

# GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 421

FREE

MARCH 2026



Tea ladies serve up £1,000 for church

Woodcote expansion given green light

Your Easter Market raffle tickets inside this edition





**On the cover:** Graffham's second bridge tea, held in the Empire Hall on Thursday 5 February, came up trumps, netting £1,000 for St Giles Church – with cakes, scones, other bakes and sandwiches aplenty. More pictures and full report on page 29.

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

- Michael Blunt (right) 07711 997487
- Bill Barrett (left) 07443 501091
- Philippa Sanders 07853 921825

**Copyright** All content is © *Graffham Parish News* unless otherwise stated and may not be reproduced without the editor's written consent.

**Printed by** TCW Solutions, 10 Nepicar Park, London Road, Wrotham, Kent TN15 7AF.

**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.



**April 2026 edition deadline** 14 March.

**Archives and online** This edition and back copies can be viewed online at [bit.ly/GPNOnline](http://bit.ly/GPNOnline)

**Find us on Facebook** We're on social media too! [@graffham.parish.news](https://www.facebook.com/graffham.parish.news)



**Subscriptions** If you live outside the parish, you can receive copies by mail. Annual subscriptions are £40. Contact the editors for full details.

**Advertising** We love our advertisers! If you are interested in being one of them, please contact Philippa Sanders (below) or email [ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)

**Please support us** If you enjoy reading this magazine, then please make a contribution through a monthly or one-off online donation – just point your camera phone at this QR code or go to [bit.ly/GPN-donation](http://bit.ly/GPN-donation)



Member Editor 2026 Award Winner 2022  
Association for Church Editors

# Writing from the Rectory: Church at any time

Ask people when and where church happens in Graffham and most will reply: “At St Giles’ on Sunday mornings.” Or maybe: “At All Saints’ Chapel, opposite the village shop on Sunday evenings.” Indeed, it does. Sunday services continue to provide a constant heartbeat of love in this community.

Though they are not the only times and places people come together to define themselves as church in this village.

For some families, it happens on Thursdays after school six times a year – so far in a number of locations in the village, though next time, on Thursday 19 March, at St Giles’ Church itself. It’s a good way for parents and children to discover together what God means and how to follow Jesus, through amazing craft, story and games with generous hospitality and company. This is Messy Church.



For another group of people, Tuesday mornings are a welcome time to gather as church, for morning prayers in the chapel by the shop (at 9.30am), followed by an hour of conversation and faith

Craft, stories, games and a yummy tea at a recent Messy Church.

► *Continued on next page*



**Priest in charge:** Reverend Vivien Turner  
[hello@stgilesgraffham.org](mailto:hello@stgilesgraffham.org) 01798 867199

*Vivien's rest days are Fridays and Saturdays (apart from for weddings and other special events).*

**Churchwarden:** Cindy Bradley 07787 516522

**Safeguarding Officer:** Howard Pescott  
01798 867029 [safeguardinggraffham@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardinggraffham@gmail.com)



[stgilesgraffham.org](http://stgilesgraffham.org)



@stgilesgraffham

► *Continued from previous page*

exploration through the hospitality of Janet Wakeford who happily lives just across the road. This is Pilgrims.

So if church on Sundays doesn't fit so well into your diary (and even if it does), try Tuesday mornings or Thursday afternoons instead, or indeed as well. Those attending Messy Church or Pilgrims consider it time well spent and perhaps you can too. I can't think of a better way to observe Lent and prepare for Easter in good company. I'll be there and look forward to welcoming you. See the 'What's on at our village church' diary on page 55 for when they're on.

When Easter arrives, look out for the Easter Garden which Messy Church is planning outside the door of St Giles. You could see it at our celebratory family Eucharist on Easter Sunday at 10.30am or get up before dawn that day for a special service at 6am, with the lighting of the Easter candle from Easter fire – the

conventional day for church, if not the conventional time!

To prepare for this special day, St Giles Church is also offering deeply important services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to immerse us in the passion of Christ. And whatever day or time church is offered, please know:

*We are pilgrims on a  
journey, and  
companions on the road;  
We are here to help each  
other walk the mile  
and bear the load.*

Have a good Lent.



Reverend Vivien



Messy Church  
"Easter"

19  
March  
2026

Come join us for games,  
craft, a bible story  
and a meal together

At St Giles Church  
From 3.30pm to 6pm

St Giles Church  
Graffham

Please RSVP Hen on 07714 652 856

The poster features a large central illustration of an Easter egg with a cross inside, surrounded by radiating lines and small star-like symbols. The text is arranged around the illustration, providing details about the event.



**Welcome!** Matilda Whitfield was baptised at St Giles Church on Sunday 18 January. Her parents Katie – whose mother and stepfather are Sarah and Jo Lydiard-Wilson, of Graffham’s Summers Farm – and Guy were married there in June 2023.



**Don’t panic!** It almost looks as if St Giles’ spire is on fire or the bell ringers are letting off steam after a particularly hefty peal – but this picture by Andy Paterson just captures heavy frost evaporating in strong winter morning sunshine.



# Thumbs up from Downs for Woodcote plans

The Woodcote's expansion has been given the green light to proceed, with South Downs National Park Authority's (SDNPA) Planning Committee approving the planning application. But it comes with an extensive and stringent set of conditions (see separate story, page 7) some of which, if not agreed within six months, could still block a development that has divided village opinion for the past year.

After two visits to the site, the committee spent more than an hour considering the proposal at its meeting on Thursday 12 February, before a vote in which only one of its 13 members sided against it and one abstained with all the others backing it.

Approval came almost a year to the day after the details of the proposal were first publicly aired, at an exhibition hosted by The Woodcote in the Empire Hall on Valentine's Day 2025. As previously reported, the owners intend to demolish the current six guest suites where former farm outbuildings once stood and erect 16 replacements in new lodges in the field further to the south. The current main building, the former White Horse pub, would become a bar and bistro with staff accommodation upstairs. A new structure built in the meadow to the south western side would house a restaurant aiming for coveted Michelin Green Star credentials.

These two buildings and new private dining rooms would be linked by a single-storey block, featuring more pitched roofs than originally envisaged, containing a new bar, kitchen and other support facilities, with a footprint of around five times that of the former pub building. The restaurant and bistro would each offer seats for 40 customers, with the private dining space taking up to 16. The Woodcote at present sits a total of 30. The car park, in the current position with an overflow area in the field to the west, would have space for 65 vehicles, up from the current 40. Revised plans had been posted just before Christmas and into the new year,



An architect's drawing of how the enlarged Woodcote will look.



Chairman Gillian Charlesworth (back to camera) outlines Graffham Parish Council's position on The Woodcote to the South Downs National Park Authority Planning Committee, which went on to approve the development.

designed to address objections raised by the SDNPA and the community (*Graffham Parish News* January and February 2026). Although these won over the SDNPA planning and design officers, its landscape officer and West Sussex County Council's rights of way officer continued to oppose the scheme. Almost 200 objections had also been made to the SDNPA, including from scores of villagers,

▶ *Continued on next page*

### **Consent could force historic Foresters to close, warns landlord**

The Foresters Arms could be forced to close if The Woodcote's expansion proposal goes ahead, the inn's landlord Peter Bradley warned the South Downs National Park Authority Planning Committee.

He said the planners' report was incorrect in claiming that the target market of The Woodcote was different from those of local pubs and that its expansion would therefore not adversely impact them: "The Woodcote is just a few hundred yards away. This development will be a vast upgrade and take our trade. Our advisers have said it could cut ours by 30 per cent. If we lose 10 per cent, we close.

"No-one from the South Downs has spoken to us or reviewed our business. They've secretly taken the word of the applicant. This application, if consented, will result in the final closure of the Foresters."

Pointing out that his pub had served Graffham for 400 years, he asked why it should be compelled to shut because The Woodcote's current business model did not make its owners the money they wanted.

He also reminded the committee that SDNPA's policy was to permit developments like this only when it was demonstrated that they would have no impact on the viability of village centres or assets of community value – and that The Foresters had been registered as an asset of community value eight years ago.

► *Continued from previous page*

from the Council for the Protection of Rural England, Friends of the South Downs and the British Horse Society. A dozen letters of support were received. After reviewing them, the final SDNPA report, covering some 30 pages, recommended that the planning committee should approve the revised application.

It stated: “Overall, the scale and design and layout of the proposed development is now considered acceptable, and the scheme is considered to respect the character and materials of the existing pub building. Notwithstanding the landscape officer’s concerns, on balance it is considered that the proposals comply with the policies of the park, offer material benefits in terms of biodiversity net gain and tourism and that a reason for refusal on landscape impact would be difficult to sustain.

“As a whole, the scheme complies with the policies of the local plan and the purposes of the park. It enhances through the removal of the unattractive pub plant and ad-hoc extensions to the rear of the existing building, it conserves by maintaining the appearance of the pub as an isolated building in the countryside when seen from the wider public environs and also provides enhanced biodiversity net gain and ecosystems services improvements.

“The lighting scheme is considered to be an improvement upon the existing situation and complies with the dark night sky (requirements). The highways authority has confirmed that the local rural network is capable of accommodating the anticipated rise in (traffic) without compromising safety.”

Committee member Janet Duncton, nominated to the SDNPA by West Sussex County Council, described it as a “jolly good scheme”. Paul Bevan, representing East Sussex parish councils, said it would be “a real asset to the national park”.

The two committee members representing parish councils across West Sussex were the only delegates to raise objections. Alun Aylesbury, the only one to vote against

► *Continued on page 8*



**Architects’ plans showing how The Woodcote would look from the east under its approved plans (above), compared with its elevations today (below).**



## Approval comes with conditions that 'don't get harder'

Approval of The Woodcote's expansion came with a total of almost 30 conditions, including a number which South Downs National Park Authority's Director Planning Tim Slaney said "don't get harder than that".

In addition, if agreement is not reached with the owners within six months on a "sustainable travel plan" then permission for them to proceed with the development could be withdrawn.

Among the conditions are that:

- The restaurant, bistro, bars and private dining room can host no more than 80 customers, inside and outside, at a time.
- The premises can only be used as a restaurant/bistro/bar and hotel – and for no other purposes. The owners had already pledged they would not host weddings or other special events.
- Apart from guests staying in the 'lodges' overnight, no other customers can access the bar/bistro, restaurant or private dining areas before 9am or after 11.30pm on Mondays to Saturdays (not including bank holidays and public holidays) and before 9am or after 10pm on Sundays or on bank or public holidays.
- Only guests staying in the 'lodges' can use the 'lodge' bar and lounge area.
- The 16 bedrooms are for holiday accommodation only and no guest can stay for more than 28 consecutive nights.
- All overnight guests must be offered a pick-up and drop-off minibus service from local train stations, bus stops, nearby towns and other points.
- A 'construction environmental management plan', covering 19 points including working hours, traffic routes and parking, must be agreed with SDNPA before any demolition or building starts.
- Sewage and surface water drainage systems must be agreed by the planning authority before any development starts.
- All external lighting shall be restricted to down lighters that do not exceed 1,000 lumens (equivalent to 75 watts) with upwards light spillage minimised.
- The car park and bike storage must be completed before reopening.
- The applicant must guarantee public use of the proposed mown permissive footpath through the field to the east for a minimum of 20 years.

The SDNPA also reminded the owners of the legal requirements to protect wild bird nests from March to August and always to keep all public rights of way open.

► *Continued from page 6*

it, questioned whether it complied with all the SDNPA's planning policies: "I feel uneasy about this. Given that this is an open and rural setting outside the village, it seems excessive." Andrew Shaxson, who abstained, was concerned about the "considerable footprint" and its potential impact on water run off.

**Speakers stress sewage system, seating and sustainability** Under SDNPA protocols, three opponents and three supporters of any application can speak at its planning meetings. At the February session to consider the Woodcote expansion proposal, Foresters Arms landlord Peter Bradley (see separate story, page 5), Woodcote near neighbour Nick Lobley and Deepak Mahal, a friend of several Graffham residents, spoke in opposition, while Jamie Lumsden, Managing Director of Woodcote's owner Ledbury Capital, Woodcote General Manager Will Morley and Richard Dollamore from planning consultants Whaleback were in support.

Nick Lobley pointed out the strain the development would have on the local sewage system in particular, which had recently seen tankers removing foul waste from its Fitzlea Wood Road pumping station where effluent had been discharged into the River Rother for up to 3,000 hours across 125 days.

Deepak Mahal, speaking on behalf of friends in the village, pointed out that the recommendations had overlooked objections raised by West Sussex County Council's rights of way team and questioned how the proposed limit on the number of customers allowed in The Woodcote at any one time would be enforced.

