

# GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 423

FREE

MAY 2026



Bowls Club rolls up to its centenary  
– as boules court lands on the Rec  
Buffer zones proposed around 20mph limit





**On the cover:** Graffham Bowls Club is 100 years old this season – with club captain Wendy Folkes (centre), president Janet Wakeford (second right) and secretary Liz Pegrum (right) joined by members Cat Godson and Jane Riley ahead of its centenary summer. See page 32.

**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.



**June 2026 edition deadline** 10 May.

**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: Remember you are mortal

*'Respice post te! Hominem te esse memento!'* Look behind you! Remember you are mortal!

Thus, a slave whispered repeatedly to a Roman general in his chariot, when honoured by a triumph through the streets of the city of Rome, reminding the general that triumph is fleeting, that the one being honoured is not a god, and death comes to all. One wonders if it might not be appropriate to revive the practice in our own times, and for this to be whispered again in the ears of those who wield the greatest power in the nations, those who sweep through the streets of cities in cavalcades of limousines, or take the salute at parades of military hardware, or wave at paparazzi from the top of the steps of private jets. Remember you are mortal!

For it seems apparent that the more power an individual exerts, the greater danger they are in of confusing which nature they inhabit, and the greater importance there is for such persons to ground themselves in humility and reverence for what is truly godly. A recent image which has disturbed many, of a mortal president apparently misrepresenting the person of Christ, demonstrates such confusion in practice and highlights the existence of this danger. Although society entrusts only a few with responsibility



► *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*

for the most encompassing decisions in the world, many have smaller areas of responsibility, and we all have responsibility for ourselves, and those with whom we come into contact.

In discharging this, the principles of humility and respect apply to us all, upon which we are all judged in life and at its end. We too are called to remember we are mortal, and to live honourably. We do so by taking our example from the true Christ who knelt to wash the feet of His followers, who calls us to love one another, and who gave His life to show us what true Godhead means. No matter how many security officers a person surrounds themselves with for protection, this is the only security which truly protects the heart and soul.

As St Paul urged in Philippians 2.5-8:

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.*

As this Easter season continues, may Christ's be the only image imprinted in our minds and hearts today.



Reverend Vivien

## RINGING and SINGING

To join Graffham's bellringers or occasional choir, contact  
Revd Vivien on 01798 867199 or at [hello@stgilesgraffham.org](mailto:hello@stgilesgraffham.org)

## Early deadlines for our next two editions



The deadlines for the next couple of editions of *Graffham Parish News* will be slightly earlier than usual because of holiday plans by the editor and printer. If

you have contributions to make for the June and July editions, please be sure to submit them no later than the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. As ever, the earlier you can send them in, then the more likely it is that space can be made available.



Ownership of our Rec could soon be transferred to Graffham Parish Council.

## Ownership of Graffham Rec could come home

Ownership of Graffham Recreation Ground could be transferred from Fields in Trust, the national charity that used to be called the National Playing Fields Association – to Graffham Parish Council. The potential ownership change stems from Fields in Trust’s strategy of divesting itself of land assets.

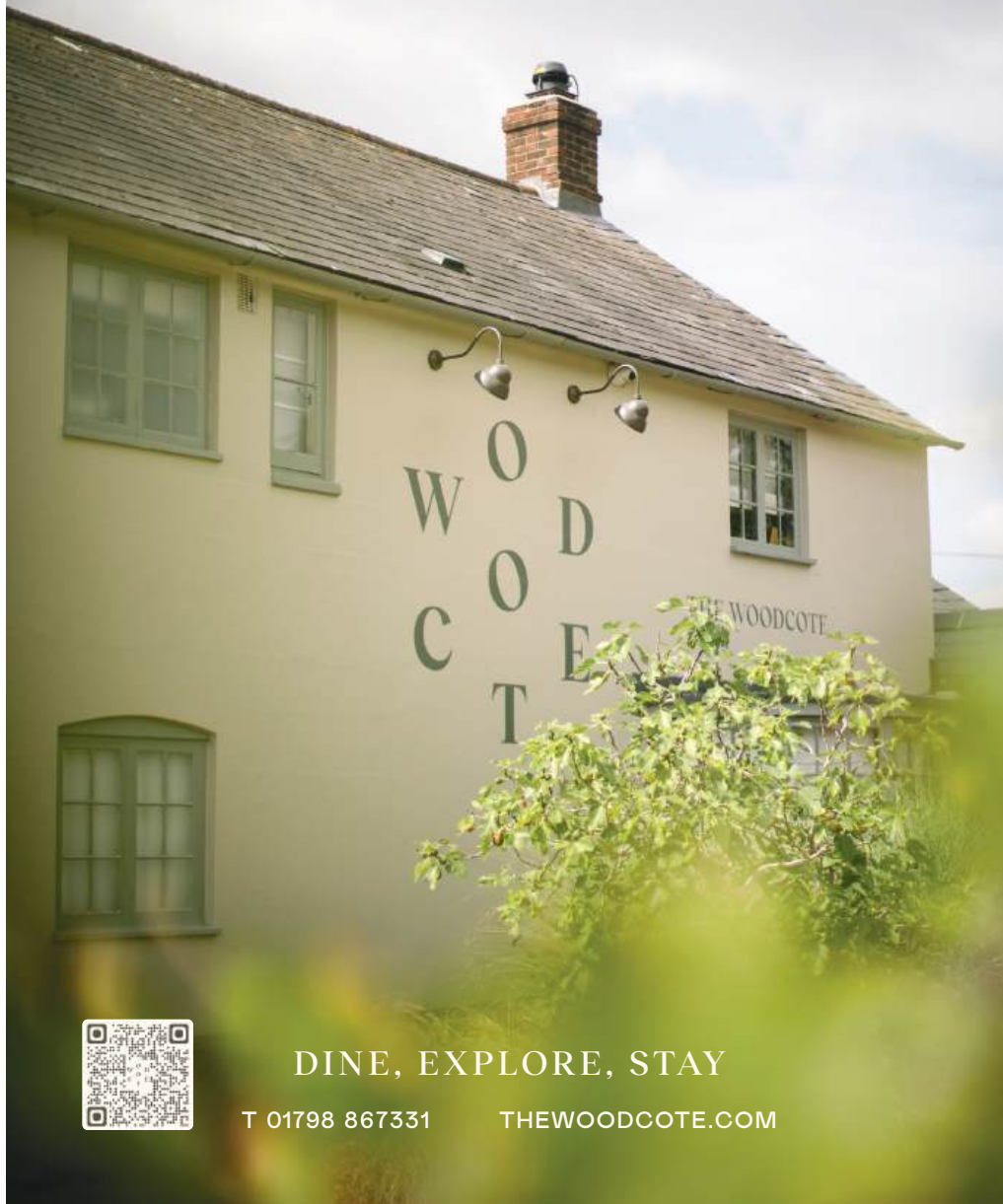
Under a proposed deed of transfer under discussion between the two bodies, the 6.9 acres would continue to be protected in perpetuity as a playing field for the community. No money would change hands – apart from Graffham Parish Council paying the legal costs involved, estimated at £1,500. If all agreements are concluded, the transaction could be completed this year.

The field has been used as the village’s sports ground for around 125 years. It was given in 1948 to the National Playing Fields Association to hold in trust for ever as a public playing field and recreation ground for the community by the Hon Mrs Catherine Baird Macdonald-Buchanan, daughter of Sir James Buchanan (later Lord Woolavington), who had himself, while Lord of the Manors of Graffham and East Lavington bequeathed to the village the Empire Hall and the War Memorial.

Two years later, in 1950, the National Playing Fields Association – which changed its name to Fields in Trust in 2008 – granted a 99-year lease to Graffham Parish Council to maintain the recreation ground and its pavilion under the management of a committee which must comprise two Graffham parish councillors and at least three nominees of the clubs that use the Rec for organised sport and who are not members of the council.

Rec committee chairman John Bracey said: “The change in ownership under discussion, if it comes about, would have no impact on this valuable village asset. Its future as a community open space for organised sport would be guaranteed with the ultimate responsibility for it brought into the hands of the village itself. Graffham Parish Council would continue to be the trustee of the Recreation Ground Trust which oversees the Recreation ground, just as it is today.”

# THE WOODCOTE



DINE, EXPLORE, STAY

T 01798 867331

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

# Boules court is village's latest sporting trophy

Graffham Rec now has a boules court. The latest addition to its sporting facilities was created on 16 April alongside the tennis courts and Play Park. The cost, of just more than £5,000, was funded entirely by contributions from local residents, mainly members of the Cardigan Club silver-haired pubgoers. The groundworks were performed by Jack Strange's JFS Contracting, with the project led from start to finish by Chris Mackie, in coordination with the Recreation Ground Committee.

The new boules court, measuring some 14 x 7 metres, covered in shingle and surrounded by old railway sleepers, is now open to all village residents on a first-come, first-served basis. Take along your own set of boules.

Popular in many European countries, boules is a collective name for a wide range of games similar to bowls, bocce and pétanque, in which the objective is to throw or roll heavy balls as closely as possible to a small target ball, called the jack.



Contractors Mike Donaldson and Jack Strange, of JFS Contracting, seen top left with project mastermind Chris Mackie and the Foresters' Pete Bradley, who lent a hand driving a dumper truck, took just one day to build Graffham's new boules court.



# ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

All residents welcome to attend

## Graffham with Woolavington

**Sunday 10 May at 11.30am (after 10.30am Service)**

**St Giles Church**



*The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Parish of Graffham with Woolavington for 2026 will be held following the Meeting for Election of Churchwardens. The agenda for both meetings will be posted to [www.stgilesgraffham.org](http://www.stgilesgraffham.org) in advance, along with the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements.*

## Graffham

**Wednesday 13 May at 7pm after social drinks from 6.30pm**

**Empire Hall**

*An annual update on what Graffham Parish Council and all other key local organisations are doing for the community, including a progress report on the new Graffham Village Plan and the proposed merger with East Lavington Parish Council.*



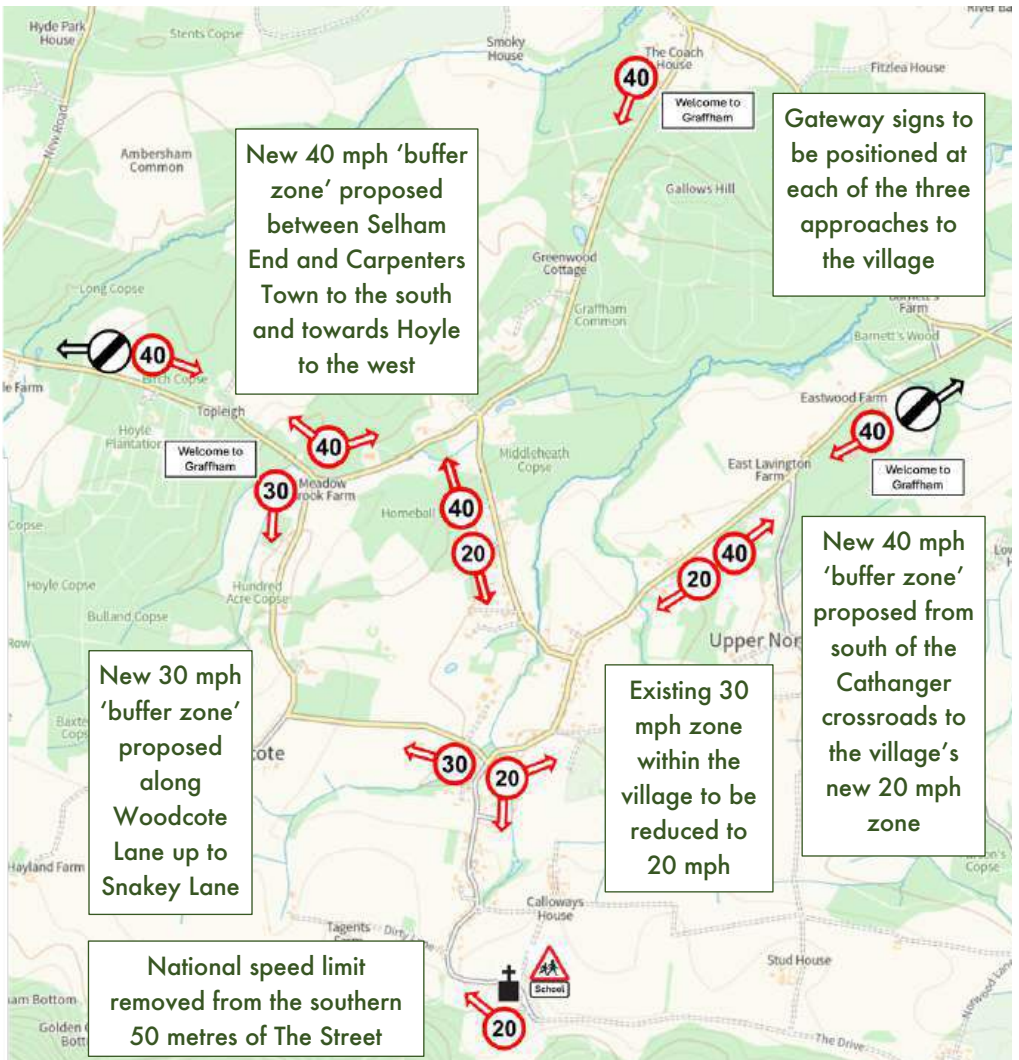
## East Lavington

**Monday 18 May at 6.15pm**

**Sixth Form Café, Seaford College**



*An annual update on what East Lavington Parish Council and all other key local organisations are doing for the community, including a progress report on the proposed merger with Graffham Parish Council.*



## 'Buffer' speed zones proposed with 20mph limit

These will be the speed limits within and around the village if West Sussex County Council's highways officials agree to proposals submitted just after Easter by Graffham Parish Council. The application for a permanent traffic regulation order (TRO) covering all these recommendations follows extensive public consultation across the community in the past year showing overwhelming support for the move for the current 30mph restriction in the village centre to be reduced to 20mph. Also, because "buffer zones" are needed between areas where 20mph and the

▶ *Continued from previous page*

► *Continued from previous page*

national speed limits apply, the parish council is proposing new restrictions on all approaches to The Street.

On Woodcote Lane, this would see the current national speed limit replaced by a 30mph restriction, from the Pound junction with The Street to Snakey Lane.

There would also be 40mph “buffers” approaching the village, from near the Cathanger junction to the east, from around Hoyle Farm to the west and from Selham End to the north. There is talk of Selham also seeking a speed limit through its village so this 40mph restriction could be extended further north.

In addition, the current anomaly whereby the national speed limit applies to the final 50 or so metres of The Street at its far southern end would end, with the new 20mph limit applied up to where it meets Seaford College’s West Gate and the bridleway up to Graffham Down.

As part of its new village plan, Graffham Parish Council also proposes to introduce ‘gateways’ with signage, designed to be appropriate to our rural setting, at each entrance to the village. It continues to work, too, 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 and sat navs from using these lanes as rat runs and making them safer for walkers, horse-riders and cyclists.

Graffham Parish Council Chairman Gillian Charlesworth said: “The need for additional traffic calming in and approaching the village is the number one topic raised by residents, in particular in relation to the recently approved expansion of The Woodcote. We hope the highways authority will be supportive of our proposals, which have been developed after exhaustive consultation.”

West Sussex County Council (WSCC) says it can take around a year for a TRO application to be implemented. It first assesses the application against its established policies. If it supports the proposal, further feasibility and design work may be needed and it would then be subject to a three-week statutory consultation, with notices in the local paper and displayed in the village. WSCC points out that an application may be implemented in full, in part or declined in the light of objections or representations.

## **Average speed cameras on A285 and A272?**

Average speed cameras could soon be introduced on some of the major roads around Graffham. Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne is asking local residents to give their views on the proposal – which would see the devices

installed on sections of the A285 between Petworth and Halnaker and on the A272 between Petworth and Midhurst.

Average speed cameras measure a vehicle's speed across a long stretch of road rather than at a single spot. They use Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) to record its entry and exit time between at least two cameras to calculate its average speed. If this exceeds the limit, the driver faces a fine.

Commissioner Bourne said: "Local people have been contacting my office about speeding, dangerous driving and vehicle noise on these roads. They want to know what can be done to slow cars down and some have suggested average speed cameras which have been proven to work in other parts of Sussex and across the border in Surrey. If you live around these roads or use them, I'd like to hear your thoughts on measures to make them safer."

You can complete the survey at [bit.ly/average-speed-cameras-Petworth](https://bit.ly/average-speed-cameras-Petworth)

## Food waste collections now in service here

Food waste recycling began in Graffham last month. Bins were dropped off to households throughout the village at the beginning of April with the first collection in most of the village made the next week – on Tuesday 7 April.

Each home was issued with a small caddy to use in its kitchen along with a starter roll of bin liners, plus an outside bin for putting by the road on collection days and instructions on how to use the new service. For most of Graffham, collections are now every Tuesday. Bins should be by the roadside by 6am.

The service is being run by Chichester District Council under a directive issued by Rishi Sunak's Conservative government before the most recent general election.

The food waste collected locally goes to an anaerobic digestion plant in Horsham, which recycles it into fertiliser for farmers and energy to power the unit. If there is extra energy, it's sent to the national grid to power homes and businesses.

For details on what you can put in the bin and more information, including collection days, go to [chichester.gov.uk/article/39711/food-waste](https://chichester.gov.uk/article/39711/food-waste)



# Keiran to take over after Gary's last post

Postman Gary Hamilton is taking an early retirement from the Royal Mail on 6 June after 41 years' service – covering the Graffham and Selham round for the past 15 years. He will be succeeded by Keiran Mason, who hails from nearby Boxgrove and who has been a postman for a year after working as a delivery driver for an



Keiran (right) will be delivering post to properties in Graffham and Selham from next month after Gary retires.

insurance company. Carmine Simac will continue to deliver mail to the other half of Graffham as he has since 2007.

Gary, who joined the Royal Mail at the age of 19, is looking forward to spending more time with his wife – although he says he will miss the many friends he has made in Graffham and Selham. Keiran has been joining him on the round here in recent weeks to learn the ropes.

# Fiona succeeds Sarah as HSA Chairman

Graffham Health Support Association (HSA) has a new Chairman. Sarah Lydiard-Wilson stepped down from the role at its annual general meeting on Tuesday 15 April in the Empire Hall, after four years in the position. Fiona Jacob is succeeding her. Fiona has lived in the village for around five years and served until recently as a member of Graffham Parish Council. Sarah is staying on the committee – along with its other members Yvonne Churchward (as Membership Secretary), Zoe Jones (Treasurer), Karin Skanberg (Equipment Officer) and Mary Taylor (Secretary), along with Diana Mitchell and Tracey Cluse. In her Chairman's report, Sarah reflected on “another positive year for

the HSA with the wonderful support of all our volunteer drivers and collectors and the hard work of our committee members”.

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

# Thiago brings his artistry to Foresters' kitchen

The Foresters Arms has a new chef – Thiago Borges, who was born in the far south of Brazil but has lived most of his life in the UK. He now has a decade of experience in pub kitchens, working most recently at the Rose and Crown, near Alton, until he was lured to Graffham's historic inn.

He describes his style of cooking as “good, comfortable, refined pub food with loads of flavour”. While, as a Brazilian, he is “a big steak guy”, he prefers cooking fish dishes, as “it needs more skill”. Since arriving at the Foresters, he has gradually refined the menu week by week in response to customer feedback and to reflect the seasons and weather. “I love it here,” he said. “It's so nice to be able to build a relationship with regular customers. People have been so friendly since I arrived.”

Although Thiago has always wanted to cook, he could have been an artist or tattooist. He has appeared twice on Sky TV's *Landscape Artist of the Year* series. Although he chuckles that his mother doesn't really approve, he also has his own tattoo gun: “I've done all my own legs!”

Married to Maria with three children – two teenagers and a toddler – he is currently commuting to Graffham from his home near Camberley: “It's a beautiful drive.”



Thiago at work at the Foresters and (below) one of the paintings that won him a place on TV's *Landscape Artist of the Year*.



## Midhurst and Petworth aim to be Town of Culture

Midhurst and Petworth are both aiming to be the official UK Town of Culture 2028. The idea has been launched by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, building on the City of Culture programme. Towns throughout the UK can apply. Those shortlisted will receive £60,000 to develop a full bid, with the winner given £3 million to stage six months of cultural activities.

