

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 426

FREE

AUGUST 2026



Heat's on at flower and produce show

'Please sign petition to make roads safer'

Gearing up for another great summer fête

Successors sought for key Empire Hall roles



On the cover: Graffham Garden Group committee members Gail Patterson, Peter Hardcastle, Matt Bond and Marie Bracey with some of the bumper number of floral exhibits entered into its flower and produce show at the Empire Hall on 11 July. See from page 18.

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

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

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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.



September 2026 edition deadline 14 August.

Archives and online This edition and back copies can be viewed online at bit.ly/GPNOnline

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Writing from the Rectory: Keeping safe and sound

I have invited our Parish Safeguarding Officer Howard Pescott to write the magazine letter for this month. On behalf of the parish, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank him for highlighting the vital importance of safeguarding for everyone's safety and wellbeing, for helping to provide a climate in which this takes place, and for great professionalism in helping our parish to fulfil its stringent diocesan safeguarding requirements.

**For you have been a fortress
for me and a refuge
on the day of my distress
– Psalm 59.16b**

If you have any concerns for yourself or another person, please contact Howard or me – we are both ready to help, drawing on expert advice as appropriate. In an emergency, please dial 999 straight away rather than waiting to speak with us.

Every blessing.



Reverend Vivien

Dear friends,

Graffham is a special place – with St Giles' Church at its heart. Our village is somewhere that people look out for one another and are accepted for who they are.

Safeguarding is simply a continuation of that everyday kindness – a commitment that everyone who steps through our doors is met with care, respect and

► *Continued on next page*



St Giles' safeguarding officer Howard Pescott.

► *Continued from previous page*

safety. Safeguarding isn't about forms or procedures, though they are important. It's about creating a culture where children and adults among us – and visitors – feel comfortable, listened to, and valued. Churches are places where people often come during important or difficult moments in life, and we need to ensure that all are warmly accepted.

It is by keeping safeguarding at the heart of our community that we ensure that St Giles and our village remain welcoming spaces for all – whether attending a service, joining a village event or simply seeking a moment to reflect. It helps us notice when someone might need a little extra support, and it reminds us to treat one another with care and compassion.

To help us think about safeguarding and what it means for us, our services at St Giles will have a safeguarding focus four times a year. This will help us think about safeguarding and how we can continue to be a place of safety.

Thank you for all the ways that together we make sure our church and our village safe and caring places.

Best wishes,

Howard

Howard Pescott

Graffham Parish Safeguarding Officer
safeguardinggraffham@gmail.com



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

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

Churchwardens: Cindy Bradley 07787 516522
Liz Jenkins 07836 326100



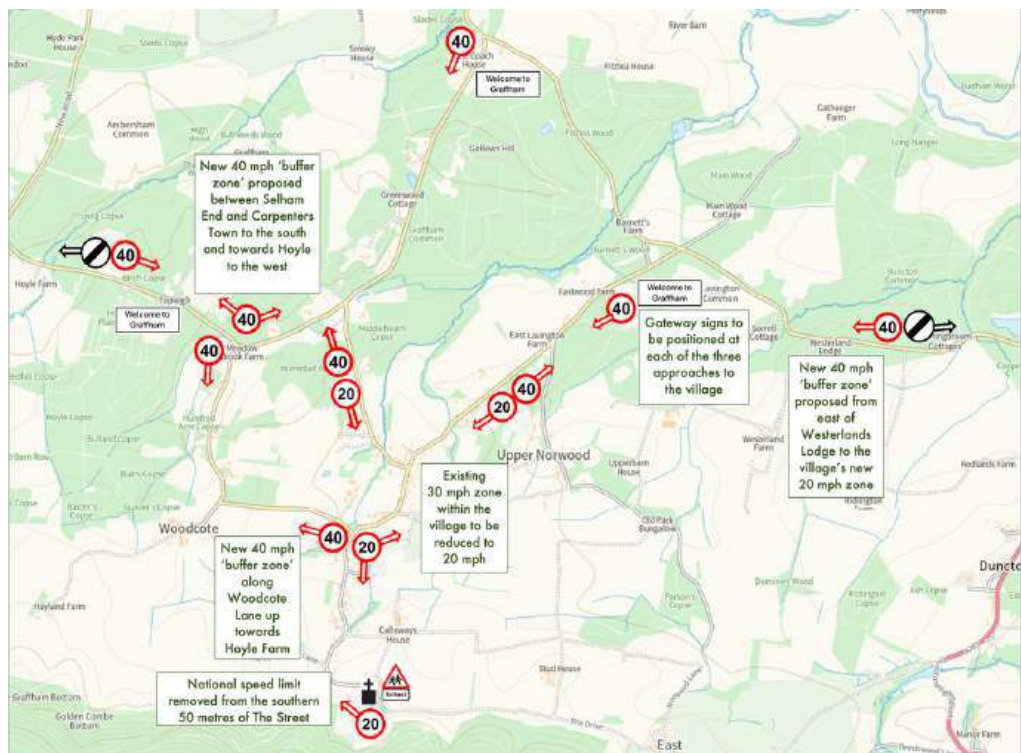
Safeguarding Officer: Howard Pescott
01798 867029 safeguardinggraffham@gmail.com



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Graffham Parish Council's proposals for reducing the speed limits on the village's roads, designed to make them safer for all users. The exact positions of the proposed new signs would be finalised in conjunction with West Sussex County Council.