Jamie Lumsden, speaking on behalf of The Woodcote's owners and "stewards" Glen and Asta Manchester, told the meeting that the proposal was "about care, continuity and responsibility to a place, to a landscape and the wider local community". He continued: "The South Downs is not a museum. It's a place shaped over centuries by farming, woodland management, food production and rural enterprise. Our intention is that The Woodcote draws its identity and meaning directly from that landscape while also contributing positively to its future care and enabling people to enjoy the South Downs."

The business had not been viable as a pub, he stated, noting that more than a thousand inns across the UK had shut in 2025, a score of them in Sussex. In comments echoed by Will Morley and Richard Dollamore, he concluded: "These proposals are designed to create a business that can endure. We've listened carefully to concerns raised by the community and by (SDNPA) officers. What we are seeking is balance between conservation and viability, tradition and change, restraint and the practical needs of running a rural business that can survive."



Architects' drawings comparing The Woodcote's current frontage (left) with how it would look under its approved plans (right).

## Graffham Parish Council split on the proposal

Graffham parish councillors were divided on whether to support or object to The Woodcote's revised planning application. Almost 25 residents attended a meeting of its Planning Committee on Wednesday 4 February, with seven of them speaking, all opposing the proposal.

Planning Committee Chairman Fiona Jacob and Council Deputy Chairman John Bracey supported the scheme. They asserted that the village itself was split on it – while 122 people had filed a total of some 200 objections and 12 had registered their support, others in the village backed it but had not voiced their views via the SDNPA planning portal, concerned by the potential reaction of neighbours.

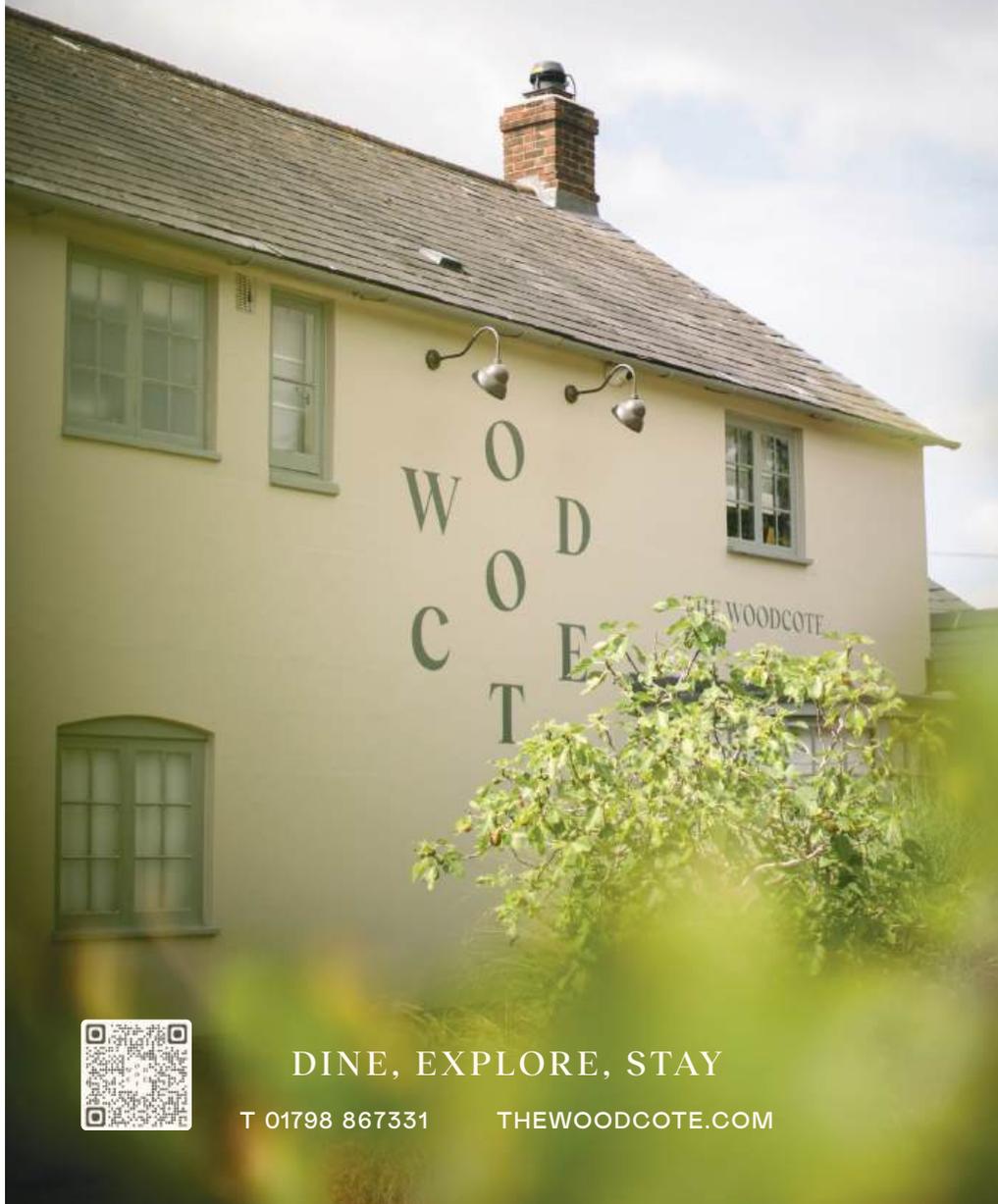
The two councillors thought the revised scheme had been sensitively designed, was more appropriate than earlier iterations and could be a positive asset, supporting The Woodcote's long-term viability and contributing to the local economy.

Council Chairman Gillian Charlesworth and Councillor Colin Barker regarded the scale of development as excessive for a small rural village setting, despite the revisions and proposed mitigation, and felt the anticipated tourism and economic benefits would be outweighed by increased traffic, potential harm to dark skies and adverse effects on the landscape. They were also concerned that biodiversity would be harmed during construction, and that the proposal would result in a material change to the character of the village and its surroundings.

The four councillors were united in stressing the importance of adequate sewage, water supply and electricity provision and the need for robust, precise and enforceable conditions to control its scale, intensity and long-term impacts.

With Councillor Rachel Gerrett unable to attend the meeting because of a family medical emergency, the tally was tied. The meeting chairman, Fiona Jacob, had the right to make the casting vote, but it was agreed that instead the council would present both sides of its argument to the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA), which it did in writing and with Chairman Gillian Charlesworth duly speaking at the SDNPA meeting to explain this position.

# THE WOODCOTE



DINE, EXPLORE, STAY

T 01798 867331

[THEWOODCOTE.COM](http://THEWOODCOTE.COM)



**Landlords join arms at Westminster** Our village publicans – the Foresters Arms’ Pete and Cindy Bradley and The Three Moles’ Tom Richardson and Ollie Boulton – visited London on Wednesday 11 February to brief our local MP and Shadow Secretary of State for Business and Trade Andrew Griffith on the challenges facing the hospitality industry. They were joined at the session by Andrew Lennox, Managing Director of the Fired Up Collective of Dorset pubs. Tom said: “A VAT cut would stop communities from losing their pubs, protect jobs and support growth.” Andrew Griffith commented: “Our pubs are bleeding out. The government does not understand how tight the margins are of pubs or how much they need our support.”

## Planning decisions

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

### Other planning decisions

**Brook Orchard, Graffham Common Road, Graffham GU28 0PY:** Erection of a replacement timber garden room. SDNP/25/04319/HOUS. *APPROVED 26 Jan 2026.*

**The Old Rectory Cottage, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NJ:** Single storey rear extension and associated landscaping. SDNP/25/04224/HOUS. *APPROVED 5 Feb 2026.*



## Coffee, cake and a chat

Other drinks and bakes also available!

**Wednesday 4 March 11am**

*The Foresters Arms*

**Absolutely everyone welcome!**

*Donations in aid of St Giles Church*

# *Your next move* **made simple.**

**Thinking about selling or letting your property?**

Book your free, no-obligation valuation today  
and take the first step with Tod Anstee,  
your local property partners.

Residential Sales & Lettings  
New Homes  
Country Homes  
Rural Estates  
Commercial

**Midhurst | 01730 774 700**  
Chichester | 01243 523 723

**Tod  
Anstee**

[todanstee.com](http://todanstee.com)



# Application made to cut speed limit in the village

Graffham Parish Council was submitting a request to West Sussex County Council (WSSC) as this edition went to press to have the current 30mph speed limit within the village cut to 20mph – with South Downs National Park Authority’s approval on 12 February for the expansion of The Woodcote added to its case for the lower restriction. It followed extensive consultation across the community in the past year showing overwhelming support for the move.



As part of its new village plan, the parish council also proposes to introduce ‘gateways’ with appropriate signage at the entrance to the village and to work with neighbouring parish councils to have the limit on roads between them and the A285, A286 and A272 to the east, west and north cut to 40mph, discouraging motorists from using these lanes as rat runs and making them safer for walkers, horse-riders and cyclists.

# Graffham Parish Council seeks new members

Graffham Parish Council will shortly be considering new co-options to bolster its number of councillors. It can have up to seven of them but currently has just five. If you are interested in joining, email [clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk)

# Water works to close Selham and Fitzlea Roads

Selham Road and Fitzlea Wood Road will be subject to closure for days on end this month. Selham Road will be shut from 9 March for up to a week between its junctions with Smokyhouse Lane and New Road, so Southern Water can repair a pipe. Fitzlea Wood Road will be subject to closure from 16 March to 30 May to enable contractors working for Southern Water to install new water connections.



*Everyone’s welcome at our*  
**Mothering Sunday**  
service  
St Giles Church  
Sunday 15 March  
10.30am



**BUILDING EXCELLENCE SINCE 1964**  
 Family-Run | Skilled Trades | Quality Workmanship

**T: 01798 688078**  
**E: office@ghinn.net**  
**www.ghinn.net**

Whether you're restoring a listed building, planning a modern extension or considering replacing your bathroom or kitchen, we offer honest advice, expert craftsmanship and a commitment to quality from start to finish.



### Large Projects

- Heritage & Period Buildings
- New Builds
- Exceptional results with traditional values

### Extensions, Alterations & Small Works

We undertake extensions, alterations and small works, offering the same high standard of craftsmanship and care to projects no matter what size.

### Heating & Plumbing Division

- Full central heating installations & upgrades
- Boiler servicing, repairs & replacements
- Beautiful new bathrooms - design to installation
- General plumbing & maintenance

### Serving Petworth and the surrounding villages.

- Honest, friendly advice
- Prompt, tidy and affordable service
- Free no-obligation quotes

Call us today to discuss your project - *we'd love to hear from you.*

Contact us on **01798 688078**  
 or email **office@ghinn.net**



We're **Gas Safe** and **OFTEC** registered, so you can have complete confidence that every job is carried out safely and professionally.



# King Charles Path now runs along our coast

A new 35-mile section of the King Charles III England Coast Path officially opened around Chichester Harbour on Wednesday 4 February, running from East Head to South Hayling, through West Itchenor, Bosham and Emsworth – and connecting to more than 210 miles of continuous coast path along the South Coast. Once fully open, the King Charles Path will become the world's longest managed coastal path with a total length of almost 2,700 miles.

# Popple Hill footpath steps restored

The footpath that runs parallel to the road along Popple Hill from near the stream in the dip towards Graffham Village Shop is more accessible after workmen repaired the steps up to it, prompted by Graffham Parish Council.



# Trim your hedges before nesting season!

Residents are being reminded that hedges and undergrowth on the sides of the village's roads should be cut back before the imminent start of the nesting season – officially classified as running from 1 March to the end of August. Trees, bushes and other vegetation should be cut back a minimum of half a metre from the edge of the carriageway – and this is the neighbouring landowner's responsibility by law, not the highways authority's.

# West Sussex elections back on for 7 May

Elections for West Sussex County Council will take place on 7 May after all. They had been postponed because of the current reorganisation of local authorities but the government reinstated them in the face of a legal challenge.

A religious icon depicting a figure on a cross, possibly a crucifixion scene, with a halo around the figure's head. The icon is set against a white background within a yellow-bordered box.	<h2>TAIZÉ PRAYER</h2> <p><i>song, prayer and silence</i></p> <p>Sunday 22 March 6.30pm All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite shop)</p> <p><i>All welcome to this short ecumenical service based around a pattern of worship from the Taizé Community</i></p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# Hall has spring clean and new booking system



*Spring is bursting into life – and so is the Empire Hall, which is undergoing one of its biggest and deepest spring cleans, rolling out a new booking system, mounting what is described as its most ambitious gig yet, staging its biggest fund-raiser of the year, Graffham’s spring market, organised by new hands – and launching an Instagram account.*

**Can you help with the big clean?** The Empire Hall is being given a thorough clean and tidy up by the hall’s new committee, with a fresh coat of paint set to be applied to several areas. Anyone willing and able to help over the weekend of 17-19 April – cleaning, painting, tidying, sorting, gardening, whatever – is asked to contact its Maintenance Officer Tom Richardson at [tom.richardson@live.co.uk](mailto:tom.richardson@live.co.uk) or on 07932 865154. Those happy to climb ladders will be particularly welcome!