## Sue and Richard to open their galleries

Graffham artists Sue Hill and Richard Davidson will be opening their galleries for the first weekend of June, offering neighbours and visitors a chance to view their work – and buy any that take their fancy with a share of the proceeds going to St



Sue in front of her 'wall of Graffham' paintings.

Giles Church. Sue's collection will include her new "wall of Graffham" – a collection of 16 paintings of village scenes, some in watercolour and others in oil, including views of the Downs, the common, farms and houses, with prices ranging from £50 to £250. Their galleries will be open from Friday to Sunday, 5-7 June, from 11am to 5pm daily. Sue is a former art director for *Nova*, *Cosmopolitan* and *You* magazines. Richard was a city lawyer for 27 years before going to Chelsea and then Wimbledon Schools of Art.

## National Emergency screening discussion

A special screening of the film *National Emergency Briefing* is to take place at the South Downs National Park Memorial Hall in Midhurst on Thursday 14 May – followed by a panel discussion involving key local environmental influencers.

The 45-minute film features footage from a gathering of leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, national security and nature, including naturalist Chris Packham, presenting an overview of how global warming is affecting everyday life in Britain and evidence supporting the risks and responses involved. It has been backed by a range of non-partisan organisations including the National Trust, the Church of England, the Royal Meteorological Society, WWF and the National Education Union.

The Midhurst screening starts at 6.30pm, with doors opening at 6pm. Panellists invited to take part in the discussion afterwards include South Downs National Park Authority Chief Executive Sión McGeever, South Downs MP Andrew Griffith, West Sussex Rivers Trust's Chief Executive Aimee Felus and the incoming Chief Executive of Sussex Wildlife Trust, Nic Scothern.



Westminster is now considering merging Chichester with three other district councils in the north of West Sussex – Horsham, Crawley and Mid-Sussex – whereas West Sussex County Council wanted to become a unitary authority in its own right (Option A) while Chichester District Council preferred merging with Arun and Worthing (Option B1).

## CDC may merge with Horsham, Crawley and Mid

Chichester District Council (CDC) could be merged with neighbouring Horsham plus Crawley and Mid-Sussex to create a new unitary authority under draft proposals for local government across our county unveiled by Westminster in late March, with all the recommendations put forward by the current councils after their consultation exercises last year set to be rejected.

The timetable for the switch to the new administrations has not been changed. West Sussex County Council (WSCC) along with CDC and its counterparts across the county are set to be scrapped from April 2028, when the new single-tier authorities are scheduled to take over.

WSCC had proposed morphing into one of the new single-tier authorities in its entirety, while CDC wanted to merge with Arun and Worthing, with Horsham, Crawley, Mid-Sussex and Adur combining to form another unitary authority.

Westminster was failed to be convinced with either scheme, however. Besides its proposed Chichester-Horsham-Crawley-Mid-Sussex axis (which would have a population of some 565,000), it is also aiming to bring Arun, Worthing and Adur together (350,000 population). Brighton and Hove would be expanded to include some of its neighbouring parishes to the east (308,000 population), leaving the rest of East Sussex to combine as another unitary authority (540,000 population).

Rather than making an immediate ruling, central government will now put this set of plans out for consultation after this month's local government elections, with a final decision due in the summer. Elections to the new bodies have been inked in for May next year.

CDC leader Adrian Moss said: "The delay is very disappointing, as the on-going

uncertainty reduces the time available for planning and preparation on the final decision and heightens the risks to delivering a smooth transition for our residents.”

WSCC leader Paul Marshall added: “We are disappointed that, despite the hard work of councils in West Sussex to develop two proposals

implementable for local government reorganisation in the county, the government has taken six months to decide to reject both of the sustainable options put forward.”

Meantime, the new Sussex and Brighton Strategic Authority, which will bring the single-tier authorities across the county together, held its first meeting, on Wednesday 15 April at Brighton Town Hall. Representatives from West and East Sussex County Councils and Brighton and Hove City Council established the authority’s initial governance arrangements, pending the first election of a Mayor for Sussex and Brighton, scheduled for May 2028.



**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.

## Five hoping for your vote in 7 May election

Voters in Graffham will be able to elect a candidate to represent the village on West Sussex County Council on Thursday 7 May. The Empire Hall is our ballot station, open from 7am to 10pm on the day. You need to take an approved form of photo identity with you to be able to vote, such as a passport or driving licence.

Graffham and East Lavington are part of the council’s Rother Valley division, which covers a total of 13 parishes, making it the biggest in the county. Besides our village, it stretches north beyond Fernhurst to the Surrey border to Cocking in the south west across to Bury in the east, also including Easebourne, Lickfold, Lodsworth, Heyshott, Duncton, Sutton and Bignor.

Across West Sussex, 70 councillors will be elected – to represent their divisions

until the county council and district and borough councils make way in April 2028 for the proposed new single-tier authorities (see page 13).

Currently, West Sussex is controlled by Conservatives, with 38 members. Liberal Democrats are the next biggest party, with 10 councillors, then Labour with eight, followed by the Green and Independent Alliance with a total of five. Reform and Independents have four each, with one vacancy.

Five candidates are standing in the election for our Rother Valley division:

**Ginny Barrett, Green**, was born and brought up in Graffham. She worked as an NHS consultant in dentistry and has served extensively in various voluntary roles in the community, including as churchwarden at St Giles, as a governor at Midhurst Rother College and Graffham Infant School, and for Weald Action Group, which campaigns for proper regulation of pollution from local oil wells.



**John Cross, Liberal Democrat**, has since May 2023 represented our Fittleworth ward on Chichester District Council, of which he has served as Deputy Chairman. He also chairs Sutton and Barlavington Parish Council, where he lives. For most of his working life he was a teacher in further and higher education, specialising in conservation and design. He now makes and conserves wooden objects.

**Daniel Hall, Reform**, who, according to West Sussex County Council's confirmation of candidates standing in the election, lives in Horsham. Further biographical details or a photograph had not been identified as this edition went to press.



**Roger Pask, Labour**, lives in Arun district and serves as treasurer of the Arundel and South Downs constituency Labour Party. He worked for 25 years as a teacher, heading large urban secondary schools and then for another 25 years in leadership development. He founded Sanctuary in Chichester in 2015 to welcome and support refugees. He is a father and grandfather and passionate lover of the arts.

**Tom Richardson, Conservative**, has represented our Rother Valley division on West Sussex County Council since 2021, reviewing and rewriting its speed limit policy and posting on Facebook updates about road closures and local issues. A former police officer, he is now landlord of Selham's The Three Moles and serves as maintenance officer for Graffham's Empire Hall.



# From Town Hall: Timetable for new authorities

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



Whatever the result of the elections on 7 May (see pages 14-15), our county and district councils have an enormous amount of work to do to meet the government's deadline for their replacement with the planned new unitary authorities.

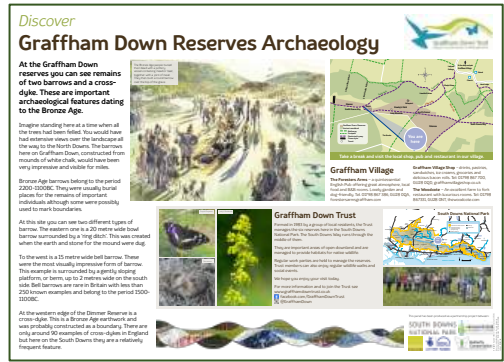
In neighbouring Hampshire, despite stating that it would not consider options that would divide existing districts or boroughs because this would require a boundary review, Westminster has ruled that a boundary review will be required to meet its wishes for the county! This gives its councils very little time to prepare for the hand over to the new unitary authorities before they take over in May 2027. Some would argue it's an impossible task.

If that is not bad enough, here in Sussex our county, district and borough councils are in an even more perilous position. The government, despite holding these councils' feet to the fire to deliver proposals for the unitary authorities that will take over from them, has failed to respond according to its own March 2026 deadline. Incredulously, Westminster has countered with another proposal of its own that contradicts, in so many ways, its own guidelines and instructions (see page 13). It beggars belief. All the councils of Sussex must now consider this new proposal. But it's like comparing chalk with cheese as the parameters of the government's own proposal are completely different to those submitted by the councils here, because the goal posts have been moved.

Parliamentary legislation must be complete by the summer recess this year to give time to establish the new unitary authorities on time. How on earth will this happen in Sussex, when the government is still consulting on the options until July this year, is unclear. Effectively, the earliest the legislation will be completed will be October or November – and that assumes there are no boundary reviews. Yet, the government proposal includes a significant boundary change.

In short, I would be highly surprised if any unitary authority in Sussex is up and running by the proposed 1 May 2027 date. But, hey, what do I know?!

**To advertise in Graffham Parish News, contact  
[ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)**



# New information displays on Graffham Down

Two new interpretation display boards have been installed by Graffham Down Trust on its reserves above the village – thanks to grants it received from the South Downs National Park Authority through its community infrastructure levy (CIL) fund, financed by developers in the region. One of the signs focusses on the reserves’ wildlife. It is positioned at the eastern entrance to Bowleys Field. The other, at the entrance to Parish field, details the site’s fascinating archaeology. Both also give visitors useful information about where they can refresh themselves in the village itself.

Each board, designed by the Acorn Workshop for the trust, measures around 3 ft by 2 ft, and is installed in an oak mount.



# Sculpture garden opens in aid of Heyshott Down

The Murray Downland Trust, which manages the nature reserve on Heyshott Down bordering Graffham Down Trust’s, is holding its main annual fund-raising event on Saturday 9 May from 11am to 4pm, with an open garden at Cocking’s Casters Brook (GU29 0HJ), the home of internationally renowned sculptor Philip Jackson CVO and his wife Jean.

Philip will be displaying his sculptures and giving talks, and there will be a plant sale, stalls, cafe, refreshments and entertainments including a ukulele band. Entrance is £8 for adults, with no charge for under 16s.

Besides its Heyshott Down reserve, the Murray Downland Trust manages five other nature reserves in Sussex and Hampshire.

# Water, cable and tree works to close roads



Fitzlea Wood Road is slated to remain closed throughout May while contractors working for Southern Water install new water connections. Selham Road will be shut on 29 April for up to a day to allow OpenReach to carry out network repairs. Graffham Common Road faces closure on 7 May for tree works to be carried out.