'Please sign petition to make our roads safer'

Graffham Parish Council (GPC) is urging all residents to sign a petition asking West Sussex County Council to implement proposals to make our village's roads safer. It wants to:

- Reduce the current 30mph speed limit in the village centre to 20mph.
- Introduce new "buffer zones" with speed limits lower than the current national speed limits at each entrance to the village.
- Install appropriately rustic "Welcome to Graffham – please drive carefully" signs at

► *Continued on page 5*

HOW TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

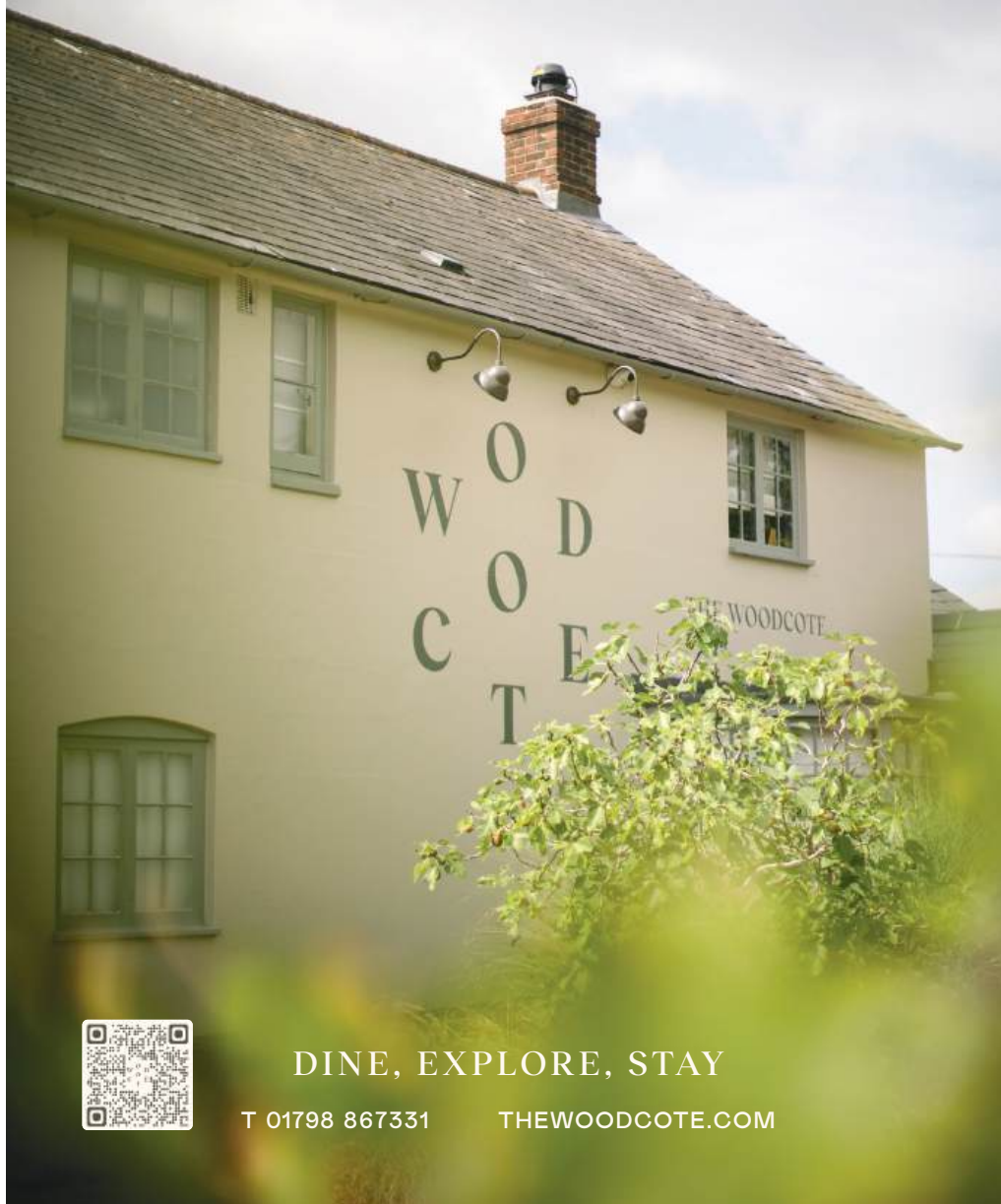
To sign the petition:

- Go to ipetitions.com/p/make-graffhams-roads-safer/
- OR scan this QR code with your phone camera
- OR by pen and paper at Graffham Village Shop.



Deadline: End July.

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► *Continued from page 3*

each entrance to the village to make visiting drivers aware they are entering a built up area where they need to take more care.

The scheme, which is designed to improve safety on local roads for all users – residents, school children, visitors, pedestrians, cyclists and horse-riders – has been developed as part of Graffham’s new Village Plan and follows extensive local consultation. GPC Chairman Gillian Charlesworth said: “To help persuade the county council's highways team of our road safety plan’s validity, we need to demonstrate as much community support as possible.”

The initiative follows a recent spate of near misses on our roads at a time when traffic through the village is increasing, with the recently approved Woodcote development, other property improvement works, an increasing trend towards multiple vehicle households and more online shopping deliveries, and while cars, lorries and vans today are much larger and faster than our roads were originally envisaged to handle.

Gillian said: “Please support this initiative to make our village’s roads safer for all users by signing this petition – and encourage your family, neighbours and friends to do so too. The more names registered, the better chance we have of success. Time is short – we need you to sign up by the end of July.”

Separately, plans are also progressing to have the national speed limit through Selham reduced to 30mph.

- See the box on the right of page 3 for details on how to sign the petition.



Successors sought for key Empire Hall roles

Volunteers are being sought to look after the “grand old lady of the village” after four of the five officers on the Empire Hall’s committee of trustees announced in June that they would be resigning at its AGM next month.