Ahead of that, anyone who keeps anything in the hall is being asked to label it clearly. Anything unclaimed or unidentified risks being disposed of. Tom said: “If



you have anything at all stored in the hall, please ensure that, in the next couple of weeks, it is clearly marked with your name or the name of your group and what it is used for. Anything left un-labelled may be removed from the hall or put somewhere that you may not find it!”

The Committee Room, which the Post Office occupies on Tuesday mornings, has already been given a thorough tidy.

**Committee Room is now neat and tidy.**

**Safer glassware** As part of the hall’s refreshment, all of its glassware is being replaced with safer alternatives, in a move warmly received when announced on Facebook’s Graffham Noticeboard. Tom explained the rationale: “All the

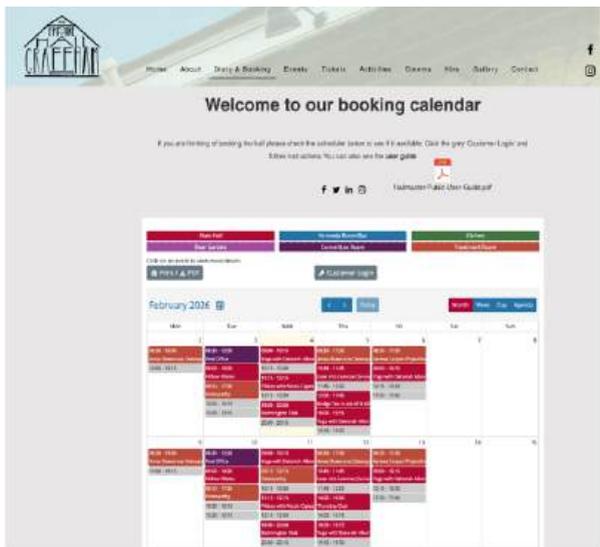


glassware that was in the hall is the same as you would buy in the shops – not expensive toughened ones like in pubs. This means that when they break, they shatter into small pieces and the hall has had a spate of glass shards getting stuck between floor boards or not being spotted, which creates an obvious hazard for our cleaner and for other users of the hall, particularly those playing badminton or taking part in yoga sessions. The replacements (pictured left) are made of high-grade

toughened polycarbonate. Other than not smashing if you accidentally drop them, they are virtually indistinguishable from real glass. This change brings the hall into line with the likes of Chichester Festival Theatre and other concert venues.”

**New booking system** A new system has been introduced to book facilities at the Empire Hall – taking it all online, linking with the invoicing process and the heating controls, making it easier for everyone involved to manage their roles.

Bookings Secretary Anna Shawcross explained: “As a new committee, we were keen to find the best way to look after our wonderful hall to make it easier for us to manage and to make life easier for everyone in the village who books it. There are huge advantages to using software for this. We hope that you find this change positive – once you get used to it of course!”



**The Empire Hall's new online booking system, at [www.empirehall.org.uk](http://www.empirehall.org.uk)**

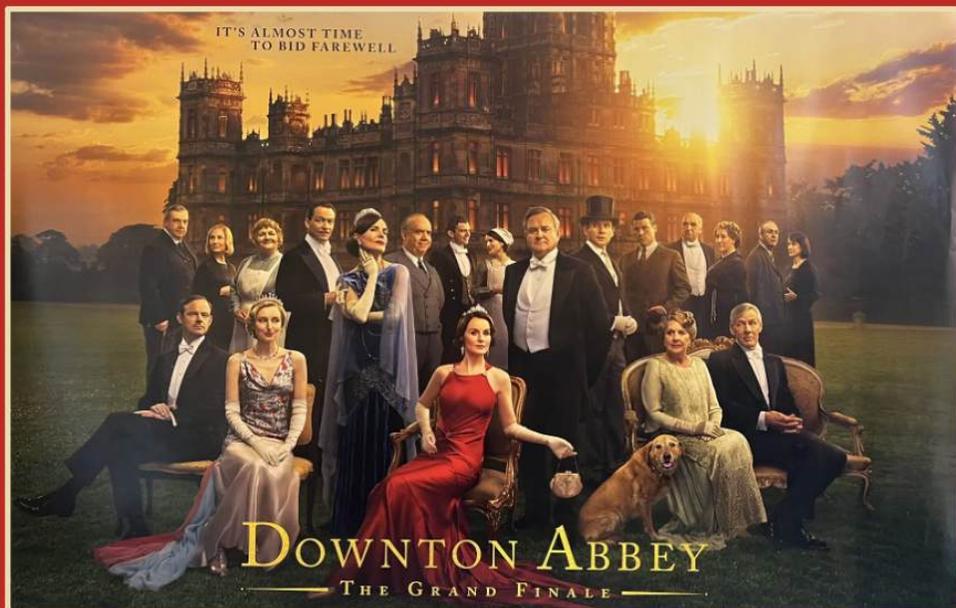
If you want to book the entire hall or just one of its rooms, all you now need to do is first go to the new Diary & Booking page at its website [www.empirehall.org.uk](http://www.empirehall.org.uk), to see if it is available on the date and time you want.. Then, to ask to reserve it, you just click on the blue + sign by the date in question, which opens up a log-in page. You register your details there or, if you have already registered, sign in and enter all the necessary details to request your booking. Bookings Secretary Anna will review the request and, if all is in order, confirm it.

All regular users of the hall have already been set up on the system and are being briefed on how it works.

If you have any queries or experience any problems with the system, contact Anna at [bookings.empirehall@gmail.com](mailto:bookings.empirehall@gmail.com) or on 07971 204287.

**Most ambitious gig yet** The Empire Hall is staging its “most ambitious yet” gig this month –as the final stop of a UK tour by one of Britain’s most respected R&B

▶ *Continued on next page*



In the third and last film spin-off from the TV phenomenon, it's time to say goodbye as the Crawleys and their staff enter the 1930s. When the leading lady finds herself at the centre of a scandal and the family faces financial ruin, the entire household must embrace change.

Critics said it was 'as soothing as a cup of tea' and 'a satisfying and heartfelt farewell truly befitting the Crawleys'.

Certificate PG

124 minutes

## Saturday 28 February

## Empire Hall

Doors and bar open 7pm for 7.30pm start

Interval ice creams      Wine, beer, mocktails, choccies, popcorn.

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

► *Continued from previous page*

bands, 1980s South London legends Nine Below Zero, who have headlined iconic venues worldwide, on Saturday 14 March (see next page). Other events lined up for the Empire Hall this year include:

- *Behind Enemy Lines*, a play with live music and original songs that recounts the true story of special operations executives in World War II, on 16 May.
- Pink Floyd tribute band Wall of Floyd on 19 September.
- The return, by popular demand, of the eight-piece band Le Freak, featuring the music of Nile Rogers and Chic, on 14 November.

Meantime, Graffham Empire Movies continues to bring some of the latest blockbusters to the village – while raising funds for the hall. Its next screening – of *Downtown Abbey: The Grand Finale* – is on Saturday 28 February.

To buy tickets for any events at the hall, go to [empirehall.org.uk](http://empirehall.org.uk)

**Spring market on 21 March** Graffham’s Easter Market, the hall’s biggest

fund-raiser of the year, will take place on Saturday 21 March – under a new team. Sally Blunt, who has run it in recent years, has handed over the baton to Sissy Theobald and Katie Sacks, although Sally will still be overseeing the home produce stand. Tickets for its raffle are being distributed with this magazine. See pages 21-24.



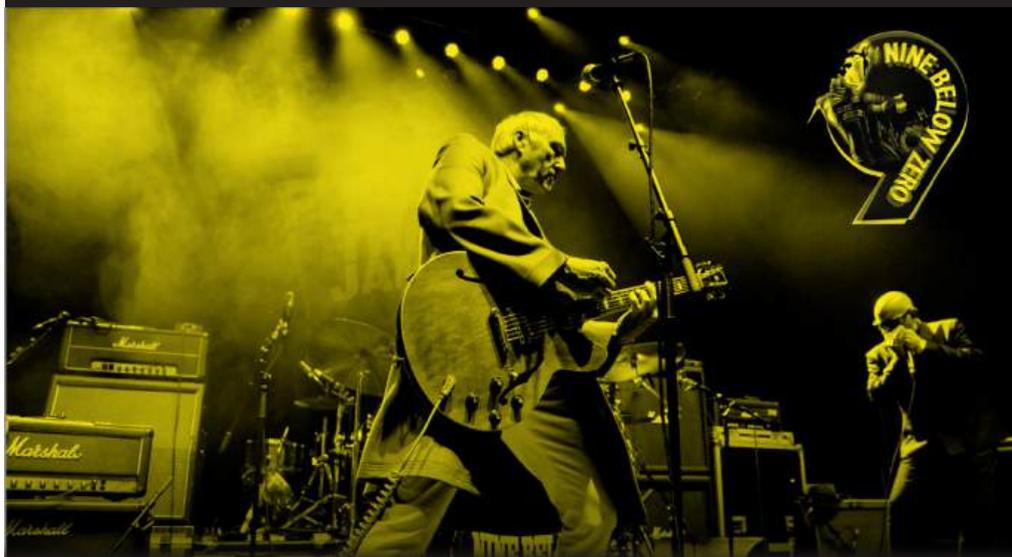
**Burns Night raises almost £1,000** Almost 50 people took part in Graffham’s 2026 Burn’s Night Celebration, in the Empire Hall on Saturday 24 January, reeling to live music by the Sussex Pistols and dining on haggis, neeps and tatties after the pudding was piped in and addressed in the traditional manner by David Garrard. The event, masterminded by Clive and Harriet Rowntree and supported by their team of volunteer helpers, raised more than £1,000 for the hall.

**Now on Instagram** Graffham’s ‘grand old lady’ now has an Instagram account. The Empire Hall’s new social media presence complements its established website and Facebook pages. To find it, go to [instagram.com/empirehallgraftam](https://www.instagram.com/empirehallgraftam)



# NINE BELOW ZERO

'45 YEARS OF LIVE AT THE MARQUEE' TOUR 2025/6



**PETWORTH** EMPIRE HALL  
GRAFFHAM **GU28 0QB**

8.00PM **SATURDAY MARCH 14TH** 2026

DOORS AND BAR OPEN 7.30PM

In 1980, Nine Below Zero set the British blues-rock scene ablaze with their legendary debut LP, *Live at the Marquee*. Now, 45 years later, the band is hitting the road to celebrate this iconic record, bringing their electrifying live show to audiences across the UK and beyond. Following the success of their debut, NBZ kept the energy high with *Don't Point Your Finger* (1981) and *Third Degree* (1982),

touring with rock giants The Who and The Kinks. Their raw, high-energy performances earned them TV spots on *The Old Grey Whistle Test* and *The South Bank Show*.

Join Nine Below Zero for an unforgettable night of blues, rock, and rhythm & blues as they revisit the album that started it all. Don't miss this chance to witness one of the UK's most explosive live bands in action!

TICKETS: [BUYTICKETS.AT/EMPIREHALLGRAFFHAM](https://www.buytickets.at/empirehallgraffham)  
STARTING AT £27.50 PLUS £1 SERVICE FEE

Wonderful raffle prizes

# Graffham Easter Market

The text is surrounded by several stylized flowers in various colors: pink, green, yellow, and red.

Saturday 21st March

10.30am - 2pm

WITH LOTS OF STALLS AND ACTIVITIES INCLUDING:

LOCAL ARTISTS BABYWEAR  
GARDENWARE GIFTS QUILTS  
ARTISANAL FOOD  
HOMEWARES HANDICRAFTS  
EASTER EGG HUNT  
HOMEMADE CAKES AND BAKES  
GRAND EASTER RAFFLE  
POP UP CAFE AND MORE.

Entrance £1 - children under 12 FREE • Empire Hall, Graffham GU28 0QB

# Fab prizes to be won in Easter Market raffle

Some wonderful prizes – worth more than £1,000 – are up for grabs in the 2026 Graffham Easter Market raffle – thanks to many generous local donors. Four books, each of five tickets (costing £1 a ticket), have been delivered with this edition of *Graffham Parish News*. Don't feel you have to buy them, but it'd be lovely if you do as this is the year's major fund-raiser to keep our wonderful Empire Hall shipshape!