# Petworth to open gates to its 'secret gardens'

Petworth's secret garden trail will take place this year on Sunday 7 June, from 1 to 5.30pm. A dozen and more normally private gardens in the town will open their gates to visitors, in aid of local charities. Tickets are £7.50 for adults, with children under 12 free and teenagers and those on universal credit paying £5.

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



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](http://www.msbc.uk.com)  
[admin@msbc.uk.com](mailto:admin@msbc.uk.com)

## AWARDS



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





## Take a bow for clearing fallen bough

The community rallied around when a tree was brought down in high winds on mid-afternoon of Wednesday 25 March, blocking Popple Hill while Fitzlea Wood Road was already closed for Southern Water works – cutting the village off entirely from the east.

Motorists who could not get through included several with chainsaws on board – who immediately set to work. Within a few minutes, the fallen timber had been cut and cleared off the lane. Policemen passing on patrol swept the lane of debris. By nightfall, all the debris from the tree had been cleared tidily away – and at 8am the next morning BT OpenReach was on site to replace the fibre optic broadband cable that had been taken down by the falling timber.





**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.**



# Planning applications and 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](https://bit.ly/sdnp-planning)*

## Third time lucky for Tangletrees

South Downs National Park and Chichester District Council planners have given the green light for Tangletrees, overlooking Graffham Recreation Ground, to be replaced with a new eco-friendly house at the third time of asking, after blocking the two initial proposals.

As part of the approval process, the applications have entered into a “Section 106” agreement altering the area designated as “residential curtilage” within the property’s overall boundaries, enabling the building to be sited on a north to south axis instead of the present west to east.

The planners felt the previous application “would result in a dominant and incongruous form of development which would be out of character with the pattern of development and local vernacular of the area failing to conserve and enhance the landscape character of the South Downs National Park”. They concluded, however, that the revised proposal would be a “sympathetic addition”, with its scale and design integrating well within the landscape” and respecting the local character and distinctiveness of the area, even though it attracted 26 letters of objection.

Among the 32 conditions imposed is the need for a construction management plan including access by and parking of builders’ and suppliers’ vehicles.

## Applications

**Firtree Cottages, Graffham Common Road, Graffham GU28 0PT:** Internal alterations to amalgamate two adjoining semi-detached dwellings into a single dwellinghouse. *SDNP/26/01264/LDP. Validated 31 Mar 2026. Consultation ends 1 May 2026.*

**Little Bury, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QG:** External alterations in relation to change of use of agricultural building to Class C1 permitted under prior approval. *SDNP/26/00408/FUL. Validated 11 Mar 2026. Consultation ended 21 Apr 2026.*

**Willow Cottage, Beechwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0NA:** Replacement extension and internal and external alterations. *SDNP/26/00830/HOUS and SDNP/26/00831/LIS. Validated 12 Mar 2026. Consultation ended 27 Apr 2026.*

# *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)



# Property watch

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



**11 Wallace Square, Lavington Park GU28 0FJ:** Detached house, four bedrooms, three bathrooms plus cloakroom, living room, kitchen/diner, utility. 189sq m (2,036sq ft). Garden. Double garage. £1.4 million. *Comyn & James, Pulborough 01798 303595. Listed 16 April.*

**Woodcote Cottages, Graffham GU28 0NY:** Semi-detached house, three bedrooms, one bathroom, sitting room, conservatory, kitchen, utility. 86 sq m (929 sq ft). Generous garden. £450,000. *Southdowns Properties, Midhurst 01730 771322. Listed 27 March.*



**Heath End, GU28 0JQ:** Semi-detached cottage, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, kitchen/diner, hall. 98sq m (1,057sq ft). Garden with detached home office. Guide £495,000. *Savills, Petworth 01798 303558. Listed 10 April.*

**Council Cottages, Heath End, GU28 0JQ:** Semi-detached house, four bedrooms, two bathrooms, lounge, kitchen/diner. Double garage with guest bedroom and wet room above. 138 sq m (1,486 sq ft). Wraparound garden. £700,000. *Cubitt & West, Pulborough 01798 309665. Listed 14 April.*



**Trimmers Cottage, Heyshott GU29 0DL:** Semi-detached cottage, three bedrooms, one bathroom plus cloakroom, living room, kitchen/diner. 85sq m (915sq ft). Garden with shed. Guide £625,000. *Southdown Properties, Midhurst 01798 771322. Listed 10 April.*

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



**Woodcote Farm, Woodcote Lane, Graffham GU28 0NY:** Newly built four bedroomed farmhouse in a rural setting with separate one bedroomed annexe and car port. 381sq m (4,100sq ft). £10,000pcm. *The Country House Company, Hampshire. 0293 263 2275. Listed 10 April.*

**The Old Orchard, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QA:** Detached house, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room, kitchen, utility. Garden with shed and office. 120 sq m (1,293 sq ft). £2,750pcm. *Cubitt & West, Pulborough 01798 309665. Listed 27 March.*



Applause Rural Touring &  
Empire Hall, Graffham present

# Behind Enemy Lines

by

*Louise Jordan*

SONGWRITER, MUSICIAN, AND STORYTELLER

Saturday, May 16th 8.00pm

A powerful true story of courage, secrecy and sacrifice - with deep local connections.

Behind Enemy Lines brings to life the extraordinary women of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) who operated undercover in Nazi-occupied France during the Second World War. Through original song, live music and immersive storytelling, Louise Jordan reveals lives lived in the shadows - brave, resourceful and determined.

These secret histories are closely connected to our own area:

- SOE training took place around Midhurst and Petworth
- French resistance fighters parachuted in for joint exercises
- Missions were dispatched from nearby Tangmere air base

*"A great mix  
of song, dance  
and words."*

*"An amazing,  
moving and poignant  
performance."*

*"Not just theatre – it was  
remembrance. Insightful,  
meticulously researched and  
profoundly moving."*

Salisbury Journal

*"Hugely, hugely  
impressive."*

**applause**

Cultivating creativity  
Connecting communities



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

Empire Hall, Graffham, GU28 0QB

Tickets £12.50 + £0.75 booking fee [buytickets.at/empeirehallgraftam](http://buytickets.at/empeirehallgraftam)



As soon as the doors opened, punters flocked in eager to pick up some of the beautiful and tasty crafts and edibles on offer.

## Easter Market raises £3,000 for Empire Hall

A colourful, sunny Graffham Easter Market raised a bumper £3,000 for the Empire Hall on Saturday 12 April – matching last year’s total which itself was 25 per cent up on the previous year.

First time organisers Sissy Theobald and Katie Sacks said: “Thank you to everyone who helped make the first Easter Fair we’ve overseen such fun and such a success

► *Continued on next page*



The raffle team was kept busy throughout the fair (left), while the Bowden family ran a popular Easter egg hunt to keep the youngsters happy.



The bread stall quickly sold out of its home-crafted loaves – almost as fast as the cakes and other bakes on the home produce stand.

► *Continued from previous page*


– the wonderful people who helped with the setting up and putting away, the friendly and creative stallholders, the amazing café team, the bakers and preservers contributing to the home produce stall, the Easter egg hunt gang, the raffle team and all those who so generously donated prizes and, of course, everyone who visited – and there were a lot of you! – and flashed your cash. What a fantastic, friendly and fun market it was!” The Easter Market is one of the main fundraisers



**Spring clean** The village’s ‘grand old lady’ was being given an intense spring clean as this edition of *Graffham Parish News* went to press, in an initiative led by its management committee. Outside, access to the Empire Hall was given a power wash and lick of paint with the flagpole restored complete with a new Union flag, and the stage sanded and recoated. The entrance foyer was among the areas redecorated, with a smaller noticeboard fitted to give it a neater, more welcoming look.

to maintain our unique village hall and keep its hire charges as low as possible for villagers. Around £1,000 worth of wonderful raffle prizes, generously donated by local businesses and individuals, brought in around a quarter of the market's total proceeds. The home produce stall sold out way before official closing time, while the café never had a break.

The Easter egg hunt proved a great hit with the youngsters, while the many stallholders – selling goodies ranging from beautiful baby blankets to garden ironwork, wooden bowls and boards, freshly home baked bread, Slow Grown Farm cheese and charcuterie, woollen goods, colourful bags and rugs, vintage items and artwork – all did a roaring trade.

		Who won what in the raffle
1	Family ticket to West Dean gardens	Ros Britton
2	Mill Yard's wild sauna and cold water therapy	Linda French
3	Large Easter egg (donated by Ann Brown)	Georgie Clark
4	Two-course meal for two at Foresters Arms	Philippa Sanders
5	1-2-1 one hour session with Dogs Doing Better	Sally Blunt
6	A bottle of bubbly from Hennings	Russell Smith
7	A scented candle	Phillipa Sanders
8	A painting of St Ives by Sue Hill	Dinah Lamming
9	Graffham Village Shop and stallholders hamper	Sandy Macqueen
10	A spring planter from Spriggs Florists, Petworth	William
11	Tickets for two to Goodwood horseracing	Mrs Villiers
12	Spa and lunch with fizz for two at Spread Eagle	Jill McLean
13	Golf coaching with Seaford's Andy Shakespear	Julie Tupper
14	A spring planter from Graffham Garden Group	Peter Tyrie
15	Lunch for two with a wine at The Woodcote	Rosemary Sutton
16	Voucher for Petworth's Maggie and Belle	John Sutton
17	Tour with BBQ lunch for four at Slow Grown Farm	Matilda Shelton-Agar
18	The Three Moles Sunday lunch for two	Tom Haxworth
19	Cowdray Golf Club four ball round	Georgie Clark
20	Pair of Goodwood Festival of Speed tickets	Sally Blunt
21	Family ticket to West Dean gardens	Emma Perry



## 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 9th May 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)

Tickets available in advance from the school offices – 01798 867324

**Refreshments available on the night!**

# School report: Spring turns to summer



*Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Business Manager Jenny Godfrey provides her monthly update on what is going on at our village schools.*

**Spring turns to summer** The spring term drew to a close with a number of memorable events for both Graffham and Duncton schools, celebrating learning, community and tradition. As always, we are enormously thankful for the support of our churches, families and wider community. These experiences help to create lasting memories for the children and enrich school life in so many ways. We look forward to the summer term ahead and all it will bring.