Chairman Ollie Robinson-Boulton and Maintenance Officer Tom Richardson have said they will not be seeking re-election. Bookings Secretary Anna Shawcross is emigrating to New Zealand. Long-serving Treasurer Carole Sargent is also finally standing down after many years of service.

New blood is needed to fill all of these positions, which are crucial to keeping this vital village asset open, well managed and well maintained.

Graffham Parish Council (GPC), at its July session, reaffirmed the offer it made in its 2026 Village Plan of facilitating some administrative help. Chairman Gillian Charlesworth said: “The council is not looking to take over the hall – it must continue to be run by a group of dedicated trustees – but we are offering help to ensure that this key community resource can keep its doors open. Hopefully, the admin support we are proposing to organise will take a great deal of the work involved off the shoulders of the volunteers.”

It is hoped that volunteers can be identified ahead of the hall’s AGM on Wednesday 2 September. If you would like to help, or would like to find out more, contact the hall secretary Jonathan Simons (who has indicated his willingness to stay on board)

► *Continued on next page*



The current committee has put the Union flag back flying on the front of the Empire Hall.



*Elect a new committee to look after
‘the village’s ‘grand old lady’*

EMPIRE HALL AGM

**Wednesday 2 September
6.30pm**

All welcome

► *Continued from previous page*

on 01798 867689 or at JonathanHSimons@outlook.com. The Empire Hall was built and bequeathed to the community by village benefactor James Buchanan, later Lord Woolavington, in 1907. Its committee of trustees, comprising representatives of regular users supplemented by others elected at its AGMs, has responsibility for looking after it. Besides Jonathan and the four officers who will be standing down, the committee of trustees currently includes:

- Hilary Major, as GPC's delegate.
- Ann Brown, representing St Giles Church and the Parochial Church Council.
- Christina Federowicz, representing the Badminton Club.
- Diane Bellis, representing the Thursday Club.
- Harriet Rowntree, representing the Lunch Club.

A number of improvements have been made by the committee in the past year, including deep cleaning, repainting and a new online bookings system.

Archive moves home – back to where it was

Graffham's archive has a new home. It has returned to the Empire Hall after being stored for 20 years in the interim at Graffham Infant School. The files and boxes containing maps, pictures, documents and other memorabilia relating the village's history were moved last month by archivist Robin Brind and webmaster Jonathan Simons. Robin said: "We owe a big vote of thanks to the school for hosting the archive for the past two decades or so but moving all this wonderful material back to the Empire Hall makes it more readily accessible to more people." You can see online versions of much of the material it has stored physically at www.graffhamarchive.co.uk

Parish merger boundary review postponed

The meeting of Chichester District Council's Boundary Review Panel scheduled for Friday 3 July to consider the proposal by Graffham and East Lavington Parish Councils to merge was postponed as a number of representatives were unable to attend at short notice. It will now take place on Tuesday 1 September, webcast live for anyone unable to attend in person, via chichester.moderngov.co.uk. The meeting will be asked to support a recommendation that a community governance review should be undertaken of the parish arrangements for East Lavington and Graffham, including whether the existing area they cover should be altered. If approved, the issue will go before the full council on 22 September.



Reroofing work underway on All Saints Chapel in mid July.

All Saints Chapel's roof renovated for first time

Renovations of All Saints Chapel's roof were underway in July for what is believed to be the first time since it was built nearly 75 years ago opposite where the village shop stands. After taking advice and obtaining competitive quotes from a number of local roofing contractors, local firm Graham Marriner Roofing was appointed to carry out the work.

All Saints' trustees are responsible for maintaining the fabric of the chapel, and the three cottages alongside it, which were gifted to the village when they were originally completed in 1953. The roofs of the cottages were replaced a few years ago. Now it's the turn of the chapel itself.

Chairman of the trustees Clive Rowntree said: "Some of the tiles on its eastern slope have been visibly slipping and, in any event, they are thought to have reached the end of their expected life, so the building was given a completely new roof." While work was carried out on the roof, the cupola on the top, which had appeared to have been leaning more than it should, was also being made good.

Although the aim was to maintain access to the chapel throughout, Clive said the work would inevitably "create some noise and dust which we hope will not be too prolonged or too intrusive for the residents of All Saints Cottages and neighbours".

Village shop association may offer new shares

Graffham Village Shop Association (GVSA) is to be able to offer a new type of share to add flexibility if it needs to raise fresh funds to safeguard some of the village's most vital assets, which it owns after a change agreed at its annual general meeting on Tuesday 14 July, in the Pavilion. The GVSA is owner of the building

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where Jeeva and Vasu run the village shop, the picture framer's workshop next door, the house between them and the car park in the front. It was established when the previous store closed in 1994 with the aim of ensuring the village never again faced being without such a key community asset.

Until now, it had only one type of share – its membership shares – which, in return for a £10 investment, gives holders the rights to receive the association's annual report and accounts, to become a committee member if they wish, and to vote on any resolution at an annual or extraordinary general meeting. The new shares it can now offer are “community shares”, each also costing £10 and intended as a “social investment” in the association and the assets it owns on behalf of the village.

The GVSA currently has just more than 155 shareholders – but only 24 of them have signed up in the past 10 years. It would very much like newcomers to the village who are interested in preserving a shop here to enrol.

GVSA made a profit before tax in the year to end March 2026 of £2,401, down from £14,099 the previous year largely because of increased expenditure on property repairs and maintenance with all the external doors and windows at its Chapel View residential unit replaced. Income was little changed at just less than £41,000. In the current year, it expects to have to spend some £6,000 to renew a flat roof section of the workshop and £11,000 on installing more modern and environmentally friendly heating at Chapel View, in line with government requirements.