You can get more raffle tickets from Graffham Village Shop – and at the Easter Market in the Empire Hall on Saturday 21 March 2026, from 10.30am until the draw at around 1.30pm.

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

- Hand in your stubs, cash payment and any unused tickets in an envelope at Graffham Village Shop before the close of business on Friday 20 March 2026.
- Or hand in your stubs and payment by cash, card or contactless at Graffham Easter Market in the Empire Hall on Saturday 21 March 2026 in time for the draw at around 1.30pm.

Winners will be notified with the results posted on Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard. Good luck – and thanks again to all the kind donors of prizes!



Your raffle tickets have been distributed with this magazine.

## Some of the great raffle prizes up for grabs

- Goodwood Festival of Speed tickets
- Lunch with fizz plus spa for two at Spread Eagle Hotel
- Family ticket to West Dean Gardens
- Wild sauna & water therapy session at Mill Yard, Petworth
- Cowdray Golf Club four ball round
- Foresters Arms two-course meal for two
  - 1-2-1 dog training session
  - Bottle of bubbly from Hennings
  - Spring planter from Spriggs
- Woodcote three-course lunch + wine for two
  - Slow Grown Farm tour and BBQ
- The Three Moles three-course Sunday lunch
- Golf coaching session at Seaford College
  - Large Easter Egg
- Tickets for two to Goodwood Races.
- Many more goodies up for grabs.

The full list of prizes and full details will be displayed at the Easter Market

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SUPPORT THE EASTER MARKET BY LENDING A HAND ON THE DAY?**

Contact Sissy Theobald at 07974 699875

*All contributions welcome!*



## Grab some goodies at Graffham Easter Market

Spring is here, and Graffham's Easter Market is coming back in all its glory on Saturday 21 March from 10.30am to 2pm – with new organisers at the helm.

The Empire Hall will be full of colourful stalls brimming with lovely things to buy – art from local artists, freshly baked bread, crafts and cards, artisanal olive oil and kefir, babywear, sustainable garden products, Slow Grown Farm cheese and charcuterie, hand-crafted garden decor, local venison from The Deer Project, quilts, handmade bags and more.... There'll be Simnel cakes, hot cross buns and lots of other delicious home bakes and preserves on the usual Graffham produce stall. After all the shopping why not relax in the sunshine, chatting to your friends over a cup of tea and slice of cake, or a quiche lunch? To keep the kids busy, there'll be fun and games including an Easter egg hunt.

Sissy Theobald and Katie Sacks have taken over the running of what is the biggest annual fund-raiser for the Empire Hall from Sally Blunt, who has managed it in recent years. They said: "Lots of villagers have already kindly offered to help set things up, take things down and man stalls in between, but the more the merrier as many hands make light work. Are you new to the village and would like to get involved? Do get in touch, we would love to get to know you."

Please contact Sissy on 07974 699875 if you would like to help in any way.





# THE HOME PRODUCE STAND NEEDS YOU!



If you can contribute any cakes, other bakes, preserves or other goodies to the Easter Market, please contact Sally Blunt at [sallyblunt@btinternet.com](mailto:sallyblunt@btinternet.com)



Flashback to a year ago: The Empire Hall was packed with stands and attractions in glorious spring sunshine for the Easter Market last year – and the organisers are hoping for the same again on 12 March for what is the biggest fund-raiser of the year for the 'grand old lady' that's the centre of village life.





# Graffham Garden Group 2026 diary

*For the full programme, see the following pages.*



Graffham Garden Group is one of the most active clubs in the village, with a busy programme of activities throughout the year – and new members are always assured the warmest of welcome.



After its New Year lunch, in the Empire Hall in January, it moves on to its AGM this month, back in the Empire Hall on Friday 13 March, complete with a brilliant guest speaker and your chance to vote for the best spring flowers grown locally (page 28).



In early May, there's a chance to pick up some Graffham-grown vegetable and flower plants – then you can return in July to show off how well they have done at the flower and produce show.



To give you even more inspiration, there are also five trips scheduled to some stunning gardens a short drive away. These outings are open to all, not just members. To book, contact Nicky West at [nicolamwest@btinternet.com](mailto:nicolamwest@btinternet.com) or on 07796 144647. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!



Community garden work parties take place on the last Saturday of the month for one hour at 10am to look after the garden around the village's war memorial. No gardening experience necessary – all welcome!

**Monday 27 April 11am**

**Visit to Borde Hill**

**Borde Hill Lane, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1XP**

A 2,300 acre estate owned by the same family for 130 years, with one of the UK's rarest collections of champion trees. The house is surrounded by 13 'garden rooms' with heritage parkland and ancient woodland beyond. The garden will be filled with magnificent displays of magnolias, camellias, azaleas and rhododendrons.



**£13.95 (concessions £12.95, Historic Houses cardholders free). Pay on arrival. Two cafes – one inside the visitor entrance building and the other within the garden.**

**Saturday 9 May 10-11am**

**Spring plant sale**

**Empire Hall, Graffham**



A wide range of Graffham-grown vegetable plants – including tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes and beans – and also some flowers, such as sweet peas, ammi and cosmos. No pre-orders or deliveries. First come, first served!

**Thursday 28 May 2.30pm**

**Visit to Meadow Farm**

**Blackgate Lane, Pulborough RH20 1DF**

Private tour of this two acre garden plus wildflower meadows designed by the current owners. Colour themed beds, formal pond, walled garden and orchard with hazelnut walk. Wildlife swimming pond and bog garden.



**£12, including tea and cake. Pay on arrival.**

**Thursday 11 June 10.30am**

**Visit to Dale Park House**

**Dale Park House, Madhurst, Arundel BN18 ONP**



Private tour of garden set in parkland with magnificent views of the sea. Walled garden features a 200ft herbaceous border. Sunken gravel garden, mixed borders, rose garden, kitchen garden, orchard.

**£6 including tea/coffee and cake. Pay on arrival.**

**Saturday 11 July 2.30pm**

**Flower and produce show**

**Empire Hall, Graffham**



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

-  Colourful and Outrageous
-  Local Scene
-  Building/ Architecture
-  Animal Portrait

**New this year:** Marmalade, handmade toy and any knitted or crochet item.

**Thursday 23 July 2pm Visit to Thakeham Place Farm & Cumberland House**

**The Street and Cray's Lane, Thakeham, Pulborough RH20 3EP**

Thakeham Place Farm's garden has evolved over the last 35 years with borders full of sun loving plants and grasses, a more formal area surrounding the house and a new pond to encourage wildlife.

Cumberland House is a Georgian village home next to the 12<sup>th</sup> century church with a beautiful mature English country garden. Walled garden with well stocked flower beds and informal garden with vegetables, fruit and herbs.



£10 to both gardens. Pay on arrival. Teas available at Thakeham Place Farm.

**Tuesday 11 August 2pm**

**Visit to West Dean**

**West Dean PO18 0RX**



92 acres of gardens and parkland surrounding West Dean House. Walled kitchen garden, restored Victorian glasshouses, orchard and 100-metre long Edwardian pergola. Arboretum with magnificent views of the South Downs. Since Tom Browne took over as head gardener, areas of the spring garden have been replanted as a dry garden and the sunken garden replanted.

£13.50 (Historic Houses cardholders free). Pay on arrival. Café at entrance to gardens.



# Graffham Garden Group AGM

Friday 13 March 2026, 7pm  
Empire Hall

Including the village's  
spring flower competition

Vase of seven daffodils

Vase of spring flowers

Saucer with three hellebore flowers in water

Bring your entries at 6.45pm

Complimentary wine and beer while  
voting for your favourite entries



Talk by Beverly Exall

*Beverly is a local gardening consultant and former horticultural adviser at RHS Wisley. She will be talking about sustainable and wildlife gardening in our changing climate.*

New members welcome – come and  
meet fellow Graffham gardeners!



**Bridge tea turns up trumps** The team behind the 'bridge' tea in aid of St Giles Church, held in the Empire Hall on Thursday 5 February, dealt up another winner. A dozen foursomes shuffled their packs of cards while one quarter played Scrabble instead, before being served a tea that would have done the Ritz proud, with plate after plate of sandwiches, cakes, scones with, of course, jam and clotted cream, and an assortment of other bakes. The event, masterminded by Nettie Lanaghan with a team of willing volunteers, netted an estimated £1,000 for our parish church.



# RIP Vera O'Hara 1935-2025

*Known to so many in the village as the president of the Bowls Club, Vera lived a colourful life throughout her 90 years, a quarter of which were spent here in the village, as her daughter, Karen Fisher, recounts.*

Vera was born in Hereford to Lucilla and Harry Colclough in 1935, the middle child between brother Arthur and sister Dorothy. Her Dad was manager of a tile and brickworks factory, a job which brought him to Sussex to work at Horsham. He died when Vera was 17. She determined to pursue a career in nursing and went to train at St George's Hospital (now Tooting, then Hyde Park Corner).

Her first job, held until the late 1950s, was as nurse at Warnham Court School, just north of Horsham. She met and married Noel Fisher, from Billingshurst, in March 1959. Daughter Karen was born the next year, then son Graham in 1964. Married life saw the couple move from Billingshurst to Pulborough. With extended family nearby, gatherings were frequent and full of humour.

In 1972, Vera and Noel bought Bradenham House Hotel in Bognor Regis, a seaside hotel for up to 26 guests, with breakfast and dinner served, as well as lunch on Sundays. Parallels with a certain fictional Torquay establishment were manifold and included an episode when a dead body had to be shielded from the rest of the clientele. Another time, a young man tried to avoid paying his bill by knotting sheets together and climbing down them from an upstairs window, only to be collared by a passing policeman. Regular visitors included a group of East End



**As President of Graffham Bowls Club, Vera presented its Presidents' Salver to its winners each year – Kym Pegram and Hazel Tyrrell here in 2022.**

ladies whose hearing deteriorated each year and who could be heard shrieking "I've lost me knickers!" from the rooms they shared.

The hilarity was tempered though by the sad decline of Graham, who passed away from leukaemia at only ten years of age in September 1974.

The family then moved several times, all within Bognor, between 1977 and 1986, when Vera and Noel parted. Meanwhile, in the late 1970s Grandma Lucilla had met a new partner, Edward, and headed off with him to live for a few years near Alicante in Spain.

While they returned to Sussex in 1980, this must have sown a seed for Vera. She met and married Peter O'Hara in 1987 and they lived together in Littlehampton. The relationship was a very happy one and Peter was enormously supportive when Lucilla was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. They bought a bungalow in Goring so that they could care for Lucilla as Edward had died shortly before this. Vera returned to work at Worthing care homes and nursed her mother at home. After Lucilla died in 1991, Peter and Vera decided to retire to Moraira in Spain and spent several happy years there, enjoying the pool, the sunshine and the many friends they had made. When Peter died after an operation in 2001, Vera decided to return home to be with her daughter. What was intended as a temporary move became permanent, and they were to be housemates for the rest of Vera's life.



With Eddie, her beloved border terrier.

The two of them moved to Graffham in 2002, and Vera did some part time work in the kitchen of the then White Horse and returned to her nursing career at the Bury Nursing Home. She entered village life by taking up bowls. As a talented player she was made President of the club in 2016, standing down in 2024 after her playing days were over. Animals played a key part in Vera's life and, while she preferred cats, it was dogs who were her companions in her later years. Lady, a loyal yellow labrador, and Eddie, a border terrier, were always eager to join her on her lap.

Vera passed away at home on 21 December, with Karen and Lisa, her lovely district nurse, by her side. Her funeral was held at Chichester Crematorium on 20 January, followed by refreshments in Graffham's Pavilion. She will be remembered as a quiet and gentle soul with a keen sense of humour not always obvious to outsiders.

**RIP Ruby Allen and Sarah Buckley** We were saddened to learn also of the recent deaths of:

- Ruby Allen, who lived at Eastwood Farm with her husband Don from 1982 to 2000, when they moved to Duncton. They were both highly active members of the Graffham community during their time here.
- Sarah Buckley, who lived with her family at Thorney, The Street, Graffham. Her committal was held at St Giles Church on Monday 9 February.

We hope to feature full tributes to both of them in future editions.

# FOOD WASTE COLLECTIONS COMING SOON

Spring  
2026!

Download our FREE Chichester District Council app today to receive live updates during service roll out, including container delivery and collection start dates.

For more information and to download our app, visit [chichester.gov.uk/food-waste](https://www.chichester.gov.uk/food-waste)



 West Sussex recycles

# GET READY TO RECYCLE YOUR FOOD WASTE!

From spring 2026 we will be introducing a new weekly food waste collection service. Two new containers will be delivered to your home together with instructions on how to use them.

