ago, when the



Archbishop of Canterbury along with four other bishops and 70 or so more clerics joined many members of the Wilberforce family (see page 44).

At the reception after the service, the congregation will be offered canapes courtesy of The Woodcote, raise a glass and have a chance to see various historical items relating to St Giles, along with paintings for the occasion by the school's children.

The Rev Vivien said: "Our wonderful church community has been working hard to make this anniversary a celebration not just for St Giles but also for the fantastic, vibrant parish of Graffham and Woolavington."

## Food for thought – from Graffham village

The cover of the brand new *Graffham Village Cookery Book* is unveiled here – ahead of copies going on sale from Sunday 2 November, as St Giles celebrates the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its rededication after its rebuilding in memory of local squire Bishop Samuel Wilberforce in 1875. The book is being published to mark the church's milestone – with 100% of proceeds going towards the building's upkeep.

Titled *Food for thought – from Graffham village*, the cover features a painting by our very own Susan Hill, of kitchen items and ingredients on a green check tablecloth. Sized A5, like this magazine, and with 132 pages, the book contains 195 individual recipes – all contributed by members of the Graffham community.

Copies will cost £10 each. Scores have already been ordered by villagers – and it is not too late for you to put our name down for one (or more!) Just sign up on the order forms held at St Giles, the village shop or The Foresters Arms. The first editions will be available to

▶ [Continued on next page](#)



The cover of the new *Graffham Village Cookery Book* – on sale from this month.

► *Continued from previous page*

buy at the St Giles 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary reception in Graffham Infant School on Sunday 2 November, immediately after that morning's special service in the church, and at the village's Christmas Fair, in the Empire Hall on Saturday 6 December, or directly from Fiona Mackie on 07983 240381 or [fionajmackie@hotmail.com](mailto:fionajmackie@hotmail.com)

After you've served up dishes from the cookery book, you'll be able to do the drying up with St Giles – using a tea towel that has also been produced to mark



the church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Created by village artist Susan Hill, the cotton cloth features a drawing of the church with its special commemorative logo. They cost £7.50 each. You will be able buy them from Graffham Village Shop and directly from Sue, at [jonsugraffham@btinternet.com](mailto:jonsugraffham@btinternet.com).

## Church gets plastered before its celebrations

Specialist contractors were at work in St Giles last month, repairing the church's plasterwork then giving it four coats of limewash – just in time for this month's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations (see page 4). Scaffolding was erected to enable



them to work safely, with the renovations centring on the chancel and western wall of the nave, the areas of the church's interior most affected by damp and time.

Around two thirds of the expected £12,500 cost is being met by grants from a number of charitable foundations, with the Beatrice Laing Foundation donating £5,000 towards the project and Sussex Historic Churches Trust giving £3,000. Parishioners are being invited to contribute.

To see the different ways you can support the church financially, go to [stgilesgraffham.org/giving/](http://stgilesgraffham.org/giving/)

## 'Famous Five' walk to Wilberforce memorial

It was a bit like one of Enid Blyton's Famous Five stories... A quintet from Graffham – Churchwarden Ginny Barrett along with Vasu plus David Garrard joining the Rev Vivien and her husband Phillip Turner, not forgetting Tess the spaniel – on an adventure in the scenic Surrey Hills.

Their mission: an eight-mile trek to track down the Wilberforce Memorial, and all to raise funds for our St Giles.

The giant granite cross, in the North Downs near the villages of Abinger and Wotton, had been erected on the spot where Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, noted Victorian cleric and Lord of the Manor of Graffham and Woolavington, sadly lost his life, aged 67, in a fall from a horse on 19 July 1873.

The destination for 2025's sponsored walk in aid of our village church was chosen to tie in with this month's 150th anniversary of its rededication following its rebuilding in the bishop's memory.

If you would like to sponsor the walkers, please contact the Rev Vivien.



Ginny, David, Vivien and Phillip, along with Tess the spaniel, at the Wilberforce Memorial in the Surrey Hills.

## Seaford choristers to sing in Graffham's Advent



Christmas festivities kick off, as ever, with the start of Advent, which falls this year on Sunday 30 November – when, as usual, the choir of Seaford College will visit St Giles Church to sing a number of anthems, in a service starting at 5pm.

St Giles' own traditional candlelit Festival of Lessons and Carols will be two weeks later, on Sunday 14 December, also at 5pm. Then, on Sunday 21 December, at 6pm,

▶ [Continued on next page](#)

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there's a chance for the whole village to dust off its vocal cords at what is becoming another Graffham tradition – communal carolling at The Foresters. Services for Christmas itself will include the popular family Christmas Eve Crib Service, a candlelit Christmas Eve Eucharist and a family service on Christmas Day morning. Full details in next month's *Graffham Parish News*.

## Drivers asked to show respect on Poppy days



A commonwealth war grave in St Giles' churchyard marks the resting place of Sidney Paull, who served in World War I. He will be one of the many fallen from our village who will be remembered at our War Memorial Poppy Day services.

In line with Graffham tradition, motorists are being asked to avoid driving past the War Memorial during the Remembrance Service on Sunday 9 November and Armistice Prayers on Tuesday 11 November, which will be held there from just before 11am on both days.



Although there will be no formal road closure in force, marshals will be out to encourage vehicles to detour between Graffham Village Shop and the 'Pound' junction. Villagers are also asked not to use mechanical garden or other noisy equipment while the services are taking place.



Villagers gather at the War Memorial for a recent Remembrance Sunday service.

## Coffee morning at Foresters in aid of church

The Foresters Arms is hosting a coffee morning in aid of St Giles on Tuesday 28 October from 11 am. Besides coffee, there'll be tea and other drinks, a selection of delicious cakes and other bakes – and good company. All welcome. No need to book – just turn up with a smile!



Vivien and Phillip were joined by granddaughter Seren to listen to the peal in honour of their golden wedding before joining the ringers inside St Giles' tower.

## Peal puts ring on Vivien and Phillip's golden day

This month's special service and reception to mark 150 years since St Giles' rededication after its rebuilding has not been the only landmark on the Rev Vivien's radar in recent weeks. She and her husband Phillip celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Saturday 4 October.

As a surprise for them, their son James arranged for a quarter peal of the bells of St Giles to be rung in their honour. Like them, he is a keen and regular bell ringer. Pulling the sallies alongside him were local ringers Vicky Chase, Kevin Quigley, and conductor Luca Greenslade, joined by a duo from Banstead in Surrey where Vivien and Phillip used to live.

Regular members of Graffham's band of ringers joined for fizz, cake and more ringing after the quarter was successfully completed.

Vivien said: "After lovely celebratory meals with our children and grandchildren, it was a wonderful surprise! Thank you to all involved and for all the good wishes Phillip and I received."



### Support St Giles while you do your Christmas shopping

You can raise funds for St Giles whenever you shop online – at zero cost to you, thanks to our church's links with the brilliant easyfundraising scheme. To find out how simple it is, just go to [stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online](https://stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online)

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on 07973 768924  
or at [dalehousefemail@gmail.com](mailto:dalehousefemail@gmail.com)



## Father Christmas booked for Graffham Fair



Father Christmas has a visit to Graffham inked firmly in his diary for Saturday 6 December – when he'll be looking in on the village's Christmas Fair, which will be held in the Empire Hall from 11am to 2pm.

As usual, there will also be mulled wine, mince pies, festive music and lots of not-on-the-high-street gifts to pick up at what is one of the biggest annual fund-raisers for our St

Giles Church in its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. It's also a great way to catch up with neighbours.

An amazing selection of goodies is being lined up for the silent auction and raffle – golf, cricket, tennis, sailing and horse-riding treats, theatre and movie tickets, a bespoke painting, use of a swimming pool, wines and masses more.

If you would like to contribute something to the auction or raffle, contact Marie Bracey on 07836 317630 or at [mariebracey@me.com](mailto:mariebracey@me.com)

You'll also be able to pick up garden ironworks from Made By Andy and charcuterie and cheese from Slow Grown Farm.



Flashback to 2024's Graffham Christmas Fair



## PRE-LOVED JEWELLERY/ACCESSORIES WANTED!



If you can contribute any goodies,  
please contact Fiona Mackie on  
07983 240381 or at  
Chelsea Cottage, The Street





# GRAFFHAM CHRISTMAS



# FAIR

## SATURDAY



**6 DECEMBER**  
**11AM - 2PM**

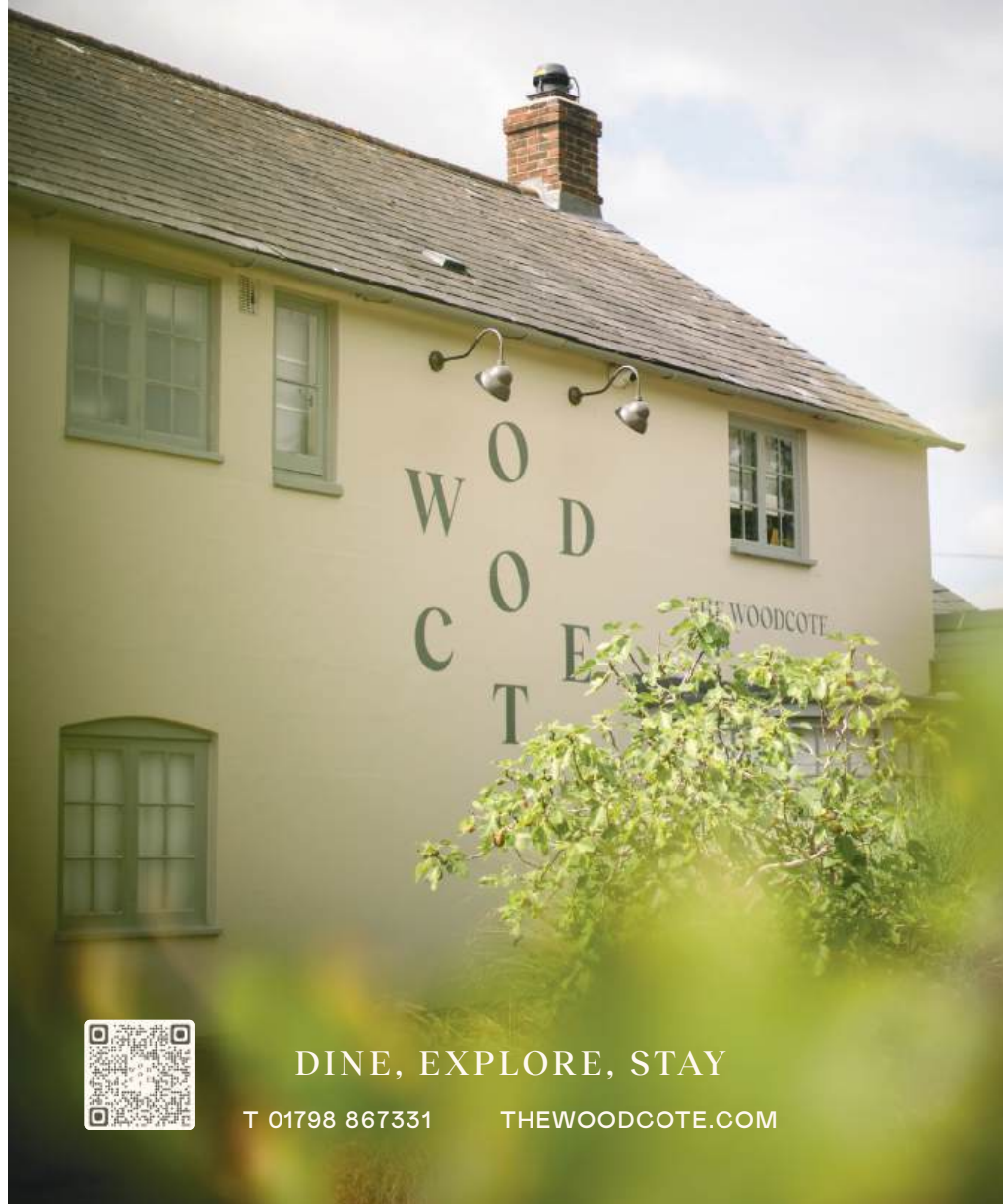
**EMPIRE HALL**



Full details in December's  
Graffham Parish News



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## Merger of civil parishes given huge thumbs-up

Electors in East Lavington and Graffham overwhelmingly supported a merger of the two civil parishes at a rare joint meeting of the communities in the Empire Hall on Tuesday 14 October. In an indicative ballot, the 40 residents of East Lavington who either attended the meeting or cast a vote by email – representing more than 25 per cent of the parish's total electors – polled 92 per cent in favour of combining with Graffham. In total, 37 voted for a merger and just three against. From Graffham, the level of support was even higher. Only one of the 33 who cast a vote was against a merger. If you haven't voted already, you can still do so by emailing [clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk), noting your name and address.