It made £7,285 repayments on the loan it took out 10 years ago to fund the shop's expansion and create Chapel View, reducing the amount owed at the end of March to £90,595, which it hopes to pay off completely in eight or nine years.

The AGM re-elected Chairman Steve Dover, Secretary Ros Britton and committee member Murray West for further three year terms. In his chairman's report, Steve said: “The GVSA is generally in good shape, with sound finances and excellent tenants, but we are having to deal with some legacy issues with the buildings.”

To find out more about the GVSA, contact its secretary Ros at rosalind.britton@btinternet.com or call Chairman Steve on 07770 499223.

RINGING and SINGING

To join Graffham's bellringers or occasional choir, contact
Rev'd Vivien on 01798 867199 or at hello@stgilesgraffham.org



Your good health! Graffham Health Support Association Chairman Fiona Jacob thanked the dozens of villagers who drive its members to their various medical appointments throughout the year at its annual thank-you party on the gloriously warm and sunny evening of Friday 3 July, in the garden at the Empire Hall. You could join the throng next year – it's always on the look out for more volunteers. Call 07391 802541 and one of its committee members will get back to you.

New date for garden group trip to West Dean

Graffham Garden Group had to rearrange its programme of trips with a number of gardens it had planned to visit closing because of this year's exceptional weather.

The outing to West Dean gardens, which had originally been scheduled for Tuesday 11 August, will now take place on Wednesday 2 September, meeting there at 10.30 am. As ever, the trip is open to all, not just members. To book, contact Nicky West at nicolamwest@btinternet.com or on 07796 144647. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!

West Dean's gardens and parkland stretch across 92 acres, surrounding the house. They include a walled kitchen garden, restored Victorian glasshouses, orchard and 100-metre long Edwardian pergola. Its arboretum has wonderful views of the South Downs. Since Tom Browne took over as head gardener, areas of the spring garden have been made into a dry garden and the sunken garden replanted. Entrance is £13.50, but free to Historic Houses cardholders. There's a café at the entrance to the gardens for tea, coffee, cake or whatever takes your fancy.



West Dean's gardens.

Lady Young puts her Graffham home on sale

Lady Young is selling the house in Graffham she and her late husband called home for more than half a century – leading to him taking our village name into the House of Lords, when he became Lord Young of Graffham in 1984.

David and Lita bought Fairacre, on Woodcote Lane, in April 1971. The property had been rebuilt at around that time. The original house on the plot had been created for village benefactors David and Katherine Guillod after their marriage in 1908, on land bought from the Rev Rowley Lascelles, who, as the village's rector at the time owned considerable tracts then. The Guillods – as in Guillods Cottages and the Katherine Maud Guillod Fund – lived there until their deaths in the early 1920s.

Lord Young explained how he and his wife came to own it, in an interview with *Graffham Parish News* in 2021, marking the 50th anniversary of his family's association with the village: "I had never been to this area before, but at the time we had two young daughters (Karen and Judith) and we wanted them to spend weekends in the country, not in town. We came to Graffham purely by chance. We were due away for the weekend with some friends on the coast when I was sent the estate agent's particulars for this house and, as it was on the way, we looked at it on the way down. When we arrived there was a mist, no view and we did not particularly like the house and forgot about it. After the weekend, on our way back, we thought we would revisit, really to miss the morning rush hour. The sun was



Lord and Lady Young with their miniature dachshund DaisyBlu outside Fairacre in 2021 (left), and David and Katherine Guillod, who built the original house in the early 1900s.

shining out of a clear blue sky, we saw Graffham, the Downs and then the house – and it was love at second sight."

On moving in, they planted 50 trees in their garden – which they proudly showed off to visitors at the time of their 50th anniversary in the village.

Initially, the demands of his business and political careers – the media described him as Margaret

Thatcher's favourite businessman before he entered the Cabinet – limited the amount of time he could “come home to Graffham to relax and catch my breath in our favourite spot on Earth!” More locally, he served as a Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex and Chairman of Chichester Festival Theatre's Board.

As he eased off the accelerator, he and Lita spent more time here and were frequently seen in and around the village. Since his death in December 2022, aged 90, she has been spending more time at their London property. Hence, the difficult decision to put Fairacre on the market.

Property watch

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



Fairacre, Woodcote Lane, Graffham GU28 0NZ: Country house. Three bedrooms and bathrooms in main house. Extensive living accommodation including library, cinema, indoor swimming pool and sauna. Two bedroomed cottage (available for sale separately). Three bedroomed annexe. Outbuildings. Far-reaching grounds including tennis court. 723 sq m (7,778 sq ft). Guide £4.25 million. *Fine & Country, South West London 020 8154 5647. Listed 9 Jul.*

Wallace Square, Lavington Park GU28 0FJ: Semi-detached house. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms plus cloakroom, living room, kitchen/diner, utility. 135 sq m (1,459 sq ft). Integral garage. Garden. Guide price £895,000. *Savills, Petworth 01798 303558. Listed 3 Jul.*



Dye House Lane, Duncton GU28 0LF: Detached house built in 2021. Five bedrooms, five bathrooms plus cloakroom, drawing and family rooms, study, office, kitchen/diner, utility, basement. 475 sq m (5,112 sq ft). Double garage with studio suite and bathroom. Five acres garden. Guide £2.6 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 28 Jun.*

Hoyle Lane, Heyshott GU29 0DX: Equestrian facility comprising barn, stables and five acres of paddocks, on the market for the first time in more than half a century. Guide price £500,000. *Tod Anstee, Midhurst 01730 774700. Listed 3 Jul.*



Kingfisher Cottage, Selham GU28 0RH: Semi-detached house. Three bedrooms, one bathroom, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen. 91 sq m (980 sq ft). Garden with outbuildings. OiR £485,000. *Henry Adams, Midhurst 01730 771345. Listed 13 Jul.*