## What we will deliver

To enable you to recycle your food waste easily we will provide you with:



A kitchen caddy



A roll of liners to get you started



An outside food waste recycling bin which we will empty weekly



## What you can recycle

You can recycle all your food waste, including the following:

 food waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ All uneaten food and plate scrapings</li> </ul>	 dairy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Dairy products</li> <li>✓ Cheese</li> <li>✓ Eggs</li> </ul>	 fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Fish</li> <li>✓ Cooked fish</li> <li>✓ Bones</li> </ul>	 bread & pastries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Bread</li> <li>✓ Cakes</li> <li>✓ Pastries</li> </ul>
 meat & bones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Raw meat</li> <li>✓ Cooked meat</li> <li>✓ Bones</li> </ul>	 tea & coffee grounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Tea bags</li> <li>✓ Coffee grounds</li> </ul>	 rice, pasta & beans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Rice</li> <li>✓ Pasta</li> <li>✓ Beans</li> </ul>	 fruit & vegetables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Raw vegetables</li> <li>✓ Cooked vegetables</li> <li>✓ Whole fruit</li> <li>✓ Peelings</li> </ul>

When collected separately, food waste can be treated via anaerobic digestion where it will be used to generate natural forms of energy such as biogas and bio fertilisers. This is a much more efficient and environmentally friendly way of processing your food waste.

No matter how little food waste you produce, it is really important that it is recycled.

For more information and to download our app visit:  
[chichester.gov.uk/food-waste](http://chichester.gov.uk/food-waste)





# Life at Seaford College Prep School



## How do parents decide which school is right for their child?

With so many choices available, finding the right school can feel like a big decision. From talking to our current families, we know that nothing beats seeing a school in action and getting a real feel for everyday life.

To support you with this important decision, we're delighted to invite families considering Reception entry in September 2026 to join us for a series of fun and engaging taster days here at our bespoke facility on our beautiful campus in the South Downs.

Our much-loved **Little Seaford Saturday morning events** will take place in March and May as well as midweek Seaford **Discovery Sessions**. These relaxed and friendly events give children the chance to explore, play and try new things, while parents can meet our wonderful staff and experience what makes Seaford so special.

Each Seaford Discovery Session will focus on a different part of school life, including sport, dance and music, art and forest school, giving families a real flavour of the breadth of opportunities on offer.



Parents are welcome to stay and play or drop off, and families can book onto one or more sessions (subject to availability).

**Advance booking is essential, so please contact Hayley at [receptionclass@seaford.org](mailto:receptionclass@seaford.org) or call 01798 867893 to find out more and reserve your place.**

**Registration for our Reception Class 2026 is now open.**

Seaford College has recently been awarded the highest possible rating of 'Excellent' in all areas in our ISI inspection. You can read the full report here: [www.seaford.org/life-at-seaford/isi-inspection-report](http://www.seaford.org/life-at-seaford/isi-inspection-report)

**Our next Open Morning will take place on Saturday 7th March 2026, and we would love to welcome you to this informal morning where you will have a tour with one of our students.**

Contact Hayley, Prep School Admissions: [receptionclass@seaford.org](mailto:receptionclass@seaford.org)

Love to learn

# School report: Making lunches more meaningful

*Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior headmaster Charles Beckerson and Business Manager Jenny Godfrey have news of a significant change the schools will serve up later this year.*



Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools are to transform the lunches served up for our children – with fresh, nutritious meals, cooked on-site every day by our very own chef from September. The switch from catering supplied centrally by West Sussex County Council’s education department will be the culmination of months of research, conversations and careful planning. We are incredibly proud of this next chapter for our schools.

We have always cared deeply about providing our children with good, wholesome food. Over the years, we’ve been inspired to think creatively about how we can enhance our catering offering even further. Ideas began to spark. We listened to podcasts, launched our gardening club and even embarked on the wonderfully bold adventure of baking fresh sourdough bread every single day.

These experiences encouraged us to explore new possibilities for our hot lunches. That’s when we came across Chefs in Schools – an incredible charity dedicated to transforming the way children eat and learn about food. Its ethos perfectly matches our commitment to well-being, sustainability and hands-on learning, and we’re thrilled to be on this journey with them.



**The school garden is used to show children where food comes from.**

As a small school, budgets are always carefully balanced, so we’ve worked hard to ensure this new approach is sustainable and realistic. We are now exploring how best to equip a new kitchen – from equipment to prep tables and everything else needed to bring this vision to life. A key part of our dream is sourcing ingredients locally. We want food that is not only delicious and nutritious but also rooted in our community.

More than anything, we want lunchtime to become a meaningful part of the school day – a moment when children gather around a table, talk about their food and where it comes from, serve one another, enjoy a shared experience and develop a lifelong love of great cuisine.



Lancing College Family of Schools



**INDEPENDENT PREP SCHOOL  
FOR CHILDREN FROM RECEPTION TO YEAR 8**  
*15 minutes from Graffham*

**FIND OUT MORE:**

01798 831456

The Manor, Bury, RH20 1PB



# From Town Hall: Three initiatives that will help

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



Several policies adopted by Chichester District Council (CDC) in the past few months will greatly benefit the area. The first is its Housing Policy Grant. While this is mainly about incentivising registered housing providers, like Hyde, to update, renovate or refurbish old housing stock instead of selling it off, it also includes and hopes to help smaller community housing trusts. It is sad that social housing providers are more likely to sell rural social housing stock than refurbish it, because of the cost involved. They would rather their stock was in towns and cities than one-off locations in villages. We have asked housing providers to contact the council if they wish to sell off rural housing stock, and, where possible and if there is a local need, the council will intervene. This is one area where CDC can make the difference – sell it and lose it or provide a grant to keep it in the social housing stock.

CDC is also continuing its ‘Supporting You’ initiative. This has proved invaluable to so many people finding life tough at the moment – whether that is saving on household bills, helping with housing, problems with health and wellbeing or supporting small businesses. It has helped people with mobility issues stay in their homes, provided grants to improve the energy efficiency of properties and supported those facing the threat of homelessness or who are already homeless. Often rural homelessness is overlooked. You may not see people sleeping out on streets at night in rural locations, but you might have seen vans or cars parked up in certain locations for several days, which then move on to another spot and thereby never come to anyone’s attention. These people are often in dire need of help. To find out more, go to [www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyou](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyou) or contact me directly on [jcross@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:jcross@chichester.gov.uk)

Finally, some good news. As the CDC Cabinet Member for Culture, Sport and Place, one of the things that has been occupying a lot of my time in the past 18 months is the new contract for the district’s leisure facilities. This will not only improve sport and leisure provision across the district, but it will also see investment in the physical assets and bring nearly £30 million in revenue to the district over its 15-year life – a yield of more than 12 per cent on our investment. The sad news is that the current local government review means most of that money will not be spread much wider than Chichester district.

# Graffham Chronicles: Ghosts and ghastrly goings on

*In her column this month, local historian Pauline Goodwin writes of old Graffham folklore and the legend of the White Lady.*

Folklore regales us with tales of activities re-enacted or remembered as time goes by. Some traditions are positive – but some mark dark historical events. We have just passed through a positive tradition that goes back to pagan times when the spirits of the orchards were encouraged to produce a good harvest of apples for cider making. Since industrial times, this modern season of Wassail has been extended from just the 12 days of Christmas and nowadays the season extends past the end of February.

In the past, folklore existed orally recounted by spoken word or in the old songs sung loudly not just in the apple orchards at Wassail but at every opportunity.

Sussex has always been known for its tales of the supernatural – of pharisees (Sussex fairies), of knuckers (Sussex dragons) and of Old Scratch (the Sussex name for the devil). However, author Peter Brandon states in *The Discovery of Sussex*: “Fairyland... did not survive the Second World War – railways and the motor car... have seen to that.” As modern modes of transport opened up previously isolated communities, residents’ attention and interests were channelled in different directions, impacting the telling and retelling of old tales.

But, surprisingly, one such tale did re-emerge during World War II – a tale of unnatural dark events. At the time, Graffham was woken from its sleepy, introverted rural life by an influx of people, mostly young, who had been billeted in the village because of the war.

Lavington Park (today’s Seaford College) had been taken over as the headquarters of the Commandos. Canadian lumberjacks camped out in woodland hereabouts, felling trees for wartime use. Glasses Cottage was home to a bomb disposal unit comprising conscientious objectors.

In addition, businesses were persuaded to leave London to avoid the bombing. As a result, the entire operation and personnel of shipping company Stephen Fraser Ltd relocated to Selham House, which has since been renamed Millburgh Hall. As members of its team were conscripted, reducing its headcount, it moved to Brookdene House. Its entire office staff including secretaries plus wives and children, were evacuated here. Anne Larkin, the now 91-year-old daughter of Mary and Jack Pescod who ran the village Post Office, reminds us that three of these girls



**Pictured during World War II, Selham House before it was renamed Millburgh Hall (left) and Brookdene House with Pauline's Auntie Lottie in the front. Both photos are from Lottie's album, which is now stored in Graffham Archive.**

were housed with her family. The transient population sought all manner of diversions as an escape, especially through dances. Anne Larkin recalled in a recent interview that she would join bomb disposal soldiers to play tennis at her aunt and uncle's house, The Shieling. Afterwards, they would sing around the piano of Anne's mother Mary. Two of the soldiers played instruments – trumpet and violin. In quieter moments, the retelling of folk stories and songs from the village's past was popular, fostering minds receptive to strange and supernatural apparitions!

Set against this background, one event with strong links to Graffham's history involved one of the secretaries evacuated here with Stephen Fraser Ltd and recorded in *The Sussex County* magazine of May 1950 – an event that had historical roots in folklore and the deep past although it actually took place in 1940.

Where exactly it occurred is not known. One of the Stephen Fraser secretaries was walking alone in Graffham one evening when she saw a white apparition – a faint figure of a sad woman all in white standing by a well and willow tree. Villagers reported sightings of such a woman since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century. Joscelyn Johnston, wife of a former Seaford College headmaster, recorded the historical origins of these legendary sightings of the white lady ghost of Lavington Park.

The White Lady had been seen frequently since 1727, following the death of a woman called Charlotte Hanway. She had married the village squire, Garton Orme, who had inherited a substantial amount of money and a large estate stretching from the manor of Lavington Park to the manor of East Dean, incorporating most of today's Graffham and East Lavington. Led into temptation by his huge fortune, Squire Garton became fixated with gambling and what Joscelyn called "wild ways of life". Indeed, he was forced to sell much of the land towards East Dean to pay

► *Continued on next page*



The only identified picture of Garton Orme, the wicked Squire of Woolavington in the 1700s, is this painting of him as a boy.

One of the coffins that had been buried appeared to be extremely heavy. Once opened, it was found to be full of stones – but no skeleton. It was the coffin of Charlotte Orme – adding weight to the legend that she had been killed by being thrown down a well and giving credence to the sightings of the White Lady beside a well and willow.

► *Continued from previous page*

his debts. His marriage to Charlotte lasted ten years but then she died suddenly and was buried hurriedly in the churchyard south of St Peter's Church, which is now Seaford College's chapel.

At the time of her sudden death, there was much rumour and speculation as to its cause, especially when Orme remarried within a fortnight of her passing.

Local folklore has it that when he died in 1758 a curse was put on his estate by the father of a young woman from Graffham who had been "wronged by the squire". The curse was made while standing by a willow tree on the road to the village.

A century later, alterations to St Peter's were being undertaken by Henry Manning, then Rector of Lavington and later of Graffham too before converting

to Roman Catholicism, becoming its prelate of England. The church's south side was being extended, which required moving some graves there.

GRAFFHAM  
**HEALTH SUPPORT**  
ASSOCIATION

**Annual General Meeting**

*Open to all Graffham residents*

**Tuesday 14 April, 3pm**

**Empire Hall**

# Bill's bygones: Gertrude, Gilbert, Grand Slam

*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 – March 2016:** Bishop of Horsham Mark Sowerby attends St Giles during Easter. Michael Blencowe hosts Graffham Down Trust's quiz night for the second time. Graffham Parish Council seeks residents' views on cutting the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in parts of the village. Tata Steel announces plans to sell off its British operations. Ex-Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadžić is sentenced to 40 years in jail for war crimes. England win the Six Nations Grand Slam for the first time since 2003. John Le Carré makes a cameo appearance in episode four of the BBC dramatisation of his novel *The Night Manager*. Deaths of TV presenter and South Harting resident Cliff Michelmore (aged 96), Beatles' producer Sir George Martin (90) and comedian Ronnie Corbett (85).