**Easter services** Both schools were delighted to hold end-of-term services in our local churches – a wonderful opportunity for children to share their work and reflections with their families. The Graffham service took place at St Giles, led by Rev Vivien. The children confidently shared examples of their recent learning and filled the church with joyful singing, making it a truly uplifting occasion. Duncton School's service was held at Holy Trinity, led by Father David Crook. Year 6 pupils retold the events of Holy Week, with singing from children across the school. It was a reflective and moving service, greatly appreciated by all who attended.

**Egg rolling** Following the Graffham service, we were fortunate once again to enjoy the school's traditional egg-rolling event – a much-loved custom that has been part of school life for decades. Our children proudly brought along their decorated eggs and were joined by younger friends from Mini Explorers Nursery. Eggs were carefully rolled down the hill and measured to see which travelled the furthest in each year group, with chocolate prizes awarded to the winners. The event was full of fun and excitement, enjoyed by children and adults alike. ▶ *Continued on page 30*





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**



**Seaford support** Both our schools have been grateful for the support of Seaford College this term. Some of its students have recently begun visiting Graffham to listen to children read, providing encouragement and valuable one-to-one time. At Duncton, Sixth Form students helped to lead Easter fun activities and run an enjoyable disco, which proved very popular with the children.



Easter bonnet making at Duncton, in an activity led by Seaford sixth formers.

**Celebrating the Downs** Year 5/6 children at Duncton are taking part in the Downscape project celebrating the South Downs through creating poetry and music. We are grateful to The Arts Society for including our school in such a wonderful project.

**Theatre outing** Duncton pupils rounded off the spring term with a special visit to Chichester Festival Theatre, where they watched a production of Roald Dahl's *The BFG*. The trip was a fantastic experience, sparking excitement and imagination, and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended.

### **Fund-raising for our new kitchens**

We are extremely grateful for all of the donations so far towards our kitchen project at Graffham and Duncton schools. At the time of writing we have raised an amazing £2,010 and although we have a fair way to go we are confident that we can reach our final target of £7,500. Keep an eye on our social media and website for updates as we embark on this exciting journey!

**Follow us on social media** Keep in touch through our social media:

- [instagram.com/graffhamanddunton](https://www.instagram.com/graffhamanddunton) schools
- [facebook.com/graffhamanddunton](https://www.facebook.com/graffhamanddunton)

A recruitment poster for a 'Head Chef' position. The poster features a cartoon chef character holding a spatula and a plate of food. The background shows a large, traditional stone building, likely the school. The text is in various colors and fonts, including 'WE ARE HIRING!' in large orange letters. The poster lists the job details: '25 Hours p/w Weekdays Term time'. It also lists three benefits: 'A supportive and close-knit school community', 'Opportunities to grow professionally and build fantastic working relationships', and 'A beautiful setting in the heart of the South Downs National Park'. At the bottom, it provides contact information: 'To find out more: email: office@graffhaminfant.org.uk phone: 01798 867324 www.graffhamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk'. There is a circular logo for 'GRAFFHAM INFANT SCHOOL' in the bottom right corner.



A busy day on Graffham Bowls Clubs' lawn in 2013.

## Graffham Chronicles: Bowling for 100 years

*In her column this month, local historian Pauline Goodwin looks back at the history of Graffham Bowls Club, which celebrates its centenary this season.*

One hundred years ago, in a corner of the playing field donated to the village by Lord Woolavington, three men of Graffham saw an opportunity. This was before the age of mobility, so village-based entertainments and diversions were actively sourced. Local clubs served as centres of social life, providing not only recreation but also a sense of belonging and community spirit.

An article displayed today in the Graffham Bowls Club pavilion tells us that on one summer evening of 1925, following a meeting of the village Flower Show committee, these three men stood on the step outside the Empire Hall – George Howick, Andrew Robertson and “Tine” Evens.

Their conversation concerned village sport and the facilities available. Certainly, at this time several landowners made a provision for sport, such as the tennis courts at The White Horse, Woodside (now Ricardos) and The Sheiling. The suggestion that the sport of bowls would interest villagers gained interest. Halsey Ricardo, who was always keen to promote village sport, offered those interested the use of his Woodside lawns to have a trial game of bowls. With their appetite whetted, enthusiasm to play more regularly grew, and permission was obtained from Lord Woolavington to make a bowling green in the corner of the Recreation Ground he had made available to the village (see page 3). The bold pioneers set to work, with Charlie Braiden and Bert Nudd joining the original trio, labouring with their

shovels, evening after evening, to remove tons of clay to create a flat surface. Their task seemed to be never ending. Their spirits hit the floor when they thought they were near completion. John Robertson, the agent for Lord Woolavington's estate, visited with his theodolite – and told the toilers that the natural slope from south to north meant that the south end would have to go down another 3 ft. Tons and tons more clay was dug out and rolled away to create finally a creditable bowling green. A charming little pavilion thatched with heath was built at one end – and Graffham's very own bowling green was truly launched.

Three photographs of that original shelter are still displayed today in the current pavilion. Unfortunately, the original shelter, at the southern end, blew down in 1987. It was replaced by a new one commissioned by Ruby Allen in memory of her husband Don who had been chair of the Bowls Club committee (*Graffham Parish News* April 2026).

This original shelter proved to be too small to act as a pavilion, so Lord Woolavington had an old, disused Mission chapel rebuilt at the opposite, northern end of the green. This pavilion became a

▶ *Continued on next page*



**Early Graffham Bowls Clubs members.**

Picture courtesy of Graffham Archive.



**The original shelter at the south end of the green, which blew down in 1987.**

Picture from Graffham Archive.



**The club's 'new' pavilion, pictured here in 2013, 11 years after it was built in 2002 – with an electricity supply for the first time.**

► *Continued from previous page*

welcome addition to Rec's facilities. I remember one of the Celebrity Sports Days when I sat down to tea in this "tin" pavilion with the other tennis players and celebrities including stage and screen actress Dame Wendy Hiller, then quite elderly, and actors Sebastian Abineri and Andrew Cruickshank, one of the stars of *Dr Finlay's Casebook*. Without electricity, this was a true triumph as we were served steaming hot cups of tea! The building was lit by gas mantels, as indeed was the main original Rec pavilion. I remember having to light these very delicate mantels. They were a nightmare!

Den Petter (see page 36) was secretary of the Bowls Club for more than 20 years, taking over in 1995 from my mother, Joan Challen, who was a non-playing member. Den introduced his non-playing wife, Brenda, to the sport and he reminds us that she actually became a better player than him! He recalls that Graham Kingsmill was the long-standing club captain for all this time, playing a key role in everything that went on there.

The original "tin" pavilion was in service until 2002 when its timbers were found to be full of woodworm and rot. A new one was built at the cost of £25,000. Graham Kingsmill led the fund-raising with the help of Don Allen, securing various grants and donations and arranging many fund-raising activities.

This new pavilion was designed and built by stable makers Ascot of Fernhurst – with electricity installed there for the first time. But the electricity supply had to be renewed in 2013 to comply with regulations – with yet more digging required!

Village bowls attracted a diverse range of competitors. Some came to the sport after participating in more physically demanding activities such as football and cricket. My father, Richard (Dick) Challen, was among the many who continued playing well into their sixties. Others started bowls at a younger age, capitalising



on their well-developed coordination skills rather than athletic prowess – like Lillie Puttick who played an excellent game known for its precision. She was one of the club's long-time members, following Eddie Loring as Club President. Maintaining the green in

perfect condition has required significant effort throughout the years. It was completely replaced in 2002 when the grass failed. During its 100 years, numerous volunteer green keepers have tended to the lawn. The surface must be mowed frequently to keep the grass at a constant height of between 1.2 and 2.22 mm. The green that was dug out all those years ago has proved to be capacious enough to provide more playing space when the club was at its most successful. Up until the 1990s the club had grown and become very successful as more members joined, with the green large enough for four rinks or lanes to be used at the same time.

As the old article displayed in its pavilion states: “It is a memorial to the initiative, the energy and the public spirit of its creators.”

## All set to celebrate this centenary season

Today’s Graffham Bowls Club has around 20 regular members, aged from their teens to the nineties, each paying an annual subscription of just £40 towards maintaining its facilities. New players are always more than welcome – and are offered an initial three taster sessions for free. Just turn up on any Monday evening any time between around 5.30 and 8pm.

The club has never played in formal competitive leagues but has maintained a series of friendly fixtures against other local clubs over the years, accompanied by inter-club rivalry, providing activity and entertainment on the doorstep.

Current club president is Janet Wakeford, who has been a playing member for around 18 years. She succeeded the late Vera O’Hara (*Graffham Parish News* March 2026) in this role 18 months ago. This season’s club captain is Wendy Folkes, with Charlie Tyrell as Vice-Captain. Kym Pegram is treasurer, with his wife Liz as secretary.

This year’s season was due to open on 27 April – with plans to celebrate its centenary at a special tournament on 27 June.



The end-of-season candlelit session has become a popular tradition for the club.

# Den and Brenda mark 65 years of marriage

Long-standing village stalwarts Denis (Den) and Brenda Petter celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 1 April. All Fools Day may seem an unusual date to marry but the couple say there weren't many days available as everyone was trying to wed ahead of the new tax year to make the most of the married couple's allowance.

Den and Brenda first met in 1957, when he was 21 and she 18, at one of the Easebourne dances that took place every week. Den used to travel over from his home in Rogate on a bus and Brenda and her siblings would either walk from their farm at Barnett's Mill in Selham or sometimes take a taxi.

Den was very sweet on Brenda and admits that he used to have to have a few glasses of "Dutch courage" before he was brave enough to ask her for a dance. The relationship really blossomed after Brenda's sister wrote to Den to tell him they would be at the next dance and to arrange a proper date. A lot of their courting was carried out by airmail as Den was in the RAF for a while and, although based at RAF Odiham, had several periods abroad.

They became engaged in 1959. After marrying in Rogate Church on 1 April 1961, they set up their first home in a flat in Portsmouth but soon managed to get back to their home territory when offered a council bungalow in Taylors Field in Midhurst. They were only there for a couple of months before a three-way council swap gave them the opportunity to move to Guillods Cottages in Graffham, where their first



daughter, Caroline, was born during the Big Freeze of 1963, followed by second daughter, Patricia, four years later in 1967.