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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

Applications

Fairhurst, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QA: Replacement of existing conservatory with new single storey extension and formation of new access and driveway. *SDNP/26/01543/HOUS. Validated 30 Jun 2026. Consultation ends 10 Aug 2026.*

Willow Cottage, Beechwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0NA: Conversion of garage into annex and replacement garage. *SDNP/26/02167/HOUS. Validated 12 Jun 2026. Consultation ended 23 Jul 2026.*

Decisions

Westerlands Farm, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QJ: Siting of up to five caravans and one temporary campsite for tents. *SDNP/26/01680/HRA. NO OBJECTION RAISED. 2 Jul 2026.*

Marsh Cottage, Woodcote GU28 0NY: Removal of existing conservatory and four outbuildings. Single storey rear extension and side extension and erection of one workshop outbuilding with pv panels with associated works. *SDNP/26/01574/CND. APPROVED 18 Jun 2026.*

Willow Cottage, Beechwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0NA: Structural repairs to part of north elevation. Replacement extension and associated internal and external alterations. *SDNP/26/01611/LIS, SDNP/26/00831/LIS, SDNP/26/00830/HOUS APPROVED 18 and 23 Jun 2026.*

Nearby, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QE: Dormer window to rear elevation, and covered porch canopy to side elevation. *SDNP/26/00525/HOUS. APPROVED 11 Jun.*

Gully and verge works to drain 'Selham Lake'

Works to the gully and verge on Graffham Common Road opposite Selham House will be carried out on 24 and 25 August to help address the flooding that has taken place there regularly in wet weather in recent years, earning it the nickname "the Selham Lake". The gully will be reset and a new apron installed with kerbs to rear with the verge graded back. At the same time, the drains will be jetwashed from the junctions with Fitzlea Wood Road and Graffham Road. Temporary traffic controls will be in place while the work is carried out. Also, Bex Lane will be closed on August Bank Holiday Monday (31 August) between the A286 and Heyshott Street for Southern Water works. For full details, see one.network

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Helping glow-worms thrive in the South Downs

South Downs National Park is supporting steps to help populations of glow-worms recover in the area – which offers ideal conditions for the beetle to thrive as it has some of the darkest skies in England. The insect has been struggling across the UK because of habitat loss and light pollution, while across Europe five species of glow-worm are threatened with extinction.

To help counter this situation locally, a team of community volunteers, working with South Downs rangers, released glow-worm larvae, from Devon, to a site towards the north of the park.



© SDNPA/Wirestock

Glow-worm males look like typical beetles, but the females have no wings and appear similar to the larvae but during the summer put on a spectacular night-time display, emitting light to attract males, which have large, photosensitive eyes. Artificial lights, particularly white LED streetlights, can mask this glow, stopping males finding females, which disrupts their ability to breed. The larvae of glow-worms are predators, feeding on slugs and snails.

Letters to the editor

Something in *Graffham Parish News* or the village caught your eye? Let us know at editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

With the South Downs National Park working to help glow-worms thrive here because of our impeccable dark skies (above), I hope everyone will continue to be careful to limit light pollution as much as possible. We are so lucky in this overcrowded world to be able to maintain and protect our dark skies. Maybe it's better to use security lights which only function when needed rather than leaving lights on all night. – **Susan Hill, Graffham House, The Street, Graffham.**



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Stunning sight and scent Some of the beautiful sweet peas and roses on display.

Heat is on at summer show – with 300 entries

Just as the summer's been scorching, competition at the Graffham Garden Group 2026 flower and produce show, in the Empire Hall on a roasting Saturday 11 July, was hotter than for many a year.

Almost 50 villagers – more than most folk could ever remember – entered a total of nearly 300 exhibits, a near record, in the 50 plus classes for flowers, fruit and veg, photos, home cooking and, for the first time, handicrafts.

A number of first time entrants walked away with prizes – with Robin Brind taking the trophy for best specimen rose and Richard Jackson and Philippa Sanders both



Judges' decisions are final Liz Jenkins (left) runs her eye over the handicraft exhibits with steward Nicky West while Alison Davidson (right), aided by Carol Tompkins, samples home produce contenders – well, someone had to do it..!



Final scores Contenders surrounded their entries while show organiser Marie Bracey and Graffham Garden Group chairman Carol Kirke reveal who won what.

winners in horticultural classes. The 20 handmade toys, knitted or stitched items entered stretched right along the front of the stage, making it tricky for the judge to pick the top three in each of the two. The new category was such a hit that a third class will be added next year, when there will be a trophy for the best entry.

In the flower categories, roses and sweet peas attracted plenty of exhibits, as ever, and splitting the hydrangea to create a separate class for the Annabelle variety was clearly popular. Reflecting this year's

► *Continued on page 23*



Stitch in time Just some of the 20 entrants in the new handicrafts category.