**25 years ago – March 2001:** Canon Peter Cole and Seaford College's Adrian Carlton-Oakley, a licenced reader, preside over the last service of the interregnum before the Rev Mark Gilbert assumes his duties as Rector of Graffham and Chaplain to Seaford College with a licensing service conducted by Bishop of Horsham Lindsay Unwin, following the departure of rector Keith Hyde-Dunn. At an independent public enquiry into unrestricted traffic access to Long Bostle, Graffham Parish Council chair Diana Kingsmill and spokesman Derek Stewart-Smith press for the byway to be reclassified as a bridleway. The remains of Donald Campbell and his Bluebird K7 are recovered from Lake Coniston 34 years after his attempt on the water speed record. The Eden Project opens in Cornwall. Deaths of physician/author Alex Comfort (*The Joy of Sex*, 80) and iconic New Wave singer/songwriter Ian Dury (57).

**50 years ago – March 1976:** The staff (including Graffham Rustic John Ellerton, who plays Fagin) and boys of Seaford College win praise for their production of *Oliver!*, their first musical. Proposals to replace GCE O levels and CSEs with a single examination are opposed by West Sussex Education Committee. Harold Wilson announces his resignation as Prime Minister. Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon separate after 16 years of marriage. Production of the Hillman Imp ends after 13 years. The Body Shop is founded by Anita Roddick in Brighton. Wales win the Five Nations with a Grand Slam. Deaths of illustrator and Lodsworth resident EH Shepard (96) and Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery (88).

## SPECIALISING IN RESTORATION OF TRADITIONAL HERITAGE BUILDINGS

All aspect of roofing and construction completed  
 Family run business with over 30 years of experience

- ✔ Tiling
- ✔ Slating
- ✔ Flat roofs
- ✔ Repair works
- ✔ Chimney works
- ✔ Lead works
- ✔ General Building



**CONTACT**

✉ info@newheightsroofing.co.uk  
 ☎ 07508 468418

**New or upgraded system? Call us today to arrange a FREE survey**



- ★ Intruder Alarms
- ★ CCTV
- ★ Entry Phone Systems
- ★ Fire Alarms

t. 03300 945596  
 w. www.scorpio-alarms.co.uk  
 a. Pippin Farm, Toat Lane, Pulborough RH20 1BZ



We offer both a 'Supply & Fit' or 'You Supply, We Fit' service for carpets & vinyl flooring. Our mobile showroom brings the sample books to you, to choose in your own home.



Repairs & Alterations • Coir Mats  
 Residential & Commercial Work Undertaken

To arrange a visit call Jon on: 07595 873598  
 or email: info@theflooringbrothers.co.uk

# Graffham Parish News' marvellous March quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers on page 63 (no cheating!)

- 1 Which local cleric and member of the House of Lords recently announced that he will be retiring this May?
- 2 Seaford College moved to Lavington Park in [a] 1926, [b] 1936, or [c] 1946?
- 3 Which day of Holy Week celebrates the Last Supper?
- 4 Which of these actors was briefly a pupil at Windlesham House School, near Worthing, in the 1980s: [a] Olivia Coleman, [b] Hugh Laurie, [c] Tom Hiddleston?
- 5 According to the DVLA, the Volkswagen Golf was the second most frequently stolen car in 2024, with 1,731 thefts – but which model trumped this with 4,446?
- 6 Which of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, astatine and tennessine are members of the halogen group of elements?
- 7 In the infamous Twickenham England vs Wales Five Nations “bloodbath” of 1980, how many players were sent off: [a] three, [b] none, [c] one?
- 8 Elena Rybakina won her second tennis major at the Australian Open in January. Her first was in 2022 – but where?
- 9 Which late, gravel voiced musician, who would have been 75 on 4 March, was inspired to write one of his most famous songs by the M25 and M4?
- 10 *The Phantom Raspberry Blower of Old London Town* was a spoof serial in which BBC TV comedy duo's weekly show?



**Roger Poat & Partners**

Funeral Directors & Monumental Mason Consultants

**01730 812094**

Duck Lane, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9DE

PRIVATE CHAPELS OF REST  
PRE PAID & PRE ARRANGED FUNERALS  
24 HOUR PROFESSIONAL & PERSONAL SERVICE  
LONGSTANDING INDEPENDENT LOCAL FUNERAL DIRECTORS



[www.rogerpoat.co.uk](http://www.rogerpoat.co.uk)



# Out and about: And the morel of the story...

A regular column by villager Jonathan Simons who also contributes to the Facebook site Beautiful Sights In And Around Graffham.

Morels are famously sought after for culinary delight, but not all are edible. They usually appear in spring, often in surprising places. The body of the fungus is hollow, and the cap consists of many convoluted folds. There are several varieties.

**The Yellow Morel *Morchella esculenta*** This is the famous 'true' morel much prized by foragers. The convoluted folds of the cap are very distinctive. *Esculenta* means 'edible'. It appears in spring but it is not common. I have only seen it three times. My first was in April 2010 on the roadside bank up from Perrott Lane in Graffham. I did pick one (I hope in retrospect that there were more) for 'scientific purposes' but I also did eat a small portion just to say I had. I cannot say the taste made much of an impression on me though. I have



The Yellow Morel found at Graffham's Perrott Lane.



THE MARTIN SEWELL  
BUILDING COMPANY

Your vision,  
our expertise.  
Building your dream  
home, together

An Award Winning,  
Chartered Building Company



**ABOUT US**

Having worked in the Sussex area since 1985, our dedicated & highly skilled team are passionate about delivering outstanding results & creating dream homes for our Clients.

MSBC has built a reputation based on an ethos of openness, strong communication and honesty.

**WHY CHOOSE US?**

Experienced in delivering a wide range of high quality building projects, from bespoke new builds to the sensitive renovation of listed buildings or extensions and refurbishments for private & commercial premises.

**CONTACT**

01243 542 056  
www.msbc.uk.com  
admin@msbc.uk.com

**AWARDS**



**INVESTORS IN PEOPLE**  
We invest in people Gold



looked in this spot every year since with no success. Can I blame global warming rather than the possibility that I had picked the last one?!

My second sighting was ten years later in the cowslip field above Tagents Farm. There was one giant distorted morel about 13cm high. I let it be, but despite revisiting annually I've not seen it again. The third was quite unexpectedly at the end of a long walk in Italy's Abruzzo National Park, a perfect specimen under pines at the edge of town.

**The Black Morel *Morchella elata*** This is commoner in the UK than the previous species. It is a 'true' morel and edible but not as celebrated. However, I have only ever seen this once in this country and that was in woodchip outside Billingshurst Library in May 2013. There were several substantial specimens but all in rather a poor shape. I did not take any for the pot.

Look for it on rotting woodchip on housing estates or big gardens. I am hoping the new woodchipped drive onto the Rec might prove fruitful. The second photo, from Elba shows it more clearly.

**The False Morel *Gyromitra esculenta*** The False Morel is sometimes called the Turban Morel on account of the cap's resemblance to oriental headgear although others liken it to a brain. The specific name *esculenta* for this species is a bit



**False Morels pictured in the village.**

The first time I saw it was on the roadside bank just north of Millburgh Hall in 2006. Then in 2015 it appeared in our grounds and has come back several times since. I was also shown it under pines on private land north of Perrott Lane about half a mile away.

If you see any of this sort of thing then do let me know by mail or post on the Facebook site Beautiful Sights In And Around Graffham.



**A Yellow Morel seen locally at Tagents (left) and a perfect specimen in Italy.**



**Black Morels.**

# Nature Notes: Love is in the air

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

Sussex is beginning to bloom and, in the absence of pollinating insects, one of our first flowers is depending on a February breeze to deliver its Valentine's message. You'll all know male Hazel flowers. They're the catkins – those droopy 'lamb's tails' which cast their sulphur clouds of dusty love into the countryside. These clouds are made of a multitude of lonely pollen grains, each cruising on the wind hoping to find the female hazel flower. Look closely on the branches and you'll see her desperately trying to grab a grain with her bright pink tentacle tassels.

This windswept romance has occurred ever since the end of the last Ice Age when our defrosting land was a botanical blank canvas. There were rich pickings for any plant that ventured way out west, and hazel was one of the first pioneers. In an empty landscape, under open skies, it established its vast nutty empire, becoming our most abundant tree species.

But therein lies the problem. Hazel's just not very good at being a tree. It doesn't grow very tall. So, when the big boys started muscling into Britain, its claim to



## 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.

**Saturday 7 March**

the canopy crown ended. Giant oaks blocked the sun and banished hazel to the shadows – an understory underdog. And there, Gollum-like, hazel waited. Until we showed up.

Mesolithic man, foraging around for food, acquired a taste for hazelnuts. If you've ever witnessed me poking around with a spoon in the bottom of a Nutella jar, it's clear that this love of hazelnuts, and our table manners, have changed little in the last 10,000 years. Hazelnuts were a vital protein source for our ancestors, and each nut is individually packaged in a little container for easy storage.

But hazel took care of us in other ways too. It has a magical power of regeneration. Whatever doesn't kill it just makes it stronger. Hack down a hazel and, like the Hydra, it'll bounce back mob-handed, sending up an army of new shoots. Cutting hazel and allowing it to regrow (the art of coppicing) gave us a crop of strong, strong, flexible poles. Coppiced poles have a multitude of uses – firewood, fences, fishing rods, shepherd's crooks, walking sticks, water diviners and magic wands. Hazel poles were the wattle in the 'wattle and daub' that held together our early homes. Hazel helped us build Britain.

And it built a Britain full of burly men with axes who marched into the wild woods and cut down those big oaks. And as our woodlands were cleared, hazel rose again and regained its place in our developing countryside. Perhaps we were part of its comeback plan all along?

- 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:



Hazel catkins (above) and young nuts that will follow. © Mark Monk-Terry and Derek Middleton, SWT.



[michaelblencowe.com](http://michaelblencowe.com)



# Tennis Coaching 2026



## GRAFFHAM TENNIS CLUB

**HOPP COACHING**

**Free**  
**Junior Taster Session**

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February

**YrR – Yr6**

**After School Tennis Club**

Wednesdays  
3.30 - 6.15pm

**YrR – Yr6**

Starts 4<sup>th</sup> March

**Easter Tennis Course**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March –  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**YrR – Yr11**

Group times and ages tbc nearer  
the time

**Summer Tennis Course**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July

**YrR – Yr11**

Group times and ages tbc nearer  
the time

### Adult Coaching

**Rusty Racquets**

Wednesdays 1.45 - 2.45pm  
Fridays 3.00 - 4.00pm

Foundation technique, drills and  
match play tactics.  
Runs all year round.

**Individual and Private  
Groups**

Lessons available for private  
bookings for 1 to 8 people.  
Organise your own group of  
players to get some coaching  
and improve your game.



Sponsored by:



[richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk](mailto:richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk) 07904 069457 [www.hoppcoaching.co.uk](http://www.hoppcoaching.co.uk)

## Graffham Tennis Club



**Free taster session** Graffham's tennis players are getting used to playing in the drizzle! Please don't let this put you off! Sunshine is hopefully just around the corner! There will be a free adult taster session on Sunday 12 April from 11am to 1pm. Open to all and run by our friendly coach Richard Hopp, it's a chance to dust off your rackets, pay your club membership and meet others.

If you are tempted to play league tennis, contact this summer's team captains:

- Men's – Richard Bates at [ragb24@gmail.com](mailto:ragb24@gmail.com)
- Ladies A – Kate Hogan at [kate.hogan@btinternet.com](mailto:kate.hogan@btinternet.com)
- Mixed – Andy Craig at [andy.craig@people-puzzles.co.uk](mailto:andy.craig@people-puzzles.co.uk)
- Ladies B – Rebecca Ruff at [rebecca.ruff@btinternet.com](mailto:rebecca.ruff@btinternet.com)

**AGM** Graffham Tennis Club's annual general meeting will be held in the Pavilion on Monday 23 March at 7pm. All members welcome.

### Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results

1 Feb	Won 5-3	Mixed Doubles A team	Div 2	v Haslemere B
4 Feb	Lost 8-0	Mixed Doubles B team	Div 2	v Headley A

## Graffham Ladies Cricket Club

Practice will start again, on the tennis courts until the ground dries, on Thursday evenings at 6pm after the clocks go forward. The probable date therefore is Thursday 2 April.

## Easter egg toss

Graffham's traditional Easter egg toss is being pencilled in, as usual, for Easter Sunday 5 April at 4pm. Watch for next month's edition for full details.

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

# Bishop of Chichester to retire

Chichester's Bishop Martin has announced his retirement, effective 31 May, after 14 years in the role. A successor will be appointed in due course.