The family was complete and Den and Brenda worked hard to look after them. Den was working then as a postman in Petworth, frequently doing gardening jobs in the afternoon, and Brenda did various cleaning

around the village. The home garden was very well tended and the family was almost self-sufficient with vegetables and fruit. Many of their neighbours became life-long friends.

In 1993 they were given the opportunity to move to a bungalow at Stuarts Meadow. They have lived there very happily since.

The family has grown considerably, with five grandchildren and ten great grandchildren, who regularly gather at Stuarts Meadow.

Den and Brenda have been very active in Graffham life over the years, becoming involved in many village organisations such as the Recreation Ground, Stoolball Club and in later years the Bowls Club.

Sadly, Den has been in poor health recently and bedridden since February. He is well looked after by Brenda, the family and a team of carers. Nothing would dampen their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, though!

After opening a congratulatory card from the King, they were joined on the big day by a good number of the family while the Rev Vivien took the couple through a renewal of their wedding vows. It was a wonderful and emotional occasion and a perfect way to mark the day.

What makes for a 65-year happy marriage? According to Den and Brenda, it's making sure you have plenty of shared interests and work together on everything.



Den and Brenda pictured on their wedding day 65 years ago and more recently in their Graffham garden.

# Bill's bygones: Muffles, Mikado, Maharajah

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

**10 years ago – May 2016:** *Graffham Parish News* includes a photograph of villager Ian Thornley receiving his OBE from Prince William. Carole and Jim Kirke hold a plant sale with tea and homemade cake at their Boswells Cottage home to raise money for new muffles for the bells at St Giles. A new tree commemorating Dick Challen is planted at the Rec. Michael Blencowe leads a walk on the Downs in search of the Drab Looper moth. Mike Dimmer reports that, with a men's team now entering as well as a ladies', Graffham Tennis Club has 39 matches to play in the East Hants League. Princess Charlotte of Wales born. Sadiq Khan sworn in as Mayor of London. Leicester City win the Premier League. Manchester United win the FA Cup and two days later sack manager Louis van Gaal (José Mourinho takes over). Ukraine wins the Eurovision Song Contest. Deaths of comedy writer Carla Lane (*Liver Birds, Bread*, aged 87), actor Burt Kwouk (*Pink Panther*, 85), Caribbean cricket commentator and journalist Tony Cozier (75).

**25 years ago – May 2001:** Graffham Rustics' golden jubilee production is *The Mikado*, co-directed by Pat and Philip Trower. The Spring Bake is held at the Pavilion, organised by Jane Pine-Coffin and Bumble Findlay, and raises £200 for church funds. Enthronement of the Rt Rev John Hind as Bishop of Chichester. Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott punches an egg-throwing protester in Rhyl. The government relaxes foot and mouth controls. Liverpool win the FA and the UEFA Cups. Estonia wins the Eurovision Song Contest. Deaths of singer Perry Como (88) and comedian Ted Rogers (3-2-1, 65).

**50 years ago – May 1976:** Graffham Rustics present *The Mikado* at the Empire Hall, starring John Ellerton as the Mikado and Maggie Paterson as his daughter-in-law-elect Katisha. A BBC TV crew films a wedding at St Giles for the series *The Brothers*, with the groom played by Colin Baker. More than 50 attend a Midhurst Liberal Association garden tea held at Brook Orchard courtesy of the Bowley sisters (Professor Marian and Dr Agatha). Graffham "Bowling Club" hold a disco at the Empire Hall (admission 60p). Jeremy Thorpe resigns as leader of the Liberal Party. Southampton win the FA Cup. Deaths of Ernest Henry Elliott, formerly gardener at Selham House for Lady Cowdray and the Maharajah of Bahawalpur, and later at Beechwood House (64) and terrorist Ulrike Meinhof (41).

# Plant sale is garden group's next big date

**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. 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.



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

**Thursday 11 June 10.30am**

**Visit to Dale Park House**

**Dale Park House, Madehurst, Arundel BN18 0NP**



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 photography classes:

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

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

# Graffham Parish News' mainly May quiz

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

- 1 George A. Cooper played the part of Graffham in a 1965 film, co-starring Laurence Harvey, Jean Simmons and Honor Blackman, entitled what? [a] *Scraping the Barrel*, [b] *Life at the Top*, [c] *The Avengers Meet Frankenstein*?
- 2 Which local museum, in a building occupied by Mrs Cummings from 1901-1930, opened on 4 May 1996?
- 3 The late Andrew Watson, who died in March aged 64, was bishop of where: [a] Chichester, [b] Guildford, [c] Lewes?
- 4 Amongst European countries, which has the most national holidays: [a] France, [b] Slovakia, [c] Denmark?
- 5 Which London teaching hospital first admitted patients 300 years ago this month: [a] Bart's, [b] Guy's, [c] Gal's?
- 6 For what was the amphibious transport ship USS John P Murtha used last month?
- 7 Which veteran broadcaster, originally a geologist and whose older brother was an actor and director, is 100 years old on 8 May?
- 8 Which English comedian, who took his stage name from his home town and was half of an iconic duo from 1941-1984, was born on 14 May 1926?
- 9 Which English comedian, who was born in Horsham, attended Arundale School in Pulborough and created Stavros the kebab-seller, is 65 this month?
- 10 John Street refereed four world championship finals between 1980 and 1995 in which sport: [a] snooker, [b] darts, [c] eckythump?

---

## FITTLEWORTH GARDEN TRAIL

Sunday 3 and Monday 4 May 2026

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

This year's trail will feature several new gardens, some returning after a few years away and several much-loved favourites.

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

Village Hall opens from 12.30pm.

Gardens open 1-5pm.

Tickets £7.50. Under 16s free.

# Diary of a New Farm: Our new tiny shop

*Katie and Brett Sacks continue their occasional diary as they establish Slow Grown Farm, at Hoyle, on Graffham's Heyshott border.*

It's around this time of year that the new season starts for Slow Grown Farm. We try to time our calving with the grass having a decent head start at growing. At the time of writing, we've had two calves born, with around eight more due. Once a few more of the cows are 'on-line', our 2026 cheesemaking season will begin in earnest. We have cheese aging from the later part of last year that's filled the gap nicely while we haven't been milking.



We're currently busy getting ready for a new version of our on-farm pop-up shop – The Tiny Farm Shop. Instead of once a month, we'll be open every Saturday from 10am to 1pm. As always, you'll find our unpasturised aged cheese, woodland pork charcuterie, 100 per cent grass-fed beef and organic woodland pork.

Primrose with her new son

What's new is we've teamed up with other local artisan producers to offer a curated selection of produce such as organic and biodynamic salad, wood-fired hot sauce, early harvest olive oil and award-winning seeded crackers. We met many of these suppliers at farmers' markets, and their goods are the type that require a bit more effort to get hold of – so we're making it easier for you by bringing them here to the Heyshott/Graffham border!



Most weeks we'll also be serving up our hot bacon baps, made with our nitrate and preservative free bacon – have it to go or enjoy in our sun trap farmyard. You'll find some of our homemade creations in the freezer to make an easy, nutritious meal at home, such as 14-hour smoked pulled pork and roast beef slices. We'll also be restocked with BBQ favourites such as our hand-pressed beefburgers and preservative-free sausages.

Our opening day is Saturday 2 May, and to celebrate we'll have tastings available of most products in the shop – come and sample a nibble! If you haven't visited us yet, you'll find us on the edge of Graffham towards Heyshott, at GU28 0LR

# Come join Graffham Down Trust for a morning at Botany Bay



**Saturday 16 May, 10.30am**

Tour this lovely chalk stream site and look for butterflies in the wildflower meadow and wildlife in the stream – and learn more about this remarkable, rare and diverse spot on our doorstep.

**Tea and cake provided!**

Botany Bay is a privately owned site, close to Seaford College's Duncton entrance, managed by the Botany Bay Conservancy Community Interest Group.

🦋 *Please wear boots or appropriate footwear for uneven paths.*

🦋 *Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

🦋 *To safeguard its wildlife, dogs are not allowed on the site – sorry!*

🦋 *Limited parking, so ride-sharing is encouraged.*

**If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Jude Sennitt at [sennitt2@gmail.com](mailto:sennitt2@gmail.com)**



## **FUTURE 2026 GRAFFHAM DOWN TRUST DATES**

**5 July** Annual picnic in our reserves on Graffham Down

**15 August** Tea in the reserves – a new GDT event!

**10 October** GDT's annual amazing quiz night in the Empire Hall

To find out more about what we do, see [graffhamdowntrust.co.uk](http://graffhamdowntrust.co.uk)



Jonathan's own patch of spotted orchids, more or less self-seeded – and fenced off to save them from being nibbled by passing deer.

## Out and about: Tis the season to spot an orchid

A regular column by villager Jonathan Simons who also posts regularly on the Facebook site *Beautiful Sights In And Around Graffham*.



Common spotted orchid.

Spotted orchids are widespread in grassland in June and increasingly in large gardens around Graffham where ‘no-mow May’ is taking off. We even have found them in St Giles’ churchyard. The ‘spots’ are on the narrow leaves which contrast with those of the earlier-flowering purple orchids which are wider and better described as blotched. The flowers of spotted orchids are usually paler and streaked with lines and dots.

This common spotted orchid is *Dactylorhiza fuchsia*, named after the 16<sup>th</sup> century German botanist Leonhart Fuchs, who also gave his name to Fuchsias. He’s not the Fuchs who crossed the Antarctic – or the nuclear spy.

There is a related species – the heath spotted orchid, *Dactylorhiza maculata*, which, as its name suggests, is more likely to be found in heathy and boggy areas. I have puzzled over it for many years. I think I find it and then later doubt sets in. I do, however, believe there is a healthy population on Heyshott Common. The main distinction is in the three lobes of the lower flower petal. In the former, the middle lobe exceeds the side lobes whereas in the latter it is far less prominent and gives the whole of the lower lip a skirt-like appearance.

What do you think? Of course there are hybrids, but that way madness lies.



Heath spotted orchid.

# Nature Notes: Feathered Lord and Lady Muck

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

I'm going to come right out and say it. I don't like swans. Never have done. Just seeing them smugly swanning around acting all hoity-toity annoys me. And a few years ago I took a personal dislike to a pair of them.