More than 60 residents from the two parishes attended the meeting, along with both sets of parish councillors bar one who was travelling on unavoidable business. The district and county councillors for the area, John Cross and Tom Richardson, were also in attendance.

Graffham Parish Council wants the merger to proceed. East Lavington parish councillors are split on the proposal but agreed to consult their electorate.

East Lavington Chairman Simon Longman presented the case for the merger. Nobody stepped forward to present the case against the proposed amalgamation. Among the four points raised from the floor, the main issue of concern was the name to be given to the combined civil parish, should it come about.

The ballot conducted at the meeting is not binding. The two sets of parish councillors will now decide whether to press ahead with the merger, with the issue expected to be on the agenda for both parish councils' next meetings – East Lavington's on Monday 17 November at 6.15pm at Seaford College and Graffham's on Tuesday 25 November at 6.30pm at the Empire Hall.

For further background, see October's *Graffham Parish News*.

# Graffham's new website is now online

Graffham Parish Council's new website is now online – with a section all about the village itself. Its new internet home replaces the old site shared with East Lavington Parish Council that had proved difficult to update and maintain and which did not meet latest nationally recommended standards for parish councils.

The replacement – and new email addresses for councillors – have as the final segment of their addresses the gov.uk designator preferred for national and local government bodies. Check it out at [graffham-pc.gov.uk](http://graffham-pc.gov.uk)

Besides a cornucopia of information about Graffham Parish Council, the new website includes everything residents and visitors might need to know about the village. Its 'All about Graffham' section has chapters covering the community's



The home page of Graffham Parish Council's newly launched website – at [graffham-pc.gov.uk](http://graffham-pc.gov.uk)

help anyone in the community planning events to avoid clashing with activities already scheduled.

The new email addresses for councillors use the initial of their first name then their surname followed by the @ symbol then the domain name, for example [acouncillor@graffham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:acouncillor@graffham-pc.gov.uk)

Graffham Parish Council Chairman Gillian Charlesworth said: "Our key aims in building the new website were to create a cost-effective and simple-to-maintain platform that enables residents easily to find anything they need to know about the parish council – and also an attractive shopwindow that reflects what a vibrant and beautiful village Graffham is."

If you spot anything that needs updating on the website, then please email [editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)

key assets, clubs, schools, public transport and more, along with a guide to who to contact about what or where to find more information. Full of web links and hundreds of pictures, it also lists where to eat, drink and stay locally.

Another of its features is a new village diary – an expanded version of the 'what's on' pages carried in the back of each edition of *Graffham Parish News*, covering a full year ahead, to

# Final bits of kit fitted at new Play Park

Graffham Play Park is now complete after the final bits of kit – a ‘spinning cup’ and playhouse for toddlers, a seesaw and a giant multi-play ‘scrambler’ with a slide – were installed during the week starting 13 October.

Like the swings, zipwire, tunnel, slide, roundabout and climbing frame that have been in place since the new playground was opened just before Christmas, they have been built in natural materials and fitted by Playsafe, from nearby Elsted.

The project’s completion follows receipt of a grant of almost £16,000 from Chichester District Council – taking the scheme’s fund-raising to its target.

Graffham Parish Council set the ball rolling with £20,000 from its Community Investment Levy fund. Villagers and friends collectively pledged £15,000, topped up by £3,000 of Gift Aid, with further contributions from Graffham Tennis Club and Graffham Festival 2024.

Ensuring the project came to life was a ‘donation in kind’ from Selham House’s Glen and Asta Manchester, with their building team carrying out all the ground works and supplying the woodchip, new fencing and gates.

Just before the Play Park, with its initial paraphernalia, was reopened by our local MP Andrew Griffith in December, the Lottery Fund kicked off phase 2 of fund-raising with a £16,000 gift. Rachel Gerrett, who has been leading the team behind the project, said: “Thanks to everyone for your understanding and cooperation while these finishing touches were installed. These final elements allow children



Installation of the new Play Park equipment was nearly finished as this edition went to press – including this playhouse, giant scrambler with slide and seesaw.

► [Continued on next page](#)

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of different ages and abilities to play at the same time, providing several different types of physical challenges.”

Rec Chairman John Bracey added: “It is a real credit to the village that this once-in-a-generation project has been completed entirely through charitable and public grants, private donations and Gift Aid – without having to dip into the parish council precept for one penny – thanks to all the generous people concerned.”

## Poetry, prose, quizzes, woodfires – and a pint

Author and writer Daryl Ilbury, also well known in Graffham as the bloke with the hat who is sometimes behind the village shop counter, will be hosting a special event at The Foresters Arms on Wednesday 12 November from 7.30pm. *Words by the Hearth* will be an evening of poetry and pints, promising warmth and laughter, with neighbours sharing their favourite readings over good food and drink.

The team at the pub said: “This is a night for everyone. You don’t need to be a writer – just bring your curiosity, voice, support, appetite and listening ears. Come for the words and stay for the warmth!” The hope is to make these evenings a regular date on the Foresters’ calendar.

The inn will also be holding two quiz nights in November. Regular question master Lucas Thornley will be in the chair again on Guy Fawkes night, Wednesday 5 November, while on Thursday 20 November there will be a fun music quiz.

For further details and to book, contact the Foresters on .

## Graffham Common roadworks remain for weeks

Road works on Graffham Common Road between its junctions with Selham Road and Smokyhouse Lane that have been in place since late last month are scheduled to continue until 21 November, to enable contractors working on behalf of West Sussex County Council to install a new surface water drainage pipe. The aim is to overcome the flooding that has affected the road there in recent rainy times. For details, see [one.network/uk/westsussex](http://one.network/uk/westsussex)

## Reminder to keep dogs on leads near livestock

Dog owners and walkers are being reminded to keep their four-legged friends on the lead when passing through or close to fields with livestock in them after an incident on Thursday 16 October when a dog attacked sheep, injuring two of them, one of which had to be put down, with two more of them missing overnight.

# Letters to the editor: The column YOU write

Something in *Graffham Parish News* or in the village particularly caught your eye? Drop us a line to [editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)

**Please don't leave us in the dark** Those of us living at the southern end of Graffham seem to be suffering increasingly from power cuts. By early October, our electricity supply had been lost five times in a fortnight – not even in the thick of storm season by then. I have raised my concerns with Scottish and Southern Electricity and with Graffham Parish Council but perhaps if more residents were to do so too then something might be done faster to stop black outs occurring so frequently. – [Giles Sheehan, The Woodman, The Street, Graffham.](#)

**Fete's star sausage dog** The identify of the dog who won the sausage catching class at Graffham Fête on August Bank Holiday (*Graffham Parish News*, October 2025) can be revealed – as Poppy, who is officially a cockerpoo but actually half teddy bear and half ball of wool! Her owners are our daughter Amy and her partner Jon-Stuart. Poppy would like to thank the event organiser Beanie Bradley for the sausages and her prizes! – [Gail and Andy Paterson, St Giles Place, The Street, Graffham.](#)



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# Decision on Woodcote expansion still awaited

As this edition went to press, the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) was still giving 1 August 2025 as its “determination deadline” for The Woodcote’s expansion plans – although no decision had been posted. If the officers decide to refer the issue to the body’s planning committee for a ruling, its next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 13 November, at the SDNPA’s offices at Midhurst, starting at 10am. 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 and speak – or you can watch the meeting live or by ‘catch-up’ via its YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/@SDNPACcommittees](http://www.youtube.com/@SDNPACcommittees)

The restaurant with rooms that used to be The White Horse is seeking approval to triple in size, building 16 new guest suites, construct a new restaurant, and create a new car park for some 70 vehicles with an overflow parking area.

## Planning applications and decisions

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

### Applications

**Bishops Hill, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QA:** Erection of carport, relocation of proposed entrance gate, and installation of two additional solar panels to carport roof and five solar panels to canopy roof on main dwellinghouse. SDNP/25/03585/HOUS. *Received 3 Sep 2025. Validated 24 Sep 2025. Determination deadline 19 Nov 2025.*

### Decisions

**Ambersham Farmhouse, Selham Road, South Ambersham GU29 0BX:** Internal and external repair works. SDNP/25/01608/LIS. *Approved 25 Sep 2025.*

## Property watch

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

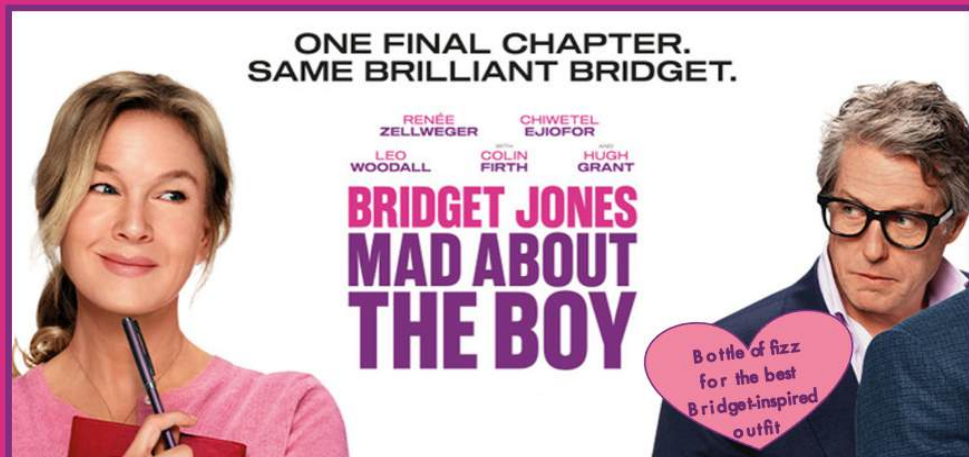
**1 Burton House, Burton Park, Duncton GU28 0QU:** Split-level apartment, three bedrooms, three bathrooms plus cloakroom, sitting, drawing, dining and garden rooms, library kitchen/breakfast room. 393sq m (4,229sq ft). Garden terrace and access to estate’s grounds. £1.5 million. *Carter Jonas, Winchester 01962 571543. Listed 24 Sep.*



**Woodcote Cottages, Graffham GU28 0NY:** Semi-detached house, three bedrooms, one bathroom, sitting room, kitchen, conservatory, utility. 86 sq m (929 sq ft). Garden. £450,000. *Southdown Properties, Midhurst 01730 771332. Listed 2 Oct.*

# Graffham Empire Movies

Bringing cinema to the village – and raising funds for our Empire Hall



Graffham Empire Movies presents the latest and final chapter in the hilarious diary series, based on the books by Helen Fielding – and rated by many critics as the best!

Starring Renée Zellweger in the title role, with Hugh Grant, Colin Firth and the rest of the usual cast, including Sally Phillips plus Chiwetel Ejiofor and Leo Woodall.

With Bridget now a singleton again as a widowed mother navigating parenthood, her friends and family help her cope with her home life, work and modern dating – with all its laughter and tears.