Who won what – the show's roll of honour

FLOWERS		
Roses, one specimen bloom – 1 Robin Brind, 2 Nettie Lanaghan, 3 Carole Kirke.		
Roses, three specimen blooms – 1 Philippa Sanders, 2 Carole Kirke, 3 Shirley Durrell.		
Roses, three cluster stems – 1 Carole Kirke, 2 Alison Davidson, 3 Veronica Crickmay.		
Sweet peas – 1 Veronica Crickmay, 2 Peter Hardcastle, 3 Carole Kirke.		
Hydrangeas – 1 Marie Bracey, 2 Nettie Lanaghan, 3 Martin Buckley.		
Annabelle hydrangeas – 1 Hilary Major, 2 Carol Tompkins, 3 Alison Davidson.		
Flowering pot plant – 1 Peter Hardcastle.		
Foliage pot plant – 1 Marie Bracey, 2 Richard Davidson.		
Cactus or succulent – 1 Richard Davidson, 2 Jude Sennitt, 3 Molly Allen.		
Mixed annuals/biennials – 1 Peter Hardcastle, 2 Carole Kirke, 3 Nicky West.		
Mixed perennials – 1 Carole Kirke, 2 Peter Hardcastle, 3 Gay Foord.		
Mixed flowers – 1 Carole Kirke, 2 Peter Hardcastle, 3 Alison Davidson.		
Antirrhinums – 1 Alison Davidson, 2 Carole Kirke.		
Dahlia, one specimen bloom – 1 Carole Kirke, 2 Nicky West, 3 Peter Hardcastle.		
Dahlias, three blooms – 1 Carole Kirke, 2 Peter Hardcastle, 3 Alison Davidson.		
VEGETABLES AND FRUIT		
French beans – 1 Jude Sennitt, 2 Jim Kirke, 3 Gillian Charlesworth.		
Runner beans – 2 Murray West.		
Broad beans – 1 Alison Davidson, 2 Richard Jackson, 3 John Edge.		
Peas – 1 Jim Kirke, 2 Jude Sennitt, 3 Matt Bond.		
Lettuces – 1 Murray West.		
Onions – 1 Jim Kirke, 2 Michael Crickmay, 3 Marie Bracey.		
Heaviest single onion – 1 John Edge, 2 Marie Bracey, 3 Jim Kirke.		
Potatoes, three white – 1 Jim Kirke, 2 Jude Sennitt, 3 Peter Hardcastle.		
Potatoes, salad – 1 Jim Kirke, 2 John Edge, 3 Michael Crickmay.		
Heaviest potato – 1 Jude Sennitt, 2 Jim Kirke, 3 Marie Bracey.		
Carrots – 1 Michael Crickmay.		
Beetroot – 2 Jim Kirke.		Shallots – 1 Marie Bracey.
Courgettes – 1 Jude Sennitt, 2 Hilary Major, 3 Martin Buckley.		
Tomatoes – 2 John Edge.		
Cherry tomatoes – 1 Jude Sennitt, 2 Murray West, 3 Carol Tompkins.		
Cucumbers – 1 Jim Kirke, 2 Jude Sennitt, 3 Marie Bracey.		
Mixed soft fruit – 1 Alison Davidson.		
Single kind of soft fruit – 1 Alison Davidson, 2 Jim Kirke, 3 Tricia Wilson.		
Herbs – 1 Carol Tompkins, 2 Jude Sennitt, 3 Marie Bracey.		
Peppers or chillis – 1 Jude Sennitt, 2 Carol Tompkins, 3 Molly Allen.		
Any other vegetable – 1 Tricia Wilson, 2 Michael Crickmay, 3 Hilary Major.		
Any other fruit – 1 Peter Hardcastle, 2 Alison Davidson.		
Vegetable sculpture – 1 Izzy and Hamish West.		
COOKERY		
Seeded loaf – 1 Matt Bond, 2 Gillian Charlesworth, 3 Carol Tompkins.		



The trophy winners line up at the end of the show, from left:

- Richard Davidson, best pot plant and best photograph.
- Alison Davidson, best dish of soft fruit.
- Robin Brind, best specimen rose.
- Carole Kirke, highest points for flowers, highest points for vegetables (won by husband Jim Kirke), best mixed garden flowers, and best cluster-type rose,
- Veronica Crickmay, best flower arrangement.
- Jude Sennitt, Flaxman Cup and Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal.
- Sioux Allen, holding daughter Molly's trophy for best cookery entry.

Lemon drizzle cake – 1 Sally Blunt, 2 Angie Thornley, 3 Hilary Major.

Fruit scones – 1 Richard Jackson, 2 Molly Allen, 3 Jill Mclean.

Savoury quiche – 1 Molly Allen, 2 Sally Blunt, 3 Rosemary Sutton.

Shortbread – 1 Sally Blunt, 2 Diane Hardcastle, 3 Gillian Charlesworth.

Marmalade – 1 Ann Brown, 2 Tricia Wilson, 3 Holly Sabin.

Butterfly cakes – 1 Ted and James Major.

HANDICRAFTS

Knitting, crochet or tapestry – 1 Gay Foord, 2 Janet Wakeford, 3 Hilary Major.

Handmade toy – 1 Brenda Petter, 2 Jill Knight, 3 Jane Pine-Coffin.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Teacup – 1 Nicky West, 2 Veronica Crickmay, 3 Sally Blunt.

Summer sun – 1 Veronica Crickmay, 2 Gay Foord.

Show stopper – 1 Veronica Crickmay, 2 Gay Foord.