Back in Blencowe history, I was working on a nature reserve. It was the site's 50th anniversary and we had been getting the place all shipshape, ready to welcome visitors for celebrations throughout the summer. I turned up for work one Monday to find a pair of swans had inconsiderately started building their huge woven nest right in the middle of the main path. I thought I may try and heave the heap back into the pond but you can't disturb nesting birds during the breeding season and I'm sure I once read that the Queen (or is it now the King?) legally owns all the swans in Britain. I certainly didn't want Her Majesty leaping out of the undergrowth and bopping me with her sceptre. So, the nest was there to stay and our visitors would have to take a small diversion. Perhaps it's this royal association which gives swans their snooty attitude, but I would like to remind any swans

## BEAR PETWORTH

20th Century Design, Antiques, Home Accessories and Gifts



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

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

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

reading this article that the reason that they were once bestowed this protection was because the Royal Family enjoyed eating them and didn't want us common folk depriving them of their swan supper.



Swans spotted on ponds locally, captured on Facebook's *Beautiful Sights In And Around Graffham* page.

One morning I checked on the swans and found five whopping great eggs in their obstructive haystack nest. But the parents were elsewhere, arrogantly gliding about on the pond. Had they abandoned the nest? Surely the eggs would perish in the cold? I suddenly became uncharacteristically concerned. I was half tempted to hop on the eggs myself to keep them warm until I noticed the swans heading towards me, their wings half-raised behind their back (a posture called 'busking' which despite being the archetypal swan pose is actually an aggressive threat).

Before I knew it, they were upon me, hissing and raising their mighty wings. When you're being attacked by a swan you really appreciate what formidable creatures they are. Weighing up to 13kg, mute swans are one of the world's heaviest flying birds. The story that they can break your arm with their wings is nonsense but I didn't hang around, just in case. After giving me some evil stares Lord and Lady Muck settled back to incubating and guarding their future family. For another few weeks, they sat on their throne in the middle of the path, being photographed by crowds of admiring visitors. Their eggs eventually hatched – and there were seven swans a-swimmin' round the pond.

Meanwhile, I stood ankle deep in the mud, muttering curses under my breath and begrudgingly hammering in a fence to keep them safe. It's obvious who rules the roost here.

- 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:



# Graffham Tennis Club



**Club nights** Graffham Tennis Club’s ever popular club nights have resumed for the summer – every Friday from 5.30pm. Everyone welcome!

**Club tournaments** Dates are now being finalised for this year’s club tournaments. The first, the always sociable Mixed Doubles, takes place on Saturday 27 June between 9.30am and 2pm. Contact Andy Craig (at [andy.craig@people-puzzles.co.uk](mailto:andy.craig@people-puzzles.co.uk)) to enter. You don’t need a partner – Andy can find one for you.

**Leagues** The winter leagues have finished for our two Mixed teams. The A team finished the season in fourth position while the B team ended in sixth, almost certainly meaning relegation next winter.

The summer league season started at the end of April with some away fixtures. Clubs like Graffham which have no floodlights delay their home fixtures until the evening are longer. If you would like to play competitive tennis there is a good chance that there will be a team to suit – contact our captains:

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

## Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results

25 Mar	Lost 8-0	Mixed Doubles B team	Div 2	v Alton A
8 Mar	Won 5-3	Mixed Doubles A team	Div 2	v Alton A

Home fixtures begin in earnest this month – do come down and watch!

## Graffham Tennis Club May home fixtures

13 May	6.30pm	Ladies’ Doubles B	Div 4	v Medstead C
14 May	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Headley A
19 May	6.30pm	Ladies’ Doubles A	Div 2	v Newman Collard A
28 May	6.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore B

# Boules

The latest addition to the Rec is a court for boules, or pétanque. See page 5.



Eggs are caught or broken, until the eventual winners emerge – with 10-year-old Hugo Mackie, pictured below right with his Graffham granny Fiona, top ‘senior’.



## Easter egg chucking finishes in a scramble

Graffham’s egg catching tradition gave rise to two thrilling competitions on Easter Sunday, with both the junior and senior events delighting the many spectators. Conditions were bright and blustery and this year’s pitcher, Jamie Thornley, decided to throw downwind from the playground end. A sizeable portion of the junior entrants came from the extended Mackie family, visiting from Bristol and Scotland. With Jamie retreating a metre after each successive round it began to seem as if no one was going to be eliminated. Eventually, though, the distance proved too much and competitors began to be ‘egged’. The final round left the confusingly named Holly and Halle to fight it out, but a clean catch from Halle Mackie sealed the title.

Moving on to the senior event, similar success was achieved by the large number of catchers, with few victims going out in the early stages. In due course, however, Jamie’s strong toss became too much for the competitors (or the eggs) and, at a critical distance, the field was decimated. Left in at the semi-final stage were Giles Sheehan, Ollie Sanders, Arun Lloyd, Jacob Thornley and Hugo Mackie. As the first four of them were eliminated the crowd held its collective breath while Jamie launched the egg a hundred metres towards Hugo – who caught it cleanly, though only 10 years old.

# Graffham Ladies Cricket Club

The first fixture of the season has been confirmed – away to West Wittering, scheduled for Sunday 26 April. Full report in next month's edition. Practice continues every Thursday at 6pm – hopefully back on the square from this month! All new players welcome!


# Croquet

Rother Valley Croquet Club – the nearest croquet club to Graffham, less than three miles away at Duncton, is holding its annual open day for anyone interesting in trying out the sport, on Saturday 9 May. For more details, see [rothervalleycroquet.co.uk](http://rothervalleycroquet.co.uk)


# Graffham Bowls Club

Graffham Bowls Club is warming up for its centenary season (see page 32). Visitors or potential player are always welcome – just go along to its lawn on the Rec any Monday from 5.30pm. Bowls are provided – all you need are flat shoes.

FRIENDS OF THE BLUE BELL COMMUNITY HUB  
have great pleasure in inviting you to a Philip Jackson event



# MAKING HISTORY IN BRONZE




**27 MAY 2026**

START AT 5.30 PM | ST CATHERINE OF SIENA, MILL LANE, COCKING, MIDHURST, WEST SUSSEX GU29 0HJ

A talk on his works, garden, studio and our 11<sup>th</sup> century church.

TICKETS: £60 including a tour of sculpture garden and studio, a welcoming drink and supper held in our 11<sup>th</sup> century church. ALL proceeds in aid of Cocking's Blue Bell Community Hub.



## BRAHMS REQUIEM

Sunday 10th May 2026  
7.30pm Arundel Cathedral

Elen Roberts Soprano  
Dyfed Wyn Evans Baritone

The Leconfield Singers  
English Philharmonia  
Graham Wili Conductor

Adult £25 / £30  
Child (under 18) Half Price

For Box Office scan QR code



or visit  
[www.leconfieldsingers.co.uk/events](http://www.leconfieldsingers.co.uk/events)

Retiring collection to  
The Sussex Snowdrop Trust



**Easter lambs** Two lambs joined the congregation for the Easter Sunday service at St Giles Church, brought by Cindy and Beanie Bradley. The Easter garden, which youngsters attending Messy Church helped create, also attracted much admiration – as did this year’s stunning bluebell display on Church Hill.



## Chichester service to remember lost babies

A special service is being held at Chichester Cathedral on Saturday 9 May at 3pm for people who have lost babies at any stage of pregnancy, at birth or in infancy or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. It is being organised by Saying Goodbye, a movement which is part of Mariposa International. Anyone who is grieving not having had children will also be welcome. To find out more, see [sayinggoodbye.org](http://sayinggoodbye.org)

## 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 HEIGHTS**  
ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION

**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



**THE FLOORING BROTHERS**

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

# PACT's procession, kids club and family support

**Palm Sunday procession** Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) held its Palm Sunday procession through the town's streets at the end of March with more than 130 attending – led by donkeys Ringo and Buster and the Petworth Town Band. The organisers described it as “a great walk of witness and well received by residents, visitors, shop keepers and staff”.



**Kids Club** PACT's next big event is its summer Kids Club for primary school-aged children, which is being held at Petworth's Herbert Shiner Centre from 27 to 31 July. Further details to follow nearer the date.

**Family Support Work** Family Support Work, the Sussex charity for children that is supported by Petworth Area Churches Together, has had a busy start to the year, with global events increasing pressure on household budgets. In March alone, it made 230 home visits to families, 558 phone calls providing remote support to 230 parents and 182 children, held 60 supported meetings with other agencies and 43 group sessions at which it supported 363 adults and 238 children and made 85 food deliveries, all delivered by 53 volunteers putting in collectively 556 hours. You can find out more about its work and how to support it at [familysupportwork.org](http://familysupportwork.org)



**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)

NAFD Member



# Other denominations locally

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

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

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

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

<p><i>Petworth</i></p> <p>The Gables, Tillington, GU28 9AB 01798 342174 (24 hours)</p>	<p><i>Pulborough</i></p> <p>95 Lower Street, Pulborough, RH20 2BP 01798 872000 (24 hours)</p>
<p>www.wbryderandsons.co.uk   info@wbryderandsons.co.uk</p>	

# Grandparents fly from USA to welcome Rupert

Three years after marrying in St Giles, Rowan and Emily Mason returned to our village church for the baptism of their first born on 22 March – joined, as they were for their wedding, by Emily’s parents, flying in from the USA. The new addition to the family was named Rupert. His middle name is, like his Dad’s, Alexander – his paternal grandfather’s first name. Although they now live in London, where Rupert arrived in April 2025, all three of them visit Graffham frequently, where Rowan’s parents and brother live. Brother Toby, who married Rachel in St Giles a few years before Rowan and Emily, was one of Rupert’s Godfathers. On the sunny Sunday morning after the service, conducted by the Rev Vivien, the Masons popped a few bottles of bubbly for the congregation to join them in toasting Rupert.



Toby, Emily with Rupert, Rowan and Rachel after the baptism.

# Foodbank updates ‘most urgent’ shopping list

Chichester Foodbank, which also covers Petworth and its surrounding villages, has updated its list of items most urgently needed. You can contribute at its collection points in All Saints Chapel, directly opposite Graffham Village Shop or at St Giles Church. Items currently most wanted include:



- Cat food.
- Deodorant.
- Fruit squash.
- Jam, honey, spreads.
- Ketchup and condiments.
- Kitchen roll.
- Laundry detergent.
- Nappies sizes 5 and 6.
- Ready-made custard.
- Shampoo, conditioner.
- Sugar.
- Tinned fish.
- Tinned fruit.
- Tinned meat, stews etc.
- Tin potato/instant mash.
- Tinned vegetables.
- Toilet roll.
- Washing up liquid.