Certificate 15

125 minutes

**Saturday 22 November**

**Empire Hall**

Doors and bar open 7pm for 7.30pm start

Interval ice creams

Cocktails and mocktails

Tickets – £10 adults – from [ticketsource.co.uk/GEM](https://ticketsource.co.uk/GEM) or at the door





## Gig, quiz, supper and movie fill Empire Hall

The grand old lady of the village has had a grand old start to the autumn, hosting popular events every weekend for the past month, bringing the community together with the style only the Empire Hall can provide.

The biggest of them was a gig by the Ultimate Coldplay tribute band on Saturday 11 October. A capacity standing-room-only crowd of 200 plus packed the hall. Masterminded by the village's very own impresario Jim Kirke as a fund-raiser for the hall, it generated almost £3,000 for the building's running costs and future maintenance needs.

Besides the music, the concert-goers were treated to no less than five confetti bombs – but everything was left spick and span for a family who had hired the hall for a children's party the following morning. They, in turn, left it neat and tidy for a Scottish reeling practice that afternoon. Highland dancing rehearsals were held every Sunday throughout October ahead of January's **Burns' Night** celebration there.

Jim has more gigs lined up to fill the hall in the 18 months ahead, with top 1980s band Nine Below Zero headlining on 14 March, Wall of (Pink) Floyd featuring on 19 September and Le Freak Nile Rogers and Chic tribute returning on 14 November after their barnstorming performance of a couple of years ago.

**Graffham Down Trust Quiz** The previous weekend, the hall was the venue for

► *Continued on next page*

► *Continued from previous page*

Graffham Downs Trust's annual quiz night, hosted by the incomparable Michael Blencowe, naturalist supreme and regular *Graffham Parish News* columnist. All but two of the 72 seats were sold, with a team comprising David and Jules Sparkes, Holly and Rich Sabin and Rohan and Hannah Grace sneaking victory by one point. A wonderfully entertaining evening raised more than £600 to care for the reserves and their flora and fauna on the hill overlooking the village.

**The village Harvest Supper** returned to its traditional format on Friday 26 September, when more than 50 members of the village tucked in to a bring-and-share two-course dinner. Entertainment was provided by David Garrard, playing a couple of harvest-time folk songs on his guitar, and a poetry reading by Philip Trower, in memory of the late Sonia Williams. The collection raised almost £250 for our local Foodbank.

**Graffham Empire Movies** opened its 2025-2026 season on Saturday 18 October, screening the highly acclaimed Bob Dylan biopic *A Complete Unknown*. Next up, on 22 November, is the latest and, according to many critics, the best yet in the Bridget Jones series – *Mad About The Boy* (see page 20) – with *The Ballad of Wallis Island* booked for 17 January.

**Regular events** are held at the Empire Hall virtually every day of every week – from yoga, pilates, keep fit and badminton, to osteopathy and physiotherapy treatments, to the Tuesday morning visits by the Post Office (see page 63).



**Graffham Garden Group New Year lunch**  
Wednesday 21 January 2025, 12.30pm for 1pm  
Empire Hall

£19 a head, two courses including wine/beer, coffee and mints  
Mains: Fish pie, beef lasagne or vegetable lasagne  
Puds: Chocolate and pear pudding or lemon meringue pie

**All members and partners warmly welcome**  
**New memberships or renewals £2 on the day**

Please book early to avoid disappointment by signing up in the village shop by 14 January. Payment in cash on the day.



**Hall fillers** Michael Blencowe, wearing his signature fez, set the questions at Graffham Down Trust's quiz night (above), before presenting the prize bottles to the winning team (right). The week before, villagers gathered for Graffham's traditional Harvest Supper (below).





# Life at Seaford College Prep School

**It's been an exciting start to Autumn Term at Seaford College Prep School as we welcomed our youngest students ('Pioneers') into their new Owl Class.**

The 4- and 5-year-old students have had a wonderful few weeks settling in and taking part in some fun activities such as a Teddy Bear's Picnic, a trip to Little Street role play centre in Chichester and receiving their beautiful owl soft toys to keep.

Their teacher Lizzie Maclean said: "It has been such a pleasure to welcome the children to Owl Class and the Seaford Community. Reception is all about inspiring the children to love to learn, and it was a joy to watch their little faces as they opened their owls!"

Seaford gives students a wonderful all-round education in a happy environment and beautiful surroundings.

Our number one focus is to make sure students attain the best results they are capable of, and we believe in an all-round, inclusive, and non-elitist education. This is the strength of Seaford, where students are encouraged to be the best they can be.

Seaford College is an independent, co-educational school in West Sussex, offering both day and boarding places, with a vibrant Prep School, Senior School and Sixth Form.

Academically non-selective, with strong pastoral care, dedicated learning support, excellent facilities, and a broad range of extra-curricular opportunities.



Our next Open Morning is Saturday 22nd November.

Love to learn

# School report: Festival, fund-raising, vacancies

*With autumn half-term now behind us, Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools Business Manager Jenny Godfrey provides her monthly update.*



**Harvest Festival** Graffham and Duncton schools celebrated Harvest Festival with two joyful services – one in St Giles Church for Graffham and another in the Duncton school hall. Generous donations from families of children at both schools have gone to Stonepillow, helping to support homeless people with food and care.

**Fund-raising** The Friends of Graffham and Duncton (FGD) coordinated fund-raising events at both schools to raise money for Midhurst Palliative Care, including an open-air coffee morning before school at Graffham and a bake sale after school at Duncton – raising a fantastic total of £278.30.

**Teaching Assistant vacancy** We have a teaching assistant vacancy at Graffham Infants. See the vacancies page on the school website ([graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk/](http://graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk/)) or below for more information – or contact the school.

**Governor vacancy** We're looking for people who are keen to make a difference to the children at our schools and to do something for their community. 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](mailto:clerk@dunctonjunior.org.uk)

## We are Hiring!

### SEND Teaching Assistant

*Graffham CE Infant School* is a joyful, inclusive, and nurturing environment where children are encouraged to grow in "life in all its fullness." We are looking for a caring and enthusiastic **SEND Teaching Assistant** to join our dedicated team.



#### You are:

- A warm and approachable person who enjoys working with children
- Committed to supporting children's emotional and educational development
- Able to work flexibly and collaboratively
- Passionate about creativity, curiosity, and care in learning

#### We offer:

- A supportive and close-knit school community
- Opportunities to grow professionally and build fantastic working relationships
- A beautiful setting in the heart of the South Downs
- A school rooted in Christian values and a love of learning

**Application deadline:** 31st October 2025

**Start date:** 1st December 2025 (or earlier if available)

*Please note: Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and the position may be filled before the closing date.*

Contact the school office or visit our website to find out more:

☎ 01798 867324

✉ [office@graffhaminfant.org.uk](mailto:office@graffhaminfant.org.uk)

🌐 [www.graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk)

*We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Consequently, a Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate will be required for this post.*

**September intake deadline** At the time of going to print, the Graffham Infants open morning will have passed – but if you are interested in applying for your child to start at the school in September 2026, then we would be delighted to arrange a one-on-one tour of the school. Please contact the school office to make an appointment. Closing date for applications to enrol is 15 January 2026.

# RIP Lawrence Paine 1936-2025

*Lawrence Paine, who was a prominent member of the Graffham community for two decades until 2018, died peacefully in his Suffolk care home on 30 September, just shy of 90 years old. His daughter Katie pays tribute to him [here](#).*

Walter Lawrence Paine was born in Rio de Janeiro to British parents in 1936. After a happy childhood in Brazil, he was sent to boarding school in the UK. He enjoyed boxing and golf and went on to Cambridge University after his National Service. His parents were based near Farnham but sadly his father died relatively young.

While Lawrence was working in London, he met Diana (known to many as Bun), and they married 60 years ago. While living in London, they started their own family with baby Katie, then Nick and Lucy followed after they moved to Essex.

They went on to spend many years in Betchingley, Surrey, while the children were at school, then moved to Blackdown, near Haslemere. The house needed serious renovation, but Blackdown provided many wonderful hours of dog-walking.

They headed the few miles south to Ladywell Cottage in Graffham in 1998 and spent 20 very happy years there, in particular getting involved in musical and church activities and the village fête, fairs and other fund-raising ventures.

Lawrence served on Graffham Parish Council, supervised the upkeep of the village playground, volunteered as a driver with Graffham Health Support Association, sang in the church choir that Diana ran, played badminton and tennis, instigated the silent auction at the village summer fete and Christmas fair – and probably a whole



lot of other forgotten activities. Many have recalled vicious table tennis matches in their garage, which always included hunting for the ball behind dusty paint tins.

Ladywell Cottage benefitted from substantial improvements, in particular with the installation of a stream running through the garden to a pond outside the kitchen.

Their final move was to Suffolk, to be close to son Nick, but leaving Graffham was not without many tears – they had had memorable times there and forged great friendships.

Graffham was also a second home for their four

Lawrence as a young man.

‘Gambian’ grandchildren who went to school at Seaford College and spent many happy summer holidays with their grandparents.

Lawrence had an eccentric sense of humour, sometimes upsetting people if they misunderstood him, but others found him hilarious, just a little quirky! His largely illegible spidery handwriting was mostly replaced by strange and abbreviated text-speak emails from his office above the garage, often signed LOL (lots of love, of course).

He was a warm host, and always enjoyed his wife’s cooking, specially sweet treats. Bun predeceased him by almost three years, passing away on New Year’s Eve 2022 (*Graffham Parish News*, February 2023). They have left three children, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson – and many happy and loving memories.



Lawrence with his wife Bun in the garden of their Ladywell Cottage home here in Graffham.

## RIP Ray Cobbold 1953-2025

Ray Cobbold, another Graffham character of old, died in his early seventies on 11 September – little more than three years after his Mum June Taylor passed away. They moved to Guillods in 1953, with his father, her first husband, when Ray was just eight months. Soon afterwards, his brothers Christopher and Michael were born. When Ray’s Dad left the family, his Mum married neighbour David. Ray and his brothers remained in Graffham for the rest of their growing years. Ray didn’t want a funeral but wished to have a wake, which was held at the Empire Hall on Wednesday 8 October, with friends and family encouraged to wear Manchester United shirts or the club’s red colours. He left his wife Tina.



# Jazz, blues and food festival heads to Midhurst

Midhurst will swing to a new rhythm this month as the town prepares to host its inaugural Jazz, Food and Blues Festival – a three-day celebration designed to bring live music, fine food and community spirit centre stage. Taking place from 14 to 16 November, the brand-new festival will transform the town's most characterful spaces into intimate jazz clubs and buzzing blues bars, with candlelit speakeasies and performances from award-winning artists from the UK, Europe and Argentina, drawing inspiration from Cowdray Park's long-standing polo connections with the South American country.



Festival Director Adam Page said: "This isn't just about putting on a few concerts. It's about the whole town creating an important cultural event, local and international at the same time. We're showcasing international talent – but also shining a light on our own local businesses, local musicians and artists, and local food producers." There will also be workshops, youth masterclasses and sessions for older residents. A tenth of net proceeds will go towards a scholarship for a local student to study at a major UK music school.

For tickets or more information, go to [midhurstjazzandblues.com](http://midhurstjazzandblues.com)

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# Graffham Parish News' nifty November quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers on page 67 (no cheating!)