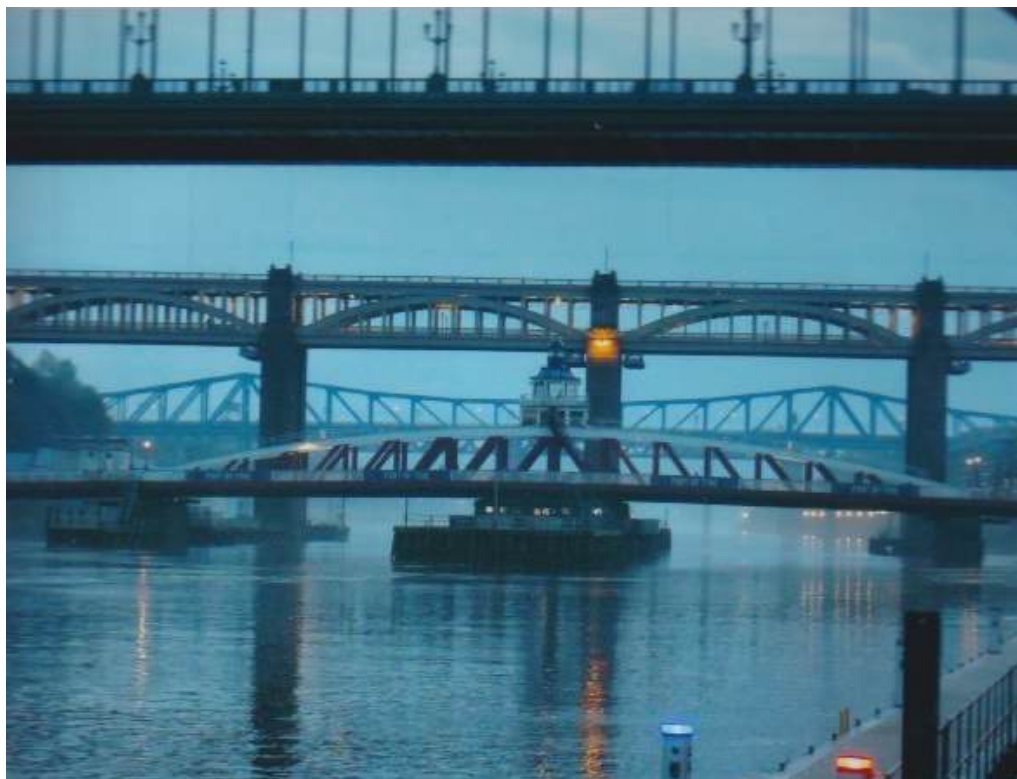
PHOTOGRAPHY

Colourful and outrageous – 1 Marie Bracey, 2 Richard Davidson, 3 Michael Crickmay.

Architecture/buildings – 1 Richard Davidson, 2 Marie Bracey, 3 Alison Davidson.

Animal portrait – 1 Mary Taylor, 2 John Sutton, 3 Michael Crickmay.

Local scene – 1 John Sutton, 2 Richard Davidson, 3 Rosemary Sutton.



Top snaps: This picture of bridges over the River Tyne in his native Newcastle (above) won Richard Davidson first prize in the Architecture/Buildings class in the summer show's photographic section – and the Ricardo Cup for the best photo overall. John Sutton took first prize in the Local Scene category (below left), Marie Bracey was awarded top marks in “Colourful and Outrageous” (below centre), while Mary



Taylor's photo of her cat Bramble was judged best Animal Portrait.





Have beans There were lots of entries in the vegetable and flower classes.

► *Continued from page 19*

growing conditions, dahlia entries were markedly down on usual, even on last year when the weather was also hot.

Graffham's cooks and bakers have a stellar reputation, so picking the crème de la crème was an unpalatable responsibility. In the most hotly contested class, for lemon drizzle, Sally Blunt took the icing on the cake, while Molly Allen's quiche won the trophy for best cookery entry overall.

Organiser Marie Bracey said: "Congratulations to all the winners and well done to everyone who entered, especially in the new handicrafts category. It was a happy, glorious day and it was lovely to have so many entries. A very big thank you to everyone who helped on the day."

Next year's show will be on Saturday 10 July.

Lucky numbers There was hot competition too in the raffle for the wonderful prizes, donated by: Graffham's Susan Hill, Heath End's Made by Andy (Beadsley), Petworth's Austen's, Bear, Hennings and Red Card, Pulborough's Architectural Plants, Stedham's Rotherhill Nursery, and West Chiltington's Village Nurseries.



Petals and herbs The rose and herb entries gave off a stunning aroma.

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From Town Hall: Well done to Graffham!

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



Emergency briefing I went to Graffham Empire Hall on Saturday 13 June with a large number of the village's residents to watch the film *People's Emergency Briefing*, which highlights the climate and environmental crisis facing us all. Presented by Chris Packham, it features economists, ex-military and food and health experts. I would urge everyone to watch it – you can find screenings online – for a sobering state of where we are as a nation. It is also reflective and reaches out and demonstrates what we can do as citizens. I won't say anymore, but I applaud the organisers and villagers for getting together and watching this at times uncomfortable viewing.

If any other village or resident groups wish to organise another public screening, I would be happy to help in any way.



June's screening of *People's Emergency Briefing* in the Empire Hall in June.

Planning In the summer edition of *Initiatives*, Chichester District Council's magazine which all residents receive in the post, there are several really interesting articles. The first I want to highlight concerns planning. It's a useful oversight of the process and what the officers must consider with every application.

In the coming months, further change is on its way as the government restricts what elected councillors and the bi-partisan planning committees can do in the interest of their ward residents. The number of applications that will come to the committee will be severely reduced. Members will not have the ability to ask that applications in their ward are heard at the planning committee – instead, they will now be dealt with by planning officers in line with established policies.

If I was being cynical, the notion of "devolution" is to pass more powers away from central government to local people, so they have a say on the things that effect their lives, while this government's impositions do the opposite.

Taking our leisure centre on the road As the Chichester District Council cabinet

► *Continued on next page*

► *Continued from previous page*

member responsible for culture and sports, I was delighted to be part of the negotiations for the new contract for the operation of the leisure centres at Midhurst and Chichester. This new contract is both financially beneficial to the council and therefore residents, but it also means the buildings are being improved and the facilities updated. Both sites will have new gym equipment this month. There will also be an outreach programme, called Wellness on Wheels, which will travel around the district.