# Foodbank's 'most urgent' shopping list lengthens

The list of items in most urgent need by Chichester Foodbank, which also covers Petworth and its surrounding villages, is shorter this month than before – but with quite a few new items featuring. 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:



- Instant coffee.
- Jam, honey, spreads.
- Laundry detergent.
- Ready-made custard.
- Shampoo, conditioner.
- Sugar.
- Tinned fish.
- Tinned fruit.
- Tinned meat, stews etc.
- Tin potatoes/ instant mash.
- Tinned vegetables.
- Tomato ketchup.
- Toothpaste.
- Washing up liquid.

**BEAR**  
PETWORTH

20th Century Design, Antiques, Home Accessories and Gifts



Stockist of Santa Maria Novella, David Mellor, Ichendorf Milano, Vacavaliante, Leach Pottery and Villa Bologna Pottery.

Open Monday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm  
10A New Street, Petworth, GU28 0AS

[www.bearpetworth.com](http://www.bearpetworth.com)  
Tel: 01798 651066



## St Giles Church's Lent Lunch

*Please join us for soup, bread, cheese and conversation*

Tuesday 10 March 12.45pm

Empire Hall, Graffham

**Guest speakers:**

**The Rev Canon John Bundock and Millburgh Hall's Charles Marriott**

*John and Charles will talk about the retelling of the Christian story in dramatic form in the countryside at Wintershall, near Bramley – with which they have both been heavily involved.*

**Everyone welcome!** *If you would like to attend, please sign up on the form in Graffham Village Shop by 6 March to enable us to cater for you*

*All donations to Wintershall Charitable Trust*

*wintershall.org.uk*



## Donkeys and band lead Palm Sunday procession



Petworth Area Churches Together's traditional Palm Sunday procession through the town's streets will be held on Sunday 29 March – led by two donkeys and the Petworth Town Band. It will leave from Sacred Heart Church, Angel Street, at 3pm, winding through the town to arrive at St Mary's Church at around 3.30pm, with rousing hymns sung along the way, a short resume of the Palm Sunday Gospel story at three points around the town and palms supplied for children and adults. There'll be tea and cakes to refresh souls and voices at the end. All are welcome at what PACT describes as a "lovely traditional event", with no bookings necessary.

# Other denominations locally

**Methodist:** Midhurst. *Minister:* David Muskett *Tel:* 01730 233436. *email:* superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk. *Web:* midhurstmethodist.com *Worship:* Sundays 10.00am, and Café Church 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 10.30am.

**Roman Catholic:** The Catholic Churches of Saints Anthony and George, Duncton, The Divine Motherhood and St Francis of Assisi, Midhurst, and The Sacred Heart, Petworth. *email:* petworth.abdiocese.org.uk. *Tel:* 01798 342169. *Web:* www.petworthcatholic.org

Mass					
Sun	8am	Duncton	Thu	9.30am	Petworth
	9.30am	Midhurst		12noon	Midhurst Convent
	11am	Petworth	Fri	6.30pm	Petworth
Tue	10.30am	Petworth		9.30am	Midhurst
Wed	9.30am	Midhurst	Sat	5.30pm	Petworth

**Society of Friends (Quakers):** St Anne's Community Centre, St Anne's Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9NN. *Web:* 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

# W. Bryder & Sons

est. 1863



*In the sad event of the loss of your loved one you can rely on W. Bryder & Sons to help you every step of the way.*

## INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED FUNERALS

To suit all budgets, arranged by our friendly 5th generation family run business.  
Peaceful funeral homes in the heart of the South Downs countryside  
Headstones & Memorials / Grave Maintenance  
We can be contacted 24 hours a day

### Petworth

The Gables, Tillington, GU28 9AB  
01798 342174 (24 hours)

### Pulborough

95 Lower Street, Pulborough, RH20 2BP  
01798 872000 (24 hours)

www.wbryderandsons.co.uk | info@wbryderandsons.co.uk

# Easter in Graffham with Woolavington



Everyone is welcome to join in any of these Holy Week and Easter services. Do come on in – the water's lovely!



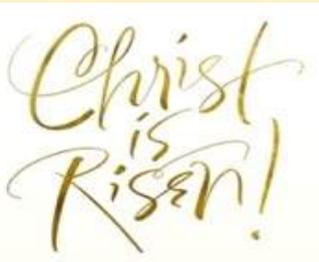
**Palm Sunday, 29 March 10.30am St Giles Church**  
Parish Eucharist with dramatised reading of the Passion

**Thursday, 2 April 7pm St Giles Church** Maundy Thursday Eucharist, followed by Watch of Prayer, Recalling the events in the Upper Room, with our Lord's washing of the disciples' feet in humility and the institution of the Lord's Supper, followed at 8pm by a Watch of Prayer.



**Good Friday, 3 April 9.30 to 11am from St Giles Church** Reflective Walk A journey with companions around our parish.

**Sunday, 5 April 6am St Giles Church** First Eucharist of Easter with **Easter fire**. From a fire kindled in the churchyard, the Easter candle will be lit and carried into a darkened church, as a sign of Christ's light overcoming darkness in the world. We hear the Exsultet, an ancient song sung in the candlelight, before sharing in thanksgiving in our first Easter Eucharist of 2025.



**Sunday, 5 April 10.30am St Giles** Easter Day Family Eucharist A celebration of Easter hope, with our church decorated with flowers and a churchyard baptism – all followed by an Easter egg hunt. There may even be Easter lambs ...





## Page Plumbing

Bathrooms Showers  
Plumbing

Fully insured

07814 542257

info@pageplumbing.co.uk

## Timberscapes

*From a family of skilled craftsmen and gardeners*

We cover all aspects of hard landscaping  
and carpentry

- Outdoor structures, home offices, barn renovations, pergolas and more
- Timber retaining walls and raised beds
- Groundworks - from drainage to levelling
- Fencing - domestic and agricultural
- Patio and drive installations

*From design to build,  
Timberscapes has you covered.*

07913 118780

greg@timberscapes.co.uk



Midhurst Tailor Touch  
**MT**

sewing - alteration room

midhursttailor@gmail.com

01730 642156

Hollist House, West Street,  
Midhurst GU29 9NF

Styling/Restyling  
Ladies & Gents Tailoring/Alterations  
Bridal/Bridesmaid Dresses  
Prom and Special Event Gowns  
Coat/Jacket Relining  
Leather/Fur Repairs



## Country Artisan Interiors

A personalised made-to-measure  
service of bespoke hand-sewn  
curtains, Roman blinds, cushions  
and lampshades - as well as  
a collection of handcrafted gifts.

*We welcome visitors by appointment  
to our workroom in Dunton.*

Please contact us to discuss your  
requirements  
on 07796814418 or email  
lesley@countryartisaninteriors.co.uk

www.countryartisaninteriors.co.uk

# 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.
- The Rev Vivien's rest days are Fridays and Saturdays.

## March

1	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Lent 2 <i>Reading: Genesis 12.1-4a; Romans 4.1-5, 13-17</i>	St Giles Church
3	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
4	Wed	11am	Coffee Morning at Foresters' Arms	Foresters Arms
8	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Lent 3 <i>Reading: Exodus 17.1-7</i>	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
10	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	St Giles Church
		12.30pm	Lent Lunch including Food with Friends	Empire Hall
14	Sat	10am	Bell Ringing Practice	St Giles Church
15	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist Lent 4 Mothering Sunday <i>Reading: Exodus 2.1-10</i>	
17	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
19	Thu	3.30pm	Messy Church in Church	St Giles Church
22	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Lent 5 with Baptism of Rupert Mason <i>Reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14</i>	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taize	All Saints Chapel
24	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
		2.30pm	PCC Worship Group meeting	Occam Cottage
26	Thu	2pm	Graffham Infant School Easter Service	St Giles Church
29	Sun	10.30am	Palm Sunday Eucharist <i>Reading: Matthew 21.1-11</i>	St Giles Church
31	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel

## April

2	Thu	7pm	Maundy Thursday Eucharist with foot washing	St Giles Church
		8 - 9pm	Watch of Prayer	
3	Fri	9.30am	Reflective Walk	St Giles Church
5	Sun	6am	First Eucharist of Easter with Easter Fire	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter Sunday	St Giles Church

# What's on in and around the village

- For weekly events, see page 59. For church services and other events, see page 55. For home sports fixtures, see page 49.
- 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)

## February

27	Fri	7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents Kathryn Williams	Leconfield Hall, Petworth
28	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		10-11 am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		7pm	Graffham Empire Movies presents <i>Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale</i>	Empire Hall

## March

1	Sun		<i>St David's Day</i>	
3	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society of Midhurst talk on <i>Jane Austen and the Art of Satire</i>	Midhurst Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society of West Sussex talk on <i>The Mosaics of Ravenna</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
4	Wed		Coffee morning in aid of St Giles Church	Foresters Arms
		7pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall
5	Thu	10-11 am	UKHarvest surplus food market	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth
7	Sat	9.30am	Graffham Down Trust work party	Meet at St Giles
		am	Seaford College Prep school open morning	Seaford College
			Six Nations rugby- Italy vs England	Rome
8	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
10	Tue	12.30pm	Lent lunch	Empire Hall
		7pm	Quiz night	The Three Moles
		7pm	Heyshott Parish Council meeting	Cobden Hall Heyshott
13	Fri	6.45 for 7pm	Graffham Garden Group AGM with guest speaker and spring flower show	Empire Hall
14	Sat		Six Nations rugby final day	
		8pm	Nine Below Zero gig	Empire Hall
15	Sun		<i>Mothering Sunday</i>	
		10.30am	Mothering Sunday service	St Giles Church
16	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford College

17	Tue		Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day	
18	Wed		Ash Wednesday	
		7pm	Petworth Society talk on William Blake	Leconfield Hall
		7.30pm	Seaford College presents Miss Saigon (to 21 March)	Seaford College
19	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club	Empire Hall
		3.30pm	Messy Church	St Giles Church
21	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		10.30am-2pm	Graffham Easter market	Empire Hall
23	Mon	7pm	Graffham Tennis Club AGM	Pavilion
24	Tue	2.30pm	PCC Worship Group meeting	Occam Cottage
25	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club <sup>1</sup>	Empire Hall
26	Thu	7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents The Haar	Leconfield Hall Petworth
27	Fri		Graffham and Duncton Schools INSET day	
			WSCC and Seaford College terms ends	
28	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		All day	Introduction to beekeeping day – see wgbka.org.uk	Rudgwick Village Hall
		9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
29	Sun		Palm Sunday	
			<i>British Summer Time starts – clocks spring forward one hour</i>	
		3pm	PACT Palm Sunday procession	Petworth
		7-10pm	Blues Night	Three Moles
30	Mon	Various	Easter tennis course for Years R-11	Graffham Tennis Club
<b>April</b>				
1	Wed		Graffham Camping and Caravan Club site opens for season	
2	Thu		Maundy Thursday	
			First day of Jewish passover	
<b>For details of all Easter church services in Graffham, see page 53</b>				
3	Fri		Good Friday	
4	Sat		Spring festival (till 19 April)	Petworth House and Park
			Grand National	Aintree
5	Sun		Easter Sunday	
		4pm	Easter egg toss	Rec
6	Mon		Easter Monday	

<sup>1</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.

# HOO.LI.

Design | Marketing | Words | Web

01730 816484

 @hoolidesign

hooli.co.uk | hello@hooli.co.uk

Get in touch with Julia and Rachel

Nº1 West Street, Midhurst, GU29 9NF

 front.hopefully.desktops



## MOLE CATCHING

"NO MOLE, NO FEE"

## WASPS / HORNETS

CONTACT ANGUS ON 07828 134086

WWW.ASCOUNTRYSIDESERVICES.CO.UK

## Water Pipe Repair Services

### Allan Marsh

07470 440836

- Water pipe repairs
- Water pipe renewals
- Plumbing repairs
- Water leak detection
- Lead pipe replacement
- Drain repairs
- Outside taps fitted
- Sinks, baths and toilets
- Driveway and footpath repairs



**ATHENA**  
BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

## BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

for small business and sole traders

VAT RETURNS    CIS RETURNS

SELF-ASSESSMENT

GENERAL BOOKKEEPING

Jennifer Sear MICB

Heyshott, Midhurst

T: 07834 765761

E: [athenabookkeeping@aol.com](mailto:athenabookkeeping@aol.com)



## need help with your pc? Clive Way BA<sup>hons</sup> Computing

The friendly professional service for your home pc, laptop and other device nightmares.