- 1 Which early 17th century 'terrorist' was a footman at Cowdray during the 1590s?
- 2 Founded in 675 AD adjacent to the Tower of London, the church of All Hallows by the Tower claims which distinction?
- 3 Which dowager queen of England, after whom Portsmouth's main hospital is named, died on 20 November 1925?
- 4 Which annual military pageant, and its royal patron, both celebrated their 75th anniversaries this year?
- 5 Which insects, several of which are probably in your house right now, form the superfamily Pentatomoidea and are characterised by a hard, roughly triangular extension of the thorax over the abdomen?
- 6 How were Robert LeRoy Parker and Harry Longabaugh, depicted in a classic Western "buddy" film of 1969, better known?
- 7 The golf course at Stoke Park, Buckinghamshire, was the venue for a game between James Bond and the eponymous villain in which 1964 film?
- 8 Who captained England Women's 2025 World Cup Rugby Union team?
- 9 Which British punk rocker, born William Broad, will be 70 on 30 November?
- 10 Which character, formerly a DJ with "North Norfolk Digital", is currently hosting "Britain's first ever documentary about mental health" on the BBC?



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An aerial photograph of the village of Graffham, showing a church with a tall spire, green fields, and a line of trees. The text is overlaid on the image.

# A new plan for Graffham

2026–2029

Graffham Parish Council

*November 2025*

**DRAFT**

[www.graffham-pc.gov.uk](http://www.graffham-pc.gov.uk)

# A new plan for Graffham

*Graffham Parish Council has published its draft plan for the village for the next three years based on discussions during the summer. This is an extended summary. You can read the full version on its new website, [graffham-pc.gov.uk](http://graffham-pc.gov.uk).*



## Introduction

*Chairman Gillian Charlesworth explains the plan's background and purpose.*

Graffham Parish Council has devised this new up-to-date plan for Graffham, to take effect from April 2026, and we now seek village residents' comments on its contents. As a parish council, we want to ensure that we're working on the village's priorities and allocating our limited resources carefully and wisely.

In launching this document, which is the first published plan for Graffham for some years, it's important to say what it is **not** about – to avoid any misunderstandings about its role and purpose.

That very word 'plan' perhaps suggests development and planning – but that is very definitely **not** the purpose of the draft plan we're publishing this month.

Being within the South Downs National Park means that we are not subject to the same pressure as other areas to add new development. What's more, the parish council is not the planning authority for Graffham, although we do comment on planning applications made in the village.

## So what is this plan for?

It sets out Graffham Parish Council's aims and priorities for 2026-2029, based on:

- Our scope of responsibilities – areas we have the legal authority and responsibility to manage or where we can influence other bodies to act.
- Our financial resources.
- Comments and requests from residents and bodies.
- Its purpose is to provide an open and transparent summary of what the parish council will do over the next three years and how this will be funded, to ensure that everyone who lives here is clear on how our precept (the small part of our council tax that's allocated to the parish council to use for the village) is spent along with other sources of funds we manage to raise.

The Graffham parish plan covers seven areas we intend to work on, chosen as themes that are regularly raised in the village:

- 1 Traffic volume and speed.
- 2 Management of village assets for long-term viability.
- 3 Village amenity.
- 4 Responding to local government reorganisation, including our own wish to merge with East Lavington Parish Council.
- 5 Local environmental issues.
- 6 Local crime.
- 7 Community engagement.

As a parish council we believe it is beneficial for all involved in running the village to work together and we hope to collaborate with all our community organisations.

We aim to merge with East Lavington Parish Council, to make the most of our expertise, time and resources to ensure Graffham remains a vibrant and well-managed village.

There may of course be other themes parishioners would like to propose for inclusion in this plan, and we look forward to hearing all comments on the draft. Please send your views by the end of November 2025 to [clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk)

**Our vision** is for Graffham to be a vibrant, welcoming and well-run village with a sound future.

**Financial and other resources** Graffham Parish Council's activities are funded from a number of sources. The regular source is the annual precept which is set by the parish council and collected by Chichester District Council through council tax. The annual precept for 2025-26 was set at £19,200, resulting in an average annual cost per household of little more than £50 – less than £1 a week.



Other less certain revenue sources include:

- Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which is allocated to us by the local planning authority and based on permitted development in the area.
- Grants we can apply for – from, for example, Chichester District Council.
- The Katherine Maud Guillod Fund (KMGF), a community fund set up a century ago and which the parish council administers. At the moment, interest earned by KMGF provides funds for Graffham Health Support Association, the Thursday

Club and other suitable ad hoc projects such as footpath repairs. We will look to widen the scope of the fund to meet present day needs better.

Certain areas of proposed expenditure in this plan, such as roads, are not within our scope – we are reliant on West Sussex County Council (WSCC) for any such expenditure required.

Parish councillors' time in managing the actions in this plan is also a significant resource for the village. They can claim expenses but are not paid for their time.

The many volunteers in Graffham who manage the village's assets also give a large amount of collective time to ensure the village runs smoothly.

## Our priorities for the three-year plan



**1 Traffic volume and speed** A consultation exercise showed strong support for the village's current 30mph speed limit to be reduced to 20mph. This followed Graffham Infant School seeking a 20mph limit in its vicinity. We have heard objections to

potential development because of traffic. A neighbouring parish council has raised an issue about the size of lorries using narrow lanes in the area. We will:

- Work with Graffham Infant School to press WSCC for the current 30mph speed limit in the village to be reduced to 20mph.
- Work with neighbouring parish councils to seek a 'Quiet Lanes' designation for all highways in the area covered by Graffham, Heyshott, East Lavington and West Lavington civil parishes.
- Introduce village 'gateways' at the entrances to Graffham, to alert drivers to the lower speed limits in the village.

**Cost to Graffham:** One-off cost of gateways at three village entrances of around £6,000 to be funded from CIL, grants and/or reserves.



**2 Management of village assets for long-term viability**, meaning sustainable funding and management plans for Graffham Recreation Ground, the Empire Hall, the Play Park and potentially the closed churchyard (currently under discussion).

Other village facilities managed by bodies of trustees include Graffham Village Shop and All Saints Chapel and Cottages.

We know that these facilities are likely to require increasing maintenance and repair in the future, given their age and condition, and that income from hire, events and

rents is likely to be insufficient to maintain these assets long term. We also know that finding volunteers to manage them is becoming more difficult. Graffham Parish Council can play a role in ensuring the viability of these facilities by working with the trustees of each organisation to create structures for effective management and arranging funding for administration and long-term maintenance.

This section of the plan focuses initially on the operational management of the Pavilion and Recreation Ground as Graffham Parish Council is a trustee and already makes an annual grant to the Graffham Recreation Ground Committee.

Until discussions have been held with other village bodies, it is difficult to predict extra costs of administration such as book keeping, but it is not expected to be significant as much can be done through efficient digital systems and automation. The bulk of future costs for our village assets will be for major repairs such as roof replacement, and these need to be identified with the relevant trustees. The wider village will need to be kept informed on such discussions. We will:

- Support the financial management of the Recreation Ground by providing some of the clerk's time for book keeping.
- Provide a grant to automate the Recreation Ground's booking facility.
- Create a plan for the long-term maintenance needs of the Pavillion and the children's Play Park.
- Discuss management of village assets with relevant trustees of each body with the aim of developing a long-term plan.

**Cost to Graffham:** Up to £2,000 for book keeping and booking facility to be funded out of precept. Longer-term management and maintenance costs to be defined in consultation with trustee bodies during year one.

**3 Village amenity** including the condition of footpaths, roads and roadsides. We know that in the past Graffham Parish Council has played a greater role, within its authority, to ensure footpaths and ditches were maintained.



We want to ensure that we are playing our part in the maintenance of the village's superb network of footpaths, working collaboratively with land owners. Walkers are extremely helpful in reporting blockages. The Katherine Maud Guillod Fund, which the parish council administers, can be used for footpath repairs. Poorly maintained ditches can result in dangerous flooding, and we will take a proactive approach to alerting the relevant authorities where ditches are causing problems. WSCC is currently repairing various road side ditch issues locally. We will:

- Continue to ensure that footpaths are monitored and maintained, taking swift action to alert land owners where footpaths become blocked.
- Apply KMGF funds to footpath repairs where needed and funds allow.
- Take a proactive approach on the impact of ditch flooding, working with the relevant authorities such as our WSCC councillor.

**Cost to Graffham:** As and when footpath repairs needed which are not the responsibility of land owners (£150 spent in past two years).



**4 Local government reorganisation** including potential mergers with other parish councils, notably East Lavington Parish Council (ELPC).

As a village, we have already (at the Annual Parish meeting in May 2025) expressed a wish to merge with East Lavington and the current local government

reorganisation policy could provide an opportunity for more streamlined village level management in a wider local area. We will:

- Work with ELPC and Chichester District Council to consult with residents on a proposed merger of our parish councils.
- If such a merger is agreed, work with ELPC to bring it about.
- Monitor the government's plans for parish level local government reorganisation to ensure we understand any new obligations and opportunities.



**5 Local environmental issues** We have received requests from residents for Graffham Parish Council to become more proactive in addressing environmental issues and opportunities.

The issues raised include Baxter's Copse and Singleton oil sites, water, drainage and sewage issues in the context of planning applications, the need for a village resilience plan and the opportunity to create village allotments. We will:

- Press the relevant authorities to address leakage issues at Baxters Copse, which is within the parish boundary, and also Singleton Oil Well which is not.
- Create a village resilience plan.
- Investigate the feasibility of creating an allotment site. (As six residents have asked the parish council to do this, we are obliged to investigate it.)
- Develop our relationship with the South Downs National Park Authority to develop an understanding of its environmental plans and how we can contribute.

*Cost to Graffham:* None identified but allotments may entail a start-up cost.

**6 Local crime** We know that whilst our village is relatively free of crime, there are incidents such as theft of horse equipment, cars or vans broken into and shoplifting. We can work with local police to inform residents about how to prevent crime. We will:



- Invite the local constabulary to meet Graffham residents and advise on local crime and its prevention and ensure residents know where and how to report crime.

**7 Community engagement** Graffham is a vibrant, active and welcoming village and needs no boost from the parish council to remain so! However, the parish council can play a part in disseminating important information and arranging public events such as VE Day and royal jubilees which are not the responsibility of any other body. Critically, we can ensure village residents know how to raise concerns so that we can act on them, where possible. As this plan is written, we are finalising the creation of a new website which will contain useful contacts, village information and a village calendar as well as information about the parish council's plans, finances and decisions. We will:



- Maintain an up-to-date website for the benefit of residents and visitors.
- Appoint a councillor to lead on community engagement and communication.

*Cost to Graffham:* Annual website fee of £400 already included in annual budget.



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# Give your views in the future of Cowdray Ruins

The public is being invited to take part in a survey to give its views on the future of Midhurst's Cowdray Ruins. The responses will be used in shaping the iconic site's development and uses. The questionnaire takes four minutes to complete online at <https://form.typeform.com/to/OkmCXhCo>



The great Tudor house at the heart of ruins dated back to the 1520s, when it was constructed by Sir David Owen, Uncle to King Henry VIII. It was gutted by a fire in September 1793, when renovations were being carried out. It remains under the ownership of Viscount Cowdray.

## Fabulous, fantastic fungi at their finest



It's been a particularly fine autumn for fungi in the woodlands and fields around Graffham – captured in these magnificent pictures posted to Facebook's Beautiful Sights In and Around Graffham page by © Rachel Sargent-Pryer.



# From Town Hall: Collecting left overs is a bit of a waste

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



Before the last general election, the Conservative government decided to require all district councils in England to provide a food waste service by March 2026 – something already delivered across mainland Europe and in some UK cities.

Clearly, collecting food waste in densely populated cities is a good idea, reducing vermin and making other refuse bins less smelly. However, its benefits in rural and semi-rural locations is less certain. Many householders in villages and small towns have gardens and already compost their fruit and veg waste and may have green cones for rotting their own cooked food, too.

The main aim of the new legislation was to reduce waste going to landfill sites. Here, food waste collected will go to a bio-digester at Ford, run by West Sussex County Council.

Collecting food waste requires a different kind of refuse truck, so councils across the country have had to purchase new vehicles to enable them to roll out this new service. As a result, there has been huge demand for these vehicles and, on the basis of supply and demand, the price has been expensive.