## TAIZÉ PRAYER

*song, prayer and silence*

Sunday 31 May 6.30pm

All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite shop)

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



## 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.

## April

25	Sat	4pm	Petersfield and Rogate bellringers quarter peal	St Giles Church
26	Sun	10.30am	Family Eucharist with Animal Blessing <i>Reading: Genesis 7</i>	St Giles Church
28	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
29	Wed	6pm	PCC Meeting	The Rectory
30	Thurs	10am	School Assembly	All Saints Church

## May

2	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing	St Giles Church
3	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist <i>Reading: Genesis 8.1-19</i>	St Giles Church
5	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
6	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
10	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist with Annual Parish Church Meeting <i>Reading: Acts 17. 22-31</i>	St Giles Church
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints Chapel
14	Thu	9am	Ascension Day Eucharist	St Giles Churchyard
		10am	Graffham Infant School assembly	St Giles Church
17	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist Ascension Sunday <i>Reading: Acts 1.1-11</i>	St Giles Church
19	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
21	Thu	3.30pm	Messy Church	St Giles Church
24	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for Pentecost with Baptism of Atticus Godman-Dorington <i>Reading: Acts 2.1-21</i>	St Giles Church
26	Tue	9.30am	No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
31	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist <i>Reading: Psalm 8 and 2 Cor 13.11-end</i>	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taizé Prayer	All Saints Chapel

# 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 pages 46-48.
- 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)

## April

26	Sun	10.30am	Animals blessing service	St Giles
			London Marathon	London
			Graffham Bowls Club season opening	Rec
		7-10pm	Booze 'n' Blues Night	Three Moles
27	Mon	11am	Graffham Garden Group outing	Borde Hill RH16 1XP
28	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional <sup>1</sup>	Empire Hall
29	Wed	6.30pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
30	Thu	10-11am	UKHarvest surplus food market	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth

## May

1	Fri	11.30am-6pm	Racecourse season opener (also on 2 May)	Goodwood
2	Sat		Woodfire Camping reopens for the summer	Westerlands
3	Sun	12noon-4.30pm	Lodsworth fete	Lodsworth Rec
		2-6pm	Fittleworth Open Gardens (also 4 May)	Fittleworth
4	Mon		<i>Early May bank holiday</i>	
			May Day event – crowning of May Queen, maypole dancing, dug show, tug of war etc	Heyshott
5	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society of Midhurst talk on <i>Renaissance on the Loire</i>	Midhurst Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex talk: <i>Girls Behaving Badly – Jane Austen's Wicked Women</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
6	Wed		Graffham Parish Council AGM	Empire Hall
7	Thu		Local government election day	Empire Hall
9	Sat	10-11am	Graffham Garden Group plant sale	Empire Hall
		10am-1.30pm	Rother Valley Croquet Club open day	Duncton
			Seaford College Prep open day	Seaford College
		11am-3.30pm	Annual sculpture open garden with plant sale etc, in aid of Murray Downland Trust	Casters Brook, Cocking
10	Sun		Deadline for contributions to <i>Graffham Parish News'</i> June edition	
			Christian Aid week begins	

10	Sun	11am-4pm	National Mills Day events	Burton Mill and Coultershaw
		11.30am	Annual parish church meeting	St Giles
		12noon	PCC meeting	St Giles
			Folk music night	Three Moles
		7.30pm	Leconfield Singers perform Brahms' Requiem	Arundel Cathedral
13	Wed	6.30 for 7pm	Annual parish meeting of Graffham	Empire Hall
14	Thu		Ascension day	
		2.30pm	Thursday Club	Empire Hall
			Petworth Proms (till 16 May)	Petworth House
16	Sat	12 noon	Graffham Down Trust butterfly walk	Botany Bay, East Lavington
			Goodwoof dog event (also 17 May)	Goodwood Estate
			FA Cup final	Wembley
		8pm	Applause Rural Touring presents <i>Behind Enemy Lines</i> play	Empire Hall
17	Sun	10am	Bells Sunday ringing	St Giles Church
18	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington annual parish meeting followed by parish council meeting	Seaford College
19	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional <sup>1</sup>	Empire Hall
21	Thu	3.30pm	Messy Church	Pavilion
		7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents <i>Polly Gone Wrong</i>	Leconfield Hall, Petworth
22	Fri	11.30am-7pm	May Festival (also 23 May)	Goodwood Racecourse
23	Sat		Seaford College half-term (to 1 June)	Seaford College
		9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
24	Sun		Whit Sunday	
			Model railway exhibition	Coultershaw Heritage Site
25	Mon		Spring bank holiday	
			WSCC schools half-term (to 29 May)	
27	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
28	Thu	2.30pm	Graffham Garden Group outing	Meadow Farm Pulborough RH20 1DF
30	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		From 8pm	Inferno - Abba tribute band	Three Moles
31	Sun	7-10pm	Booze 'n' Blues Night	Three Moles


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

<sup>2</sup>**Graffham Lunch Club** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm for 12.45pm for a home cooked two-course meal and coffee, at £10 a head. Please book via Harriet on 07415 256432.

# 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



## 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

## 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.airporttaxi.co.uk](http://www.airporttaxi.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>6</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 40)

1 [b] *Life at the Top*. 2 Petworth Cottage Museum. 3 [b] Guildford. 4 [b] Slovakia (15, France has 11, Denmark 10, England and Wales have eight). 5 [b] Guy's. 6 It was the recovery ship for the Artemis II mission after splash down in the Pacific. 7 David Attenborough. 8 Eric Morecambe, but "there's no answer to that". 9 Harry Enfield. 10 [a] snooker.



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

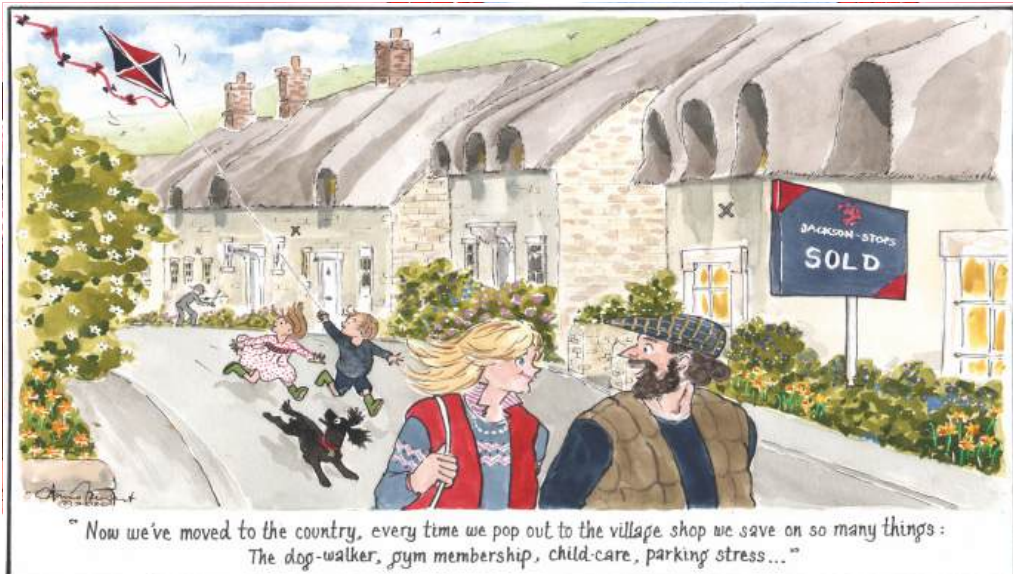
<b>DOCTORS</b>	Petworth Surgery	01798 342248
	Midhurst Riverbank Medical Centre	01730 812121
	Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit	01483 782334
<b>DEFIBRILLATORS</b>	Empire Hall temporarily out of use	Temporarily out of use
	On outside wall of <b>Pavilion</b>	Code is <b>C159X</b>
	In phone box outside <b>Pescods</b>	Code is also <b>C159X</b>
	In phone box opposite <b>The Three Moles</b>	No code needed
<b>FLOOD ALERT for Lods Bridge</b>	To check river level	bit.ly/lodsbridge
<b>POLICE</b>	In emergency	999
	Non-emergency	101@sussex.pnn.police.uk 101
<b>BURST WATER MAINS</b>	Southern Water	0800 820 999
<b>POWER CUTS</b>	Scottish & Southern Electric	0800 0727 282
<b>99 FLEX BUS</b>	Linking Graffham with Chichester, Petworth etc	Book via Ring Pingo app 01243 858854
<b>All Saints Chapel Trust</b>	Chairman Clive Rowntree	01798 867536
<b>Badminton</b>	Christina Federowicz	07900 055574
<b>Bees / Swarms</b>	Wisboro' Green B'keepers	Tom Moore 07984 606214/01798 343470
	Local beekeeper	Murray West evenings 01798 867048
<b>Chichester District Council</b>		01243 534734
District Councillor	John Cross jcross@chichester.gov.uk	07592 307027
Dog Warden	Office hours/Emergency	01243 534734/01243 785339
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>		03448 487969
<b>East Lavington Parish Council</b>	Chairman Simon Longman	simon.longman@eastlavington-pc.uk
	Clerk Amy Harte	07889 979820 eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com
<b>Empire Hall</b>		empirehall.org.uk
Bookings	Anna Shawcross	bookings.empirehall@gmail.com 07971 204287
	Chairman	Ollie Boulton 07584 625059
	Maintenance	Tom Richardson 07932 865154
	Treasurer	Carole Sargent 01798 344790
	Secretary	Jonathan Simons 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	Fiona Jacob fifij@icloud.com
	Membership	Yvonne Churchward 07808 781510
	Transport	07391 802541
	Prescription collection	Mary Taylor mkt.bythedowns@gmail.com
	Loan of equipment	Karin Skanberg 07920 091014
<b>Graffham Lunch Club</b>		Harriet Rowntree 07415 256432

<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 Guilloid 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 To report a pothole or other road problem online</b>		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**