I am now based in Wales.  
But fear not –  
I can still help you with many problems by remotely accessing your pc, mac, phone, ipad or other electronica.



tel: 0791 7766254

email: [cliveway@yahoo.com](mailto:cliveway@yahoo.com)

## HELEN'S AIRPORT CARS

"With US it can often cost less than rail or airport parking"

Saloons  
MPVs  
Estates  
4 - 8 seaters



Reliable  
Affordable &  
Comfortable  
Pre-booked  
24hr

01243 820820

Book Online Now [www.airporttaxis.co.uk](http://www.airporttaxis.co.uk)

24 Sudley Road, Bognor Regis. PO21 1ER



## Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)

<b>Mondays</b>	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
<b>Tuesdays</b>	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
	9-11am	Breakfast served	Three Moles
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice – newcomers welcome	St Giles
<b>Wednesdays</b>	9-10am	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
	11.15am-12noon	Pilates <sup>5</sup>	Empire Hall
	1.45-2.45pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching <sup>6</sup>	Rec
	3.30-6.15pm	After school tennis club	Tennis Club
	5pm	Nina's Core to Floor <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	7-8.30pm	Badminton <sup>7</sup> – all welcome	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
<b>Thursdays</b>	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise <sup>8</sup>	Empire Hall
	6-7.15pm	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
<b>Fridays</b>	9-10.15am	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic <sup>9</sup>	Empire Hall
	3-4pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching <sup>7</sup>	Tennis Club
	Evenings	Tennis Club evenings	Pavilion
<b>Saturdays</b>	8.30am	Boxfit with Nina <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	9-10.15am	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
	10am	Nina's Core to Floor <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	10.30am	Yoga with Kate <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic <sup>9</sup>	Empire Hall
<b>Sundays</b>	5pm	Pickleball <sup>10</sup>	Empire Hall
	5pm	Casual football <sup>11</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>**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

<sup>6</sup>**Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at [richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk](mailto:richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk), on 07904 069457.

<sup>7</sup>**Badminton:** Contact Christina Federowicz on 07900 055574. All welcome. <sup>8</sup>**Ease Into Exercise:**

Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956. <sup>9</sup>**Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at [serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com](mailto:serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com). <sup>10</sup>**Pickleball:** Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417.

<sup>11</sup>**Casual Football:** Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.

**ROGER GUNN**  
GARDEN MACHINERY  
SHOWROOM AND WORKSHOP



Fast Friendly Service  
Competitive Prices  
Collection & Delivery  
Available



[www.rogergunn.co.uk](http://www.rogergunn.co.uk)

Telephone 01243 786003

or 07979 752242

located between Lavant and West Dean

**Southern Counties  
Tree Services**

*Skilled Surgery in all aspects of Tree Care*

- \*Hedge trimming
- \*Landscaping
- \*Tree reduction
- \*Logs supplied

Tel: 01243 814854

Mob: 07774 012961

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

**CLEAR ALL**  
PEST CONTROL

Fully qualified professional country  
services

Specializing in Hornets, Wasps, Moles,  
Rats, Mice & Flies/Cluster Flies  
[www.clearallpestcontrol.com](http://www.clearallpestcontrol.com)

Phone Dean on:

07768 986 338



**Southdowns Chiropractic**

Jemma Langford DC Patrick Thomas DC

Treating all musculoskeletal conditions  
related to the spine, along with hips, knees,  
shoulders and many soft tissue injuries.

We also offer a range of other treatments:

Foot Health, Toe Nails Cut,

Massage Therapy, Reiki

Ear Wax Removal,

01798 345145

The Old Bakery Golden Square Petworth GU28 0AP

Registered with BUPA & all major Health Insurers



**Dismantling and felling**  
**Crown thinning and reducing**  
**Removal of deadwood Pruning**  
**Hedge cutting Stump grinding**

*Full public liability*

*Certified arborist*

*Free estimates and advice*

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

07763 844422





Prompt and Friendly  
Telephone Fran or Dean on

**07768 986 338**

Based in Lickfold  
Est. 1990

[prismwindowcleaningltd.com](http://prismwindowcleaningltd.com)

## Matt Wheatley Local electrician

Part P approved contractor  
*Fully insured*

For prompt and friendly  
service, please call

**07976 465974**

or email

[mattwheatley1971@btinternet.com](mailto:mattwheatley1971@btinternet.com)



**Success**  
No greater gift

## Maths tutoring

11+, 13+, Scholarship, GCSE, A Level, IB, Pre-U  
[www.escry.com](http://www.escry.com)

[simon.mitchell@escry.com](mailto:simon.mitchell@escry.com) 07850 125 519

**CARPET & RUG DRY CLEANING**  
**UPHOLSTERY & CURTAIN CLEANING**  
**STAIN PROTECTION**

**TEL: 01730 814 965**

[www.magnadrysouthern.co.uk](http://www.magnadrysouthern.co.uk)



MAGNA DRY SOUTHERN

**Free Estimates ~ Fully Insured**

engineering  **architecture Ltd**



Architect  
-  
Structural Engineer  
-  
Builder

All buildings including  
historic and listed

We would be delighted  
to help you achieve your  
dream design

*The Institution  
of Structural  
Engineers*



t: 01428 741671  
m: 07734 703777

[mail@engarc.co.uk](mailto:mail@engarc.co.uk)  
[www.engarc.co.uk](http://www.engarc.co.uk)

## West Sussex Logs

Logs cut to size.  
All seasoned timber.  
Two days for delivery  
once ordered

*Grass cutting, hedge cutting  
and tree work also available.*

**01730 814751 07950 035997**

[www.sussexlandworks.co.uk](http://www.sussexlandworks.co.uk)



- Book keeping
- Year-end accounts
- Management accounts /cash flow
- Tax returns
- VAT returns
- Payroll

**CROOK & CO  
ACCOUNTANCY LTD**

PERSONAL AND CORPORATE ACCOUNTANCY SUPPORT

hallo@crookandcoaccountancy.co.uk

07875 468786

[www.crookandcoaccountancy.co.uk](http://www.crookandcoaccountancy.co.uk)

**Paula's Cleaning Services**

Call for Quotation! 07563 722849

House Cleaning, Office Cleaning,  
Deep Cleans and everything in  
between!



**CHRIS NEVILLE  
PLUMBER**

- All types of plumbing work carried out.
  - Fast, reliable, friendly.
  - Fully qualified and insured.
- 07772 040005**

**FORESTERS GETAWAY**  
Cosy Country Cottages

B&B ♥ Holiday rental  
Graffham village  
5\* Livery  
07768 697427



- Puppy Training
- Dog Agility
- Pet Gun Dog Classes
- 1-2-1 Sessions

**Dogs Doing Better**

Kilsham Farm, Petworth GU28 0LJ

[www.dogsdoingbetter.com](http://www.dogsdoingbetter.com)

Call Liz 07702 009272

Or email:

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



- ↙ Fully insured
- ↙ Dustless sanding
- ↙ Free quotes
- ↙ Interior and exterior

**07912 680750**

**Quiz answers (from page 43)** 1 Bishop of Chichester Martin Warner. 2 [c] 1946. 3 Maundy Thursday. 4 [c] Tom Hiddleston. 5 Ford Fiesta. 6 All of them. 7 [c] one (Wales' Paul Ringer. England won 10-9 and went on to clinch their first Grand Slam since 1963). 8 Wimbledon. 9 Chris Rea. 10 *The Two Ronnies*.



**SERENA COOPER  
PHYSIOTHERAPY**

**SPECIALIST MUSCULOSKELETAL  
PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

Mill Yard, Duncton  
The Empire Hall, Graffham

[serenacooperphysio.co.uk](http://serenacooperphysio.co.uk)

[Info@serenacooperphysiotherapy.co.uk](mailto:Info@serenacooperphysiotherapy.co.uk)

07884 445983

## Norwood Contractors GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Grass and Hedge cutting,  
Pruning, weeding,  
Planting etc.....

**ENQUIRIES:**

**01798 867 338**

**Or 07973 370 727**

## **Caytons Limited**

Stuart A Hail  
Specialist Oil Fired  
Heating Engineer

**Boilers  
Agas**

**Servicers  
Breakdown  
Installation**

Tel 01798 344 213  
M 07779 11 33 43

Email: [caytonsltd@gmail.com](mailto:caytonsltd@gmail.com)



**Straight Line  
Fencing**

With 30+ years' experience, we are the leading fencing and groundwork specialists in West Sussex and Surrey.

Quality workmanship assured, whether you need to keep children or horses in, wildlife out or just want security for your home.

**01428 685222**

**[s1f@straightlinefencing.co.uk](mailto:s1f@straightlinefencing.co.uk)**

**Did you know...?** You can raise funds for St Giles Church whenever you shop online – and zero cost to you. To find out how simple it is, just go to [stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online](http://stgilesgraffham.org/shopping-online)

# Directory: Useful local contact info

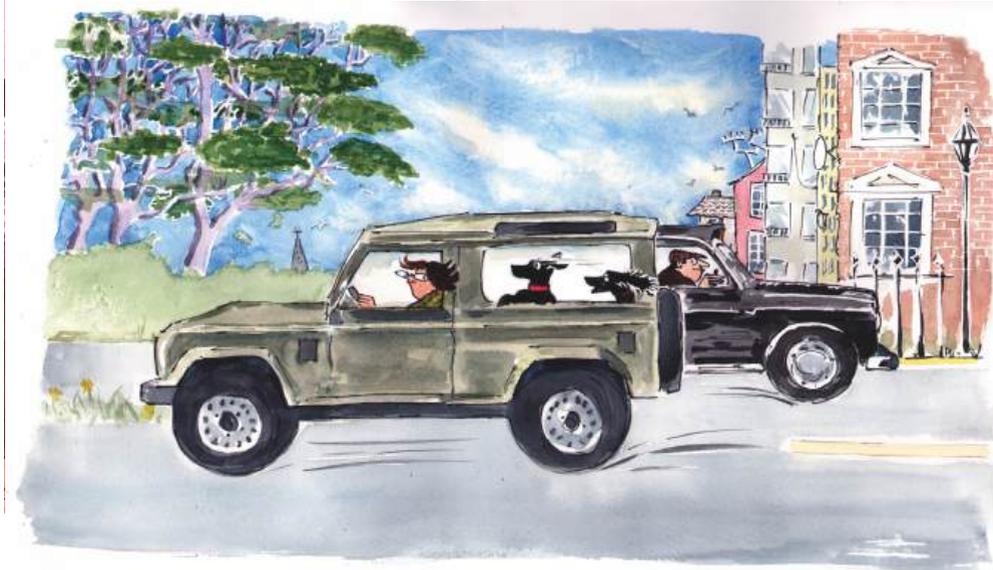
<b>DOCTORS</b>	Petworth Surgery	01798 342248
	Midhurst Riverbank Medical Centre	01730 812121
	Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit	01483 782334
<b>DEFIBRILLATORS</b>	Empire Hall temporarily out of use On outside wall of <b>Pavilion</b> In phone box outside <b>Pescods</b> In phone box opposite <b>The Three Moles</b>	Temporarily out of use Code is <b>C159X</b> Code is also <b>C159X</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	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 Local beekeeper Murray West	07984 606214/01798 343470 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 Clerk Amy Harte	simon.longman@eastlavington-pc.uk 07889 979820 eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com
<b>Empire Hall</b>		empirehall.org.uk
Bookings	Anna Shawcross Chairman Ollie Boulton Maintenance Tom Richardson Treasurer Carole Sargent Secretary Jonathan Simons	bookings.empirehall@gmail.com 07971 204287 07584 625059 07932 865154 01798 344790 01798 867689
<b>Foodbank</b>	info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk	01243 773687
<b>Foresters Arms</b>	forestersarmsgraftam.com	01798 867386
<b>Graffham Archive</b>	Robin Brind	graftamarchive@outlook.com 01798 867619
<b>Graffham Bellringers</b>	Tower Captain Howard Pescott	01798 867029
<b>Graffham Bowls Club</b>	Secretary Liz Pegram	01798 867770
<b>Graffham Down Trust</b>	Chairman Jim Kirke	07718 559675
<b>Graffham Empire Movies</b>	Michael Blunt	mblunt@btinternet.com
<b>Graffham Garden Group</b>	Carole Kirke	07855 515739
<b>Graff'm Health Support Assc</b>	Chairman Sarah Lydiard-Wilson Membership Yvonne Churchward Transport	01798 867567 07808 781510 07391 802541
	Prescription collection Mary Taylor Loan of equipment Karin Skanberg	mkt.bythedowns@gmail.com 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
	Churchwarden Cindy Bradley	07787 516522
	Treasurer Dinah Lamming	graffhampctreasurer@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



# JACKSON-STOPS

PROPERTY EXPERTS SINCE 1910



**Downsizing, Upsizing, Extending?**

**If you are considering the sale of your property or need good advice, we would love to hear from you.**

**Please get in touch with our team in  
Midhurst to find out more**

**01730 812357    [midhurst@jackson-stops.co.uk](mailto:midhurst@jackson-stops.co.uk)  
Market Square, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9NJ**