So too is the cost of providing the food waste collection service. Apart from buying these vehicles, councils have to fuel and service them – and buy food collection bins for each household and employ extra staff to run this service.

It's an additional expense most councils had not expected back in 2024 when they were setting the budgets, so the government said it would meet the start-up costs. Since then, Labour has taken over from the Conservatives and are not honouring that pledge.

Do I think the rural communities need this service? Not really. Do I think this is a good use of public funds, and by default a good use of council taxpayers' money? Not really. Is it going to happen? YES.

## Councils recommend different future paths

Chichester District Council and West Sussex County Council are recommending two different approaches for the future of local authorities in our area. The national government is to restructure councils across England to create new large strategic authorities headed by elected mayors with today's county and district councils



West Sussex wants a unitary authority covering the entire county while Chichester and the other districts prefer a two-way split below.



replaced by unitary authorities providing all the services currently split between the two levels.

West Sussex is urging a single authority for the entire county, covering the geographical area it currently covers. Chichester, along with the other district and borough councils in the county, is recommending that there should be two unitary authorities in West Sussex – one including today’s Chichester, Arun, Worthing, and Adur, and another covering Crawley, Horsham, and Mid Sussex.

The government is expected to launch a formal consultation on the proposals this month, with a final decision in spring 2026. If approved, the new structures would take effect from April 2028, after elections in spring 2027.

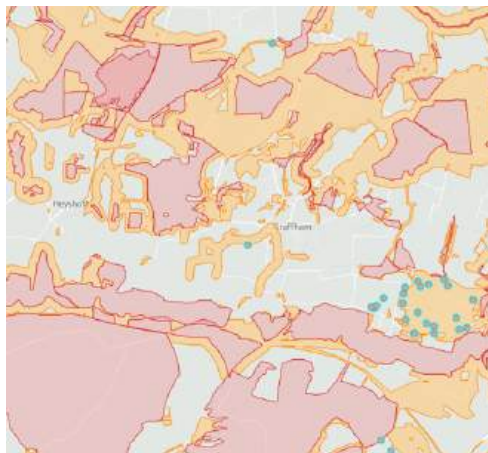
## County drafts first local nature recovery strategy

West Sussex County Council has drafted the region’s first Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), detailing seven principles and 24 priorities for nature’s recovery, supported by a hundred potential actions that could be taken to deliver them and a local habitat map showing where many of these actions could be taken.

It has been developed with input from more than a thousand local people and organisations to serve as a blueprint to support nature across the county.

Residents are being invited to have their say on the plan now, before it is finalised and adopted early next year.

To find out more, go to [yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/lnrs-west](https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/lnrs-west)



The plan’s interactive local habitat map shows Grafton surrounded by some of the county’s richest areas for biodiversity. Areas highlighted in pink are of particular importance for biodiversity while those in orange could become important for biodiversity.

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# Bill's bygones: Memories, Millionaire, Miranda

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

**10 years ago – November 2015:** *Graffham - Memories, Articles, Photos*, edited by Mary Butterworth and Diana White, is published – the sequel to the 1947 Scrapbook Project. A plaque is unveiled in Worthing commemorating Gladys Moss, West Sussex Constabulary's first female police officer, who served from 1919 until 1941 and was loosely depicted in *Wicked Little Letters*, screened earlier this year by Graffham Empire Movies. Attacks by ISIL terrorists kill 43 in Beirut and 137 in Paris. Turkey shoots down a Russian fighter over the Turkey-Syrian border. The COP 21 climate conference is held in Paris. Australia vs New Zealand at Adelaide is the first cricket Test match to be played with a pink ball. Deaths of actors Warren Mitchell (*Till Death Us Do Part*, aged 89) and Keith Michell (*The Six Wives of Henry VIII* and former director of Chichester Festival Theatre, 88), cricketer Tom Graveney (88) and New Zealand rugby union icon Jonah Lomu (40).

**25 years ago – November 2000:** Graffham Rustics stage the Alan Bennett farce *Habeas Corpus*. *Graffham Parish News* editor Paula Burke announces the magazine subscription will remain at £2 for 2001, or 25p per issue. The Queen approves the nomination of the Rt Rev John Hind to succeed Eric Kemp as Bishop of Chichester. A “semi-promenade” production of TS Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* is performed at Chichester Cathedral as part of the Millenium celebrations. After the US Presidential election, no winner can be declared, prompting a controversial recount in Florida, which eventually hands victory to George W Bush. Judith Keppel is the first *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?* contestant to win £1 million. Michael Caine is knighted. Michael Douglas marries Catherine Zeta-Jones. Deaths of Mr ‘Miss World’ Eric Morley (82), charity founder Sue Ryder (76), pianist Russ Conway (75) and schoolboy Damilola Taylor (10).

**50 years ago – November 1975:** Graffham Rustics present *Miranda*, a comedy about a mermaid. The Christmas Sale at the Empire Hall raises more than £900 for St Giles, a significant increase on the previous year. The Employment Protection Act establishes paid maternity leave, protection against unfair dismissal and ACAS as a statutory body. Prime Minister Harold Wilson attends the first G6 summit. Beginning of the Third Cod War between the UK and Iceland. The Sex Pistols perform for the first time. Deaths of Pulborough-born horticultural broadcaster, and former Head Gardener at Lavington Park and Petworth House, Fred Streeter (97), Spanish dictator General Francisco Franco (82), *Guinness Book of Records* co-founder Ross McWhirter (50) and twice Formula 1 World Champion Graham Hill (46).

# Graffham Chronicles: The day St Giles reopened



*Our St Giles Church was rebuilt a century and a half ago this year in memory of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, a leading light of the Victorian era – and our village squire. In the third of a series of three articles marking this milestone for our community, local historian Pauline Goodwin looks back at the day England's great and the good gathered for its rededication.*

One hundred and fifty years ago, on a wet All Saints Sunday 2 November 1875, an incredibly special event took place in Graffham – so special that a train was specifically chartered from London Victoria to the village's then nearest railway station, at Selham, to carry England's great and the good to it.

This unique ceremony had twin purposes – firstly to rededicate and celebrate the newly renovated structure and secondly as a remembrance to Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, one of the Victorian era's leading lights and son of the legendary anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce. He was also our Lord of the Manor. He had died falling from his horse while visiting the Surrey Hills two years before, on 19 July 1873 at the age of 67. The rebuilding of our church was commissioned as a lasting tribute to this highly regarded and widely loved man.



**Samuel Wilberforce, one of the leading lights of the Victorian era and our Lord of the Manor – for whom the rebuilding of St Giles Church was a memorial.**

The renovations transformed and enlarged a more modest building that dated back to Saxon and Norman eras into how we know it today. It cost £2,885 – £400,000 at today's values – with designs drawn up by architect G E Street, who is best known for London's Royal Courts of Justice and who was among the guests at the service.

Many of the 80 members of the clergy and a large number of laity who joined Street that day from across England travelled to Graffham on that special train, all to pay their respects to their late friend. They were led by the Archbishop of Canterbury himself and no less than four bishops – of Chichester, Ely, Rochester and Winchester.

The train left London Victoria at 9.30am, taking some two hours to reach Selham. The station, across the lane from today's Three Moles, had been opened by the London and



Selham Station, pictured here in 1954, the year before passenger services there ended. It had been opened for just three years when it received the chartered train carrying England's great and good to the special service at St Giles 150 years ago.

South Coast Railway three years before, on a new line linking Pulborough and Midhurst. It closed to passenger traffic in 1955. The guests were transported across the two and a half miles onwards from Selham to St Giles by a fleet of horse-drawn coaches, although the poor weather meant the visitors could not see the views at their best, as the 4,400 word report on the day's events in the *Horsham, Petworth, Midhurst and Steyning Express* recorded: "Unfortunately, rain set in about 11 o'clock, and did not cease during the remainder of the day, causing discomfort to all, and thoroughly obscuring the lovely woodland scenery of the district, now in full glory of its autumn tints."

One of those coaches would have been driven by the father of my grandmother, Henry Boxall, coachman to the Rector of Graffham with Woolavington at the time, the Rev Rowley Lascelles. So this special service is not just a distant event detached from our lives today, but it has bloodline connections to at least seven families living in Graffham today, and seven more in nearby villages – all descendants of coachman Boxall! Furthermore, a great-great-granddaughter of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce himself still has a house here.

The clergy and St Giles' choir,

▶ Continued on next page



The service generated much media coverage.

supplemented by choristers from Chichester Cathedral, gathered at the Rectory, adjacent to St Giles, where they were received by the Rev Lascelles, before donning their robes. At 12 noon, the procession of clergy and choir started, entering the church and progressing up the nave chanting the 48th Psalm. One line of this psalm “*His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation is the joy of all the Earth*” is a most fitting choice considering St Giles’ setting by the Downs. Indeed, all elements of this service were chosen with infinite care to reflect the freshly restored beauty of St Giles, its surroundings and the admirable and compelling character of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce.

Music played a key role, adding to the sense of occasion. St Giles’ regular accompanist Mr Smith played the harmonium. (The pipe organ was not installed until the early 20th century.) Four hymns were sung – *We Love the Place Oh God, Oh Holy Spirit Lord of Grace, The Church’s One Foundation* and, as the clergy and choir processed out of the church, *Oh God Our Help in Ages Past*.

A collection was taken during the third of them, raising £61 – worth almost £9,000 at today’s values. This money was donated to the church tower fund. Renovating that part of the building had been left for later. It would be another 10 years before that 13th Century structure was renewed – after being declared unsafe.

Other music at the rededication service included four psalms, chanted in the simple Gregorian style, in keeping with the uncomplicated style adopted for the entire service. Besides Psalm 48 intoned by the procession entering the church, they included Psalm 84 *How Lovely was Your Dwelling Place*, reflecting the beautiful position of St Giles, Psalm 122 *I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord*, and Psalm 132, which includes the line “*This is my rest for*

*ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.*”



The Rectory, pictured in the early 1900s, where the clergy and choir donned their robes before the service.

All prayers were intoned by the Rev A H Glennie, Succentor of Chichester Cathedral. This use of intonation, or stylised melodic prayer, and not the more conversational spoken prayer, contributed towards the sense that this



These postcards shows St Giles just a few decades after its restructuring. The picture of its interior clearly shows the rood screen between the nave and chancel and, on the right, the private area for the Wilberforce family, now the Lady Chapel. Note also the candelabras in those days before electricity reached the village.

was a special event, adding to the sense of formality and reverence, while also acknowledging the ages for which the church had stood on this site. The Bishop of Chichester, Richard Durnford, then proceeded with the order of service for reopening the church – as issued by Bishop Wilberforce himself in 1872, while he served as Bishop of Winchester. The lessons were read by two of his sons, both also members of the clergy – Rev Ernest Wilberforce, then of Seaforth, Liverpool, who would go on to succeed Richard as Bishop of Chichester, and Rev Basil Wilberforce of Southampton, who would later become Archdeacon of Westminster.

The sermon was preached by Canon H P Liddon of St Paul's Cathedral who, according to newspaper reports, “spoke upwards of an hour”, taking 1 Corinthians as his text: “I am made all things to all me, that I might by all means save some”.

He compared Bishop Wilberforce to St Paul – through their strength, tenderness and versatility, they could both make themselves “at home with all orders and degrees of men”. This allowed Bishop Wilberforce “to become all things to all men – he was by turns the courtier and the peasant, the friend

► [Continued on next page](#)



A stone tablet just inside St Giles' south door records the names of the five bishops who had attended the church's rededication in 1875 after its rebuilding, including the Bishop of Chichester Richard Durnford (below left) and the Archbishop of Canterbury Archibald Campbell Tait.





Bishop Wilberforce's crozier was mounted in a case set by the altar at St Peter's Church, which is now Seaford College's chapel – where it remains to this day.

► *Continued from previous page*

of kings and ministers and knew “the inmates of the penitentiary and the workhouse”. Who was seated where has not been recorded, but it is likely that the Wilberforce family occupied the private area created for them as part of the church's renovations – what is now the Lady Chapel. Contemporary reports said the newly expanded building in its entirety could seat 300, with the church “full to overflowing” for this service, although fitting in 200 today is a feat.

At the service's end, the congregation filed out of the church and into a fleet of carriages provided by the Wilberforces to take them to the family home, Lavington House, which is now Seaford College's Mansion House, where a marquee had been set up, close to St Peter's Church (now the school's chapel), where Bishop Wilberforce had been buried. Inside this little church, the late bishop's crozier, or shepherd's staff, was mounted in a case set beside the altar – where it remains today.

After a sit-down lunch under canvas on the lawn in front of Lavington House, the Archbishop of Canterbury – Archibald Campbell Tait, the first Scot to hold the post – rose to make his address. Although it was two and a half years since Bishop Wilberforce's death, he noted, “his absence, yet unseen presence, has been uppermost in our minds”. Samuel Wilberforce had left a void not easily filled, the archbishop said, talking at length about his late friend's accomplishments – “his marvellous eloquence of speech, his power of persuasion unequalled in our day, the like of which we shall probably not see again and his physical power of activity which enabled him to be in every place where his presence was needed”.

His Grace sat down amidst loud cheers from the gathering. After those cheers for the late Bishop Samuel Wilberforce quietened down, the assembled crowd broke up with many conveyed back to the chartered train at Selham Station for its return journey back to London.

A momentous day in Graffham's history was over – but our stupendous St Giles Church stands today as a lasting memory.

Pictures courtesy  
of Graffham  
Archive, West  
Sussex Record  
Office, National  
Portrait Gallery  
and others.

# Out and about: Death Cap

An occasional column by Jonathan Simons, amateur toxicologist and font of useless knowledge on so many things other people would rather ignore.

The Death Cap, *Amanita phalloides*, is a very poisonous mushroom. Only a small section of the cap is needed to cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea, followed by a few days' remission and then death from kidney and liver failure. There is usually at least one report a year in the news of such a fatality.

If you are thinking of taking up the foraging of mushrooms for the pot, then you owe it to yourself and your family to familiarise yourself with this killer. Unfortunately, it is not unusual in Graffham!

It grows under oak and beech and there are at least two sites by Graffham Common Road. I have also seen it at Hoyle, in Hoe Copse and on the other commons.



It has three main characteristics. First, there is a sac at the bottom from which the mushroom has emerged. So, if in doubt when identifying mushrooms to be eaten, dig one out completely and if it has a sac at the base then leave it alone. You cannot be harmed just by handling it. You can even put a bit in your mouth to taste as long as you then spit it out. Second, there is a white floppy ring towards the top of the stem which is initially attached to the rim of the cap. Third, the gills are white.



These are characteristics shared by other species in the *Amanita* genus, for instance the Destroying Angel and the Fly Agaric but the cap of this species is a distinctive smooth and sickly yellow-green.

However, a word of warning: if you are preparing a deadly mushroom omelette for chosen guests do not mistake it for the False Death-cap, *Amanita citrina*. It is similar but much more frequent. You can tell it from the general amanita characteristics and the pale yellow cap which bears light brown scales rather like cornflakes. Your victims may well recover from a dish made of this.

# Nature Notes: From ash to ashes

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

The fireworks are hailin’ over Sussex on Bonfire Night, forcing a light onto our familiar skylines. But an integral part of this landscape may be about to fizzle out and vanish forever. For our ash trees, judgement day has arrived.

An ash tree’s bare branches curve, swirl and sag, looking like an inked thumbprint on the winter sky. Arched twigs reach out like bony, beckoning fingers, each tipped with a dirty black fingernail. These black buds are unique to ash trees and in spring they’ll burst into a spray of purple flowers, like a freeze-framed firework explosion.

Ash trees have no shame. They love to stand naked. They are the last tree to put on their leafy green gown in the spring and the first to throw it to the ground in the autumn. In winter gales, their grey, lean limbs flail and sway like that strange old man you see at every music festival who dances shirtless and alone. Yet there’s something eternally youthful about even the oldest ash. They can elastically sashay through a storm with suppleness, lightness and flexibility. Maybe this invincibility



## Work parties 2025-26

We are so fortunate to have the beautiful South Downs on our doorstep. Come and help maintain them for future generations to enjoy. Did I mention that delicious cakes, tea and coffee are provided?



Work parties meet at Graffham’s St Giles Church at 9.30am. You’ll need a pair of gloves, strong shoes or boots and warm clothing.

Please email [jimkirke@hotmail.com](mailto:jimkirke@hotmail.com) if you plan to come along and say if you would like a ride up so that he can arrange transport.

|             |         |            |          |
|-------------|---------|------------|----------|
| 23 November | Sunday  | 25 January | Sunday   |
| 21 December | Sunday  | 7 February | Saturday |
|             | 7 March | Saturday   |          |



Ash trees standing naked by the South Downs Way in Sussex, their bare branches, looking like an inked thumbprint on the winter sky. Picture © Daniel Greenwood.

is why the ash was celebrated as the 'tree of life' and bestowed with magical properties that purported to heal lame children, defend us against snakes and cure anything from chronic wind to the bubonic plague. Whenever we needed a wood that would absorb a hard blow without splintering, we have turned to ash. For hammer handles, hockey sticks, oars, rackets, skis, cogs, cartwheels and car frames, its tough timber provided us with resilience and strength.

But now, finally, the ash tree is about to be dealt a blow that it cannot withstand.

In 1992, a fungal infection – *Chalara fraxinea* – which attacked ash trees was discovered in Poland. This botanical Ebola spread on westerly winds across Europe, its airborne fungal spores dusting and devastating ash trees everywhere. In 2012, an imported ash tree in a Cheshire nursery was Britain's first victim. Now most ash trees across our land have succumbed to this plague.

We have yet to discover how our ash trees will react to this fungal assassin. There's a chance that the ancestry of England's ash trees will offer some genetic resistance. But over the coming years we may witness an arboreal armageddon similar to the one which wiped out our elms at the end of the last century.

Is that the wind making the ash branches quiver or are these trees trembling in fear as they sense something approaching?

- 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:



## Cricket

Graffham Ladies' much-heralded home cricket fixture against West Wittering was sadly scuppered – not by the weather but by the opposition's 11th hour failure to raise a team. With Graffham having a surfeit of available players, a plan was hastily concocted to co-opt enough men to make a full 11-a-side, 20-over match. This ended up being so successful that it is likely to become a regular fixture.

Rich Sabin (Villagers) and Louise Creed (Valkyries) were appointed captains, and a school-style draft was arranged (slightly embarrassing for some of us!) in such a way as to ensure that each side had a similar gender split.

Coach Brett Creed, helped by what must be quite some iPad app, managed to organise, umpire and score from the bowler's end.

The Villagers batted first with the opening pair of Rohan Grace and Ardra laying a solid foundation. Ardra was caught by Bill Barrett from a ball bowled by Holly Sparkes, and Rohan was retired after reaching 31 runs. The rest of their team managed to take the total to 138, with the highlights being a fine innings of 28 from Matilda Shelton-Agar and Jeeva's of 23 which included the only sixes of the afternoon. Five wickets fell in total. As well as Holly Sparkes', one other wicket went to captain Louise, and three run outs were thanks to the excellent fielding of the two Hollys and Lou Hancock.

After a quick break for drinks, the Valkyries sent in Bill Barrett and Lou Hancock. Bill declared his intention to carry his bat with some fine forward defensive shots



The winning Villagers team (left – who added that 9 at the end of their score?!) and the... err... match runners-up the Valkyries.

(accompanied by some abuse). Some tight bowling and fielding prevented the Valkyries from scoring at the necessary rate though significant contributions came from David Sanders, Holly Sabin and Ian Thornley. Wickets fell to the bowling of Ardra (including that of her mother), David Sparkes, Philippa Sanders and Ginny Barrett, and a fine run out was executed by Rohan Grace. The final total of 85 for five was achieved without a single duck.

West Wittering were the losers as the superb match tea was consumed by players and spectators, with a follow-up game of Molokky won by Rich Sabin, who was having quite the day!



## Bowls

Graffham Bowls Club finished the season with their now traditional candle lit bowls night – when friends and family join members for an enjoyable evening of bowls with a difference! Preparations are now under way for the clubs' centenary next year.



# Graffham Tennis Club



**Awards evening** Trophies will be presented to the winners of all Graffham Tennis Club's annual tournaments at the traditional end of season (though of course tennis is played throughout the year) awards evening at the Pavilion on Saturday 15 November at 6pm. You can give the winners a cheer – and buy them a drink, too, as the bar will be open as usual!

**Mixed Doubles** Graffham A mixed doubles team entered the East Hants summer league for the eighth time in 2025, *writes Mixed team captain Andy Craig*. Originally starting in Division 4 in 2017, our side has over many years worked its way up to Division 2. This summer, we played exceptionally well, winning eight matches and losing just one, a final fixture on 24 September when Alton A snuck a 3-5 victory. A huge thank you to Olli Edwards, Emma and Olive Amin and Ross Anderson for turning out month after month to play.

One of the toughest matches of the campaign was against Headley B but Olli and Olive played extremely well to win one of the sets against a highly regarded pair – tennis of the highest quality! At the end of the season, Graffham won the title with 53 points – 15 points ahead of the runners up – and achieved promotion to Division 1 for the first time in our history. Even more pleasing for such a small village club, four of our players ended up in the top six best performers in the league, with super Emma Amin number one performer at the top of the league list! Here's to a successful campaign next summer in Division 1 of the mixed summer league!

The much heralded winter league match between Graffham Mixed A and Graffham Mixed B provided some thrilling tennis although the A team came away 7-1 winners. The A team comprised Ross Anderson, Emma Amin, Paul Pieterse and Olive Amin while the B team was represented by Richard Bates, Dinah Lamming, Rich Sabin and Angie Thornley. The reverse fixture, which happens in January, will offer the chance for revenge.

**Ladies A Team** We had a really good season in East Hants summer league Division 2 with some really close matches combined with some exceptional scores which meant that we didn't have to worry about relegation and made it all the more enjoyable, *writes Mixed team captain Kate Hogan*.

We ended the season in third position with 44 points, just behind the runners up on 45. Although we only won three matches outright, these were all 8-0 and that, coupled with two ties, gave us a huge leeway when it came down to the last

matches. We had three players in the top 10 of the division: Emma Amin, Suzanna Troy and me. Overall, 13 different players turned out for us, and a massive congratulations and a big thank you goes to them all, with special mention to those who stepped in last minute to cover injury/illness. Thank you also to Richard Hopp for our team coaching sessions held over the course of the season.

| Graffham Tennis Club November home fixtures |        |               |       |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 9 Nov                                       | 1.15pm | Mixed Doubles | Div 2 | Graffham A vs Fernhurst A |
| 16 Nov                                      | 1.15pm | Mixed Doubles | Div 2 | Graffham B vs Haslemere B |



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## Centurion Way brought closer to Graffham

Another section of the Centurion Way was opened in August, bringing the new cycleway and footpath linking Chichester with the South Downs closer to Graffham. The latest segment extended the route north from West Dean through



The path now passes through the renovated ruins of Singleton station.

the former Singleton railway station just north to near Cucumber Farm. The aim is to lengthen it further through Cocking to link to the South Downs Way by 2027 and then potentially on to Midhurst. Starting from Chichester’s West Gate, the path follows 8 miles (13 km) of the route of the old, dismantled Chichester-to-Midhurst railway line, which was fully closed in 1991.

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# Other denominations locally

**Methodist:** Midhurst. *Minister:* David Muskett *Tel:* 01730 233436. *email:* [superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk](mailto:superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk). *Web:* [midhurstmethodist.com](http://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, Dunton, The Divine Motherhood and St Francis of Assisi, Midhurst, and The Sacred Heart, Petworth. *email:* [petworth.abdiocese.org.uk](http://petworth.abdiocese.org.uk). *Tel:* 01798 342169. *Web:* [www.petworthcatholic.org](http://www.petworthcatholic.org)

| Mass |         |          |     |        |                  |
|------|---------|----------|-----|--------|------------------|
| Sun  | 8am     | Dunton   | 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](http://sussexwestquakers.org.uk) *Meetings:* 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10.30am.

**RINGING and SINGING:** To join Graffham's bellringers or occasional choir, contact Revd Vivien on 01798 867199 or at

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# Foodbank's 'most urgent' shopping list updated

Chichester Foodbank, which also covers Petworth and its surrounding villages, has updated its list of most needed items.

You can contribute to the foodbank at its collection points in

All Saints Chapel, directly opposite Graffham Village Shop, or at St Giles Church.

Items currently most wanted include:

- Deodorant.
- Rice pudding/custard.
- Toothpaste/brushes.
- Gluten-free items.
- Teabags, instant coffee.
- Treats (snack bars).
- Household cleaning items.
- Tinned fish and veg.
- Washing up liquid.
- Jam, honey, spreads.
- Tinned meat/veg meals.
- Longlife milk, juice.
- Tinned/packet soups.



## Community hub to expand reach to villages

Midhurst Community Hub, which provides an advisory service to help people with issues ranging from bus passes to carers' allowances, is aiming to expand its reach to the rural parishes around the town.

Since it was launched three years ago from its bases in Midhurst's Knockhundred Row, it has helped more than 200 people.

Its volunteer advisers are on duty at the Grange Centre every week to provide assistance on issues including:

- Debt, benefits, including PIP (personal independence payments), carer's allowances and universal credit.
- Housing issues, such as the threat of homelessness, damp or mould, relocation issues and neighbour disputes.
- Assisting in filling in applications for things like bus passes, blue badge and the housing register.
- Food bank referrals.



It has also been working to address the issues of loneliness and isolation.

Its next forum, bringing together voluntary organisations, public authorities, schools and churches in the area is on Wednesday 19 November at the Grange Centre, from 10.30am to 2pm, when the focus will be on issues affecting older people, children and families.

To find out more, contact the hub on 01730 770403 or email [info@midhurstcommunityhub.co.uk](mailto:info@midhurstcommunityhub.co.uk)

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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 are open daily.
- See [stgilesgraffham.org](http://stgilesgraffham.org) or Facebook's @stgilesgraffham for any changes
- Bellringing practice is every Tuesday at 7.30pm

| November |     |             |                                                                                                                           |                    |
|----------|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1        | Sat | 9.30am      | Choir rehearsal                                                                                                           | St Giles Church    |
| 2        | Sun | 10.30am     | All Saints Sunday 150th anniversary service and reception <i>(see pages 1 and 4)</i>                                      | St Giles Church    |
| 4        | Tue |             | No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims                                                                                             |                    |
| 6        | Thu | 5pm         | Bishop Rose Hudson-Wilkin talk                                                                                            | St Mary's Petworth |
| 8        | Sat | 10am-12noon | Bellringing practice                                                                                                      | St Giles Church    |
| 9        | Sun | 9.30am      | Requiem Eucharist 3 before Advent<br><i>Reading: Job 19.23-27a; Psalm 17.1-9</i>                                          | St Giles Church    |
|          |     | 11am        | Service of Remembrance                                                                                                    | War Memorial       |
|          |     | 6pm         | Evensong                                                                                                                  | All Saints Chapel  |
| 11       | Tue | 9.30am      | Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims                                                                                       | All Saints Chapel  |
|          |     | 11am        | Armistice Prayers                                                                                                         | War Memorial       |
| 12       | Wed | 3.30pm      | PCC Fabric meeting                                                                                                        | Maple House        |
| 13       | Thu | 10am        | School Remembrance Assembly                                                                                               | St Giles Church    |
| 13       | Thu | 10.45am     | PCC Community Meeting                                                                                                     | tbc                |
| 14       | Fr  | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                                                                           | St Giles Church    |
| 16       | Sun | 9am         | BCP Holy Communion                                                                                                        | St Giles Church    |
|          |     | 10.30am     | Family Eucharist 2 before Advent<br><i>Readings: Matthew 7.7-8; Philippians 4.6-7; 1 Corinthians 13.4-7; Psalm 30.4-5</i> | St Giles Church    |
| 18       | Tue | 9.30am      | Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims                                                                                       | All Saints Chapel  |
|          |     | 3pm         | PCC Worship meeting                                                                                                       | Occam Cottage      |
| 19       | Wed | 12pm        | Food with Friends                                                                                                         | The Rectory        |
| 21       | Fri | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                                                                           | St Giles Church    |
| 23       | Sun | 10.30am     | Parish Eucharist Christ the King<br><i>Readings: Jeremiah 23.1-6; Colossians 1.11-20</i>                                  | St Giles Church    |
| 25       | Tue | 9.30am      | Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims                                                                                       | All Saints Chapel  |
| 27       | Thu | 10am        | School assembly                                                                                                           | St Giles Church    |
|          |     | 3.30pm      | Messy Church                                                                                                              | Pavilion           |
| 28       | Fri | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                                                                           | St Giles Church    |
| 30       | Sun | 10.30am     | Parish Eucharist Advent Sunday<br><i>Reading: Isaiah 2.1-5</i>                                                            | St Giles Church    |
|          |     | 5pm         | Advent Carols with Seaford College choir                                                                                  | St Giles Church    |

Cleaning duty for November: Clive and Harriet Rowntree.

# What's on in and around the village

For all church events, see page 59. For weekly events, see page 63.

To see what's on in the village, locally and further afield for a full year ahead, see [graffham-pc.gov.uk/graffham-village-diary](http://graffham-pc.gov.uk/graffham-village-diary)

| October  |     |             |                                                                               |                             |
|----------|-----|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26       | Sun | 2am         | Clocks go back one hour                                                       |                             |
|          |     | 4-6pm       | Scottish dancing practice (see page 18)                                       | Empire Hall                 |
|          |     | 7-10pm      | Blues Night                                                                   | Three Moles                 |
| 27       | Mon |             | WSCC schools half-term (to 31 Oct)                                            |                             |
| 28       | Tue | 9-11am      | Great Feet foot health professional <sup>1</sup>                              | Empire Hall                 |
|          |     | 11am        | Coffee morning in aid of St Giles                                             | Foresters Arms              |
| 29       | Wed |             | Petworth Festival Literary Week (to 9 Nov)                                    | Petworth                    |
| 31       | Fri |             | Halloween                                                                     |                             |
|          |     | evening     | All Hallows Eve fun                                                           | Foresters Arms              |
| November |     |             |                                                                               |                             |
| 1        | Sat |             | All Saints Day                                                                |                             |
| 2        | Sun |             | Graffham Camping and Caravan site closes for winter                           | Graffham                    |
|          |     | 10.30am     | 150 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations for rebuilding (see pages 1 and 4) | St Giles Church             |
| 3        | Mon |             | Graffham and Duncton Schools INSET day                                        |                             |
| 4        | Tue | 10.45am     | Arts Society Midhurst talk                                                    | Midhurst Methodist Hall     |
|          |     | 2pm         | Arts Society West Sussex talk – Art Deco: Whatever Happened to Art Nouveau?   | Fittleworth Village Hall    |
| 5        | Wed |             | Guy Fawkes Day                                                                |                             |
|          |     | evening     | Quiz night, hosted by Lucas Thornley                                          | Foresters Arms              |
| 6        | Thu | 1-110am     | UKHarvest surplus food market                                                 | Sylvia Beaufoy, Petw’rth    |
|          |     |             | Parents’ evening (also 12 Nov)                                                | Duncton Junior School       |
| 7        | Fri | From 6pm    | Fireworks night                                                               | Midhurst Rother College     |
| 8        | Sat | 10am-12noon | Bellringing practice                                                          | St Giles Church             |
|          |     |             | Petworth Bonfire Night                                                        | Hampers Green               |
|          |     | From 7pm    | Heyshott Bonfire Night                                                        | Heyshott                    |
|          |     | 7.45pm      | Petworth Sessions presents Mishra & Deepa Shakthi                             | Leconfield Hall<br>Petworth |
| 9        | Sun |             | Remembrance Sunday                                                            |                             |
|          |     | 9.30am      | Service of Remembrance                                                        | St Giles Church             |
|          |     | 11am        | Service of Remembrance                                                        | War Memorial                |
|          |     | 7pm         | Folk music night                                                              | Three Moles                 |

|    |     |             |                                                                             |                        |
|----|-----|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 11 | Tue | 11am        | Armistice Day Prayers                                                       | War Memorial           |
| 12 | Wed | 3.30pm      | PCC Fabric meeting                                                          | Maple House            |
|    |     |             | Parents' evening                                                            | Duncton Junior School  |
|    |     | 7.30pm      | Words by the Hearth poetry and prose                                        | Foresters Arms         |
| 13 | Thu | 10am        | School Remembrance Assembly                                                 | St Giles Church        |
|    |     | 10am        | SDNPA planning committee meeting                                            | SDNPA office, Midhurst |
|    |     | 10.45am     | PCC Community Group meeting                                                 | TBA                    |
|    |     | 2pm         | Thursday Club                                                               | Empire Hall            |
| 14 | Fri |             | King Charles III's birthday                                                 |                        |
|    |     |             | Midhurst Jazz, Food and Blues Festival (till 16 Nov)                        | Midhurst               |
|    |     | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                             | St Giles Church        |
| 15 | Sat |             | Tennis Club trophy presentation evening                                     | Rec Pavilion           |
| 17 | Mon | 6.15pm      | East Lavington Parish Council meeting                                       | Seaford College        |
| 18 | Tue | 9-11am      | Great Feet foot health professional <sup>1</sup>                            | Empire Hall            |
| 19 | Wed | 12pm        | Food with Friends                                                           | The Rectory            |
| 20 | Thu | evening     | Fun music quiz                                                              | Foresters Arms         |
| 21 | Fri | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                             | St Giles Church        |
| 22 | Sat | 7pm         | Graffham Empire Movies presents<br><i>Bridget Jones – Mad About The Boy</i> | Empire Hall            |
|    |     | 9am-1pm     | Petworth Farmers Market                                                     | Petworth               |
|    |     | 10am        | Tillington Christmas Market                                                 | Tillington Church      |
| 23 | Sun | 9.30am      | Graffham Down Trust work party                                              | Meet at St Giles       |
| 25 | Tue | 6.30pm      | Graffham Parish Council meeting                                             | Empire Hall            |
| 26 | Wed |             | Budget Day                                                                  | Westminster            |
|    |     | 12.30pm     | Lunch Club <sup>2</sup>                                                     | Empire Hall            |
| 27 | Thu |             | USA's Thanksgiving Day                                                      |                        |
|    |     | 3.30pm      | Messy Church                                                                | Pavilion               |
| 28 | Fri |             | Midhurst Rother College INSET day                                           |                        |
|    |     | 5.30pm      | Choir rehearsal                                                             | St Giles Church        |
| 29 | Sat | 10-11am     | Community garden work party                                                 | War Memorial           |
|    |     | 10am-6.30pm | Christmas Makers' Market (to 30 Nov)                                        | Petworth House         |
|    |     | 10.30am-4pm | Christmas Enchantment (to 4 Jan)                                            | Petworth House         |
| 30 | Sun |             | St Andrew's Day                                                             |                        |
|    |     | 5pm         | Advent Service with Seaford College choir                                   | St Giles               |
|    |     | 7-10pm      | Blues Night                                                                 | Three Moles            |

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

<sup>2</sup>**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) <sup>3</sup>          | Westerlands |
|                                                                    | 9-10am          | Fitflows Fitness <sup>1</sup>                      | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | Daytime-evening | Osteopath <sup>2</sup>                             | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 6pm in summer   | Bowls Club practices – all welcome                 | Rec         |
| Tuesdays                                                           | 8.30am          | Strength and mobility with Gemma <sup>3</sup>      | Westerlands |
|                                                                    | 8.30am-12noon   | Post Office                                        | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | Daytime-evening | Osteopath <sup>2</sup>                             | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 7.30pm          | Bell ringing practice – newcomers welcome          | St Giles    |
| Wednesdays                                                         | 9-10am          | Yoga <sup>4</sup>                                  | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 10.15-11.30am   | Teddy Time toddler group <sup>5</sup>              | Pavilion    |
|                                                                    | 11.15am-12noon  | Pilates <sup>6</sup>                               | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 1.45-2.45pm     | Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching <sup>7</sup> | Rec         |
|                                                                    | 7-8.30pm        | Badminton <sup>8</sup> – all welcome               | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | Daytime-evening | Osteopath <sup>2</sup>                             | Empire Hall |
| Thursdays                                                          | Daytime-evening | Osteopath <sup>2</sup>                             | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 10.45-11.45am   | Ease Into Exercise <sup>9</sup>                    | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 6-7.15pm        | Yoga <sup>4</sup>                                  | Empire Hall |
| Fridays                                                            | 9-10.15am       | Yoga <sup>4</sup>                                  | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 9am-3pm         | Physiotherapy clinic <sup>10</sup>                 | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | Evenings        | Tennis Club evenings                               | Pavilion    |
| Saturdays                                                          | 8.30am          | Boxfit with Nina <sup>3</sup>                      | Westerlands |
|                                                                    | 9-10.15am       | Yoga <sup>4</sup>                                  | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 9.30am          | Yoga with Kate <sup>3</sup>                        | Westerlands |
|                                                                    | 9am-3pm         | Physiotherapy clinic <sup>10</sup>                 | Empire Hall |
| Sundays                                                            | 5pm             | Pickleball <sup>11</sup>                           | Empire Hall |
|                                                                    | 5pm             | Casual football <sup>12</sup>                      | Rec         |

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

<sup>1</sup>**Fitflows Fitness:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

<sup>2</sup>**Osteopath:** Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 303557 or see [www.annashawcross.co.uk](http://www.annashawcross.co.uk)

<sup>3</sup>**For all Westerlands events:** Book online at [www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit](http://www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit)

<sup>4</sup>**Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 367009.

<sup>5</sup>**Teddy Time:** No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

<sup>6</sup>**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

<sup>7</sup>**Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at [richard@hoppecoaching.co.uk](mailto:richard@hoppecoaching.co.uk), on 07904 069457.

<sup>8</sup>**Badminton:** Contact Christina Federowicz on 07900 055574. All welcome.

<sup>9</sup>**Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

<sup>10</sup>**Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at [serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com](mailto:serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com).

<sup>11</sup>**Pickleball:** Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417.

<sup>12</sup>**Casual Football:** Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.

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**Quiz answers (from page 30)** 1 Guido Fawkes. 2 To be the oldest church in the City of London. 3 Queen Alexandra. 4 The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo/Princess Anne. 5 Shield bugs. 6 Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid. 7 *Goldfinger*. 8 Zoe Aldcroft. 9 Billy Idol. 10 Alan Partridge.

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# Directory: Useful local contact info

|                                      |                                                |                                              |                                          |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>DOCTORS</b>                       |                                                | Petworth Surgery                             | 01798 342248                             |
|                                      |                                                | Midhurst Riverbank Medical Centre            | 01730 812121                             |
|                                      |                                                | Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit                | 01483 782334                             |
| <b>DEFIBRILLATORS</b>                |                                                | On outside wall of <b>Empire Hall</b>        | Code is <b>C240Z</b>                     |
|                                      |                                                | On outside wall of <b>Pavilion</b>           | Code is <b>C159X</b>                     |
|                                      |                                                | In phone box outside <b>Pescods</b>          | Code is also <b>C159X</b>                |
|                                      |                                                | In phone box opposite <b>The Three Moles</b> | No code needed                           |
| <b>FLOOD ALERT for Lods Bridge</b>   |                                                | To check river level                         | bit.ly/lodsbridge                        |
| <b>POLICE</b>                        |                                                | In emergency                                 | 999                                      |
|                                      |                                                | Non-emergency                                | 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk 101             |
| <b>BURST WATER MAINS</b>             |                                                | Southern Water                               | 0800 820 999                             |
| <b>POWER CUTS</b>                    |                                                | Scottish & Southern Electric                 | 105 or 0800 0727 282                     |
| <b>99 FLEX BUS</b>                   | Linking Graffham with Chichester, Petworth etc | Book via Ring Pingo app                      | 01243 858854                             |
| <b>All Saints Chapel Trust</b>       |                                                | Chairman Clive Rowntree                      | 01798 867536                             |
| <b>Badminton</b>                     |                                                | Christina Federowicz                         | 07900 055574                             |
| <b>Bees / Swarms</b>                 | Wisboro' Green B'keepers                       | Tom Moore                                    | 07984 606214/01798 343470                |
|                                      | Local beekeeper                                | Murray West                                  | evenings 01798 867048                    |
| <b>Chichester District Council</b>   |                                                |                                              | 01243 534734                             |
| District Councillor                  | John Cross                                     | jcross@chichester.gov.uk                     | 07592 307027                             |
| Dog Warden                           |                                                | Office hours/Emergency                       | 01243 534734/01243 785339                |
| <b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>        |                                                |                                              | 03448 487969                             |
| <b>East Lavington Parish Council</b> | Chairman                                       | Simon Longman                                | simon.longman@eastlavington-pc.uk        |
|                                      | Clerk                                          | Amy Harte                                    | 07889 979820 eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com   |
| <b>Empire Hall</b>                   |                                                | empirehall.org.uk                            | empirehall@gmail.com                     |
|                                      |                                                | Chairman                                     | Ollie Boulton                            |
|                                      |                                                | empirehall@gmail.com                         |                                          |
| Bookings                             | Anna Shawcross                                 | bookings.empirehall@gmail.com                | 01798 303557                             |
|                                      | Treasurer                                      | Carole Sargent                               | 01798 344790                             |
|                                      | Maintenance                                    | Tom Richardson                               | empirehall@gmail.com                     |
|                                      | Secretary                                      | Jonathan Simons                              | 01798 867689                             |
| <b>Foodbank</b>                      |                                                | info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk              | 01243 773687                             |
| <b>Foresters Arms</b>                |                                                | forestersarms-pub.co.uk                      | 01798 867386                             |
| <b>Graffham Archive</b>              |                                                | Robin Brind                                  | graffhamarchive@outlook.com 01798 867619 |
| <b>Graffham Bellringers</b>          |                                                | Tower Captain                                | Howard Pescott 01798 867029              |
| <b>Graffham Bowls Club</b>           |                                                | Chairman                                     | Sheila Allen 01798 342869                |
|                                      |                                                | Secretary                                    | Liz Pegram 01798 867770                  |
| <b>Graffham Down Trust</b>           |                                                | Chairman                                     | Jim Kirke 01798 867026                   |
| <b>Graffham Garden Group</b>         |                                                |                                              | Carole Kirke 01798 867026                |
| <b>Graff'm Health Support Assc</b>   | 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                             |
| <b>Graffham Lunch Club</b>           |                                                | Sarah Lydiard-Wilson                         | 01798 867567                             |

|                                                            |                                                                |                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Graffham Nursery</b>                                    | School Office                                                  | 01798 867324                       |
| <b>Graffham Parish Council</b>                             |                                                                | graffham-pc.gov.uk                 |
|                                                            | Chairman Gillian Charlesworth                                  | gcharlesworth@graffham-pc.gov.uk   |
|                                                            | Clerk Amy Harte                                                | clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk           |
| <b>Graffham Parish News</b>                                | Editorial and circulation: editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com |                                    |
|                                                            | Advertising: ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com                  |                                    |
|                                                            | See also inside front cover                                    |                                    |
| <b>Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council</b> |                                                                | stgilesgraffham.org                |
|                                                            | Priest-in-Charge Rev Vivien Turner                             | 01798 867199                       |
|                                                            |                                                                | hallo@stgilesgraffham.org          |
|                                                            | Churchwardens Ginny Barrett                                    | 01798 867113                       |
|                                                            | Cindy Bradley                                                  | 07787 516522                       |
|                                                            | Treasurer Dinah Lamming                                        | graffhampcctreasurer@gmail.com     |
| <b>Graffham Rec Committee</b>                              | Chairman John Bracey                                           | 01798 867760                       |
|                                                            | Bookings Sec Sonya Gillespie                                   | graffhamrecpavilion@gmail.com      |
| <b>Graffham Tennis Club</b>                                | Chairman Simon Longman                                         | 01798 867317                       |
|                                                            | Secretary David Sparkes                                        | 07958 486211                       |
|                                                            | Coaching Emma Amin                                             | 01798 867063                       |
| <b>Graffham Village Shop</b>                               | Jeeva and Vasu                                                 | 01798 867700                       |
|                                                            |                                                                | graffhamvillageshop.co.uk          |
| <b>Graffham Village Shop Assoc</b>                         | Chairman Steve Dover                                           | 07770 499223                       |
|                                                            | Treasurer Andy Jones                                           | andy.jones@graffham.net            |
|                                                            | Secretary Ros Britton                                          | rosalind.britton@btinternet.com    |
| <b>Katherine Maud Guillod Fund</b>                         | c/o Graffham PC Clerk                                          | graffhampc@gmx.co.uk               |
| <b>Lavington Estate</b>                                    | info@lavingtonstud.co.uk                                       | 01798 867275                       |
| <b>Lavington Park Federation</b>                           |                                                                | graffhamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk  |
|                                                            | Graffham CE Infant School                                      | 01798 867324                       |
|                                                            | Dunton CE Junior School                                        | 01798 342402                       |
|                                                            | Friends of Graffham & Dunton Schools                           | 01798 867324                       |
| <b>Long Bostle Downland Soc</b>                            | Gillian Brandt                                                 | 01798 867276                       |
| <b>MP Arundel &amp; South Downs</b>                        | Andrew Griffith                                                | andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk   |
| <b>Midhurst &amp; Petworth Observer</b>                    |                                                                | 01243 534163                       |
| <b>National Trust (Lavington Common)</b>                   |                                                                | 01730 816638                       |
| <b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>                                 | Michael Crickmay                                               | 01798 867486                       |
| <b>Osteopath</b>                                           | Anna Shawcross                                                 | 01798 867523                       |
| <b>Oil Buying Syndicate</b>                                | Derek Bradnum                                                  | derekbradnum@gmail.com             |
| <b>Pilates at Empire Hall</b>                              | Nicky Capes                                                    | 07990 517858                       |
| <b>Potholes</b>                                            | To report a pothole or other road problem online               | bit.ly/report-potholes-west-sussex |
| <b>Seaford College</b>                                     |                                                                | 01798 867392                       |
| <b>Three Moles</b>                                         | Ollie and Tom                                                  | thethreemoles.com 01798 861303     |
| <b>Thursday Club</b>                                       | Secretary Diane Bellis                                         | 01798 867444                       |
| <b>West Sussex County Council</b>                          | General enquiries                                              | 01243 777100                       |
|                                                            | County Councillor Tom Richardson                               | 07463 785039                       |
| <b>The Woodcote (formerly White Horse)</b>                 | thewoodcote.com                                                | 01798 867331                       |
| <b>Yoga at Empire Hall</b>                                 | Deborah Albon                                                  | 07790 367009                       |



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