Valuable local find now on public display When I was originally appointed to this council cabinet position, one of the first things I did was to launch a crowd funding project to save the “Stopham Mount” – a Saxon sword mount found in Stopham. We managed to raise enough money not only to save this rare jewelled mount but also to have a purpose-built display case made for it, too. It is now on display in Chichester’s Novium Museum



Grants for businesses Small businesses, new and old, that are looking to innovate or diversify should look at the business grants that are available from Chichester District Council. Just go to www.chichester.gov.uk and search for grants and concessions. I am keen that our rural businesses should be looking at these grants. Traditionally, the bigger settlements have taken the larger portion of this funding – but I hope that can change.

Help stop this invasive pink pest from taking over

Louise Barnetson, of the Western Sussex Rivers Trust, writes.

If you go down to the river or stream during the summer, you may spot a tall plant with pretty pink flowers and a stalk that looks a little bit like a cross between celery and bamboo. You may even see some determined groups of volunteers getting together to pull it up by the roots. Sometimes “those in the know” even take it upon themselves to pull out the odd plant while walking the dog.

But why would anyone want to destroy such a pretty plant? Because it is Himalayan Balsam, *Impatiens glandulifera*, also known as Indian balsam, policeman’s helmet, touch-me-not or ornamental jewelweed – and it’s a menace to our waterways.

Himalayan Balsam is official registered as an Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS), that grows along riverbanks and in wet areas. It is an annual plant that grows very quickly, from a tiny seedling in early spring to up to 2 metres (7 ft in) tall by July

or August. It squeezes out most native plants for light, water and nutrients.

It spreads itself rapidly via hundreds of seeds that are catapulted out of pods in late-summer and autumn. It dies back in the winter, leaving bare soil and lots of seeds ready to germinate come next springtime. It has very shallow roots and the bare soil it leaves behind is prone to



Invasive pest Himalayan balsam before flowering (left) and once its flowers form.

erosion, causing sediment to get washed into waterways, increasing the likelihood of pollutants entering the water.

As its name suggests, Himalayan Balsam is native to the Himalayan foothills. It was introduced to the UK in the 1840s by Victorian botanists and became a popular garden plant. It escaped into the wider natural environment in the 1950s and can now be found across 90 per cent of the country. It is an offence to plant it or introduce it to the wild.

Many areas around the River Rother and its tributaries are badly infested with this non-native plant – including around Graffham. Fortunately, there are many volunteers from community groups and parish councils, as well as from South Downs National Park Authority and the Western Sussex Rivers Trust, who are working together to try to tackle it here.

Earlier this year, our “Downs to the Sea” project delivered specialist in-person training, as well as equipment and information packs to several groups to enable them to carry out “Balsam Bashing” events in the Rother catchment area. If you are part of a community group or parish council and would welcome training, then get in touch via downstothesea@southdowns.gov.uk. You can also help by reporting sightings of this invasive weed on the easy-to-use App INNS Mapper.

In the meantime, keep your eyes peeled for the pink pest. It’s not difficult to pull it up – and it is surprisingly satisfying work!

RIP Den Petter 1936-2026

A memorial service for Den Petter, who died on 18 June, was held at St. Giles church on Wednesday afternoon, 8 July, after a funeral at Chichester Crematorium that morning. Much of Den and his wife Brenda's story was told in the May 2026 edition of Graffham Parish News, following their 65th wedding anniversary in April, but Steve Walker, Den and Brenda's son-in-law, recalled many other tales in his tribute at St Giles and the family have kindly allowed us to recount them.



Denis Arthur Petter was born on 27 June 1936 in Rogate where his mother, Annie, ran a sweet shop. His father Frank was a gardener. His brother Les was born 18 months later. A quirk of genetics produced a considerable height difference (Les was more than 6 ft tall), but the brothers were very close and shared a love of watching and playing sport. They were both Portsmouth FC supporters and Les' death in 2006 was a great loss to Den.

In his youth Den enjoyed the Boys Brigade, where he played a lot of football and cricket, and learnt to swim and drive. He was active at Rogate Parish Church, where his father was a verger, and became an enthusiastic bell ringer – he continued to ring there for many years even after he left the village.

Den had a good brain and did well at school but felt his nervousness when it came to exams prevented him from fulfilling his academic potential. His first job was with Tiger Toys at Durford Mill near Rogate, where he stayed until National Service with the RAF, which he enjoyed greatly, signing up for five years. He was primarily based in Hampshire, but had several deployments abroad, including Cyprus. While there he had two narrow escapes – in one, a bomb was planted in a bag due to be loaded onto the plane which was bringing him and his fellow airmen home. It was timed to explode in mid-flight, but take-off was delayed and it detonated before the bags were loaded. On another occasion he survived being sucked into the jet engine of a stationary plane that had been fired up when tested. While on leave in 1957 he met Brenda, and they married in 1961, moving to 10 Guillods Cottages in time for daughter Carrie's birth in 1963. Trish arrived four years later. Their neighbours were June and John Challen, who became lifelong friends, and invitations to come round for coffee were transmitted by knocking a tin on the adjoining larder wall. On Christmas mornings, the families gathered together and sampled Den's legendary, and strong, sloe gin. By then Den was a postman in Petworth, where he worked until retiring at about the same time he and

Brenda moved to Stuarts Meadow in 1993. He was an expert gardener, making the family almost self-sufficient in vegetables and fruit. He also kept an aviary of budgerigars and competed in county shows. He was renowned for his “Win a Budgie” raffle at the Graffham Fête, which raises eyebrows in the 21st century but which was perfectly acceptable back in the day.

Den was treasurer for the Recreation Ground and was active on the fête organising committee, with Brenda organising the teas. They also became enthusiastic bowls players, and a proud day for Den came when he was invited to Buckingham Palace in 1998, with Dick Challen and Graham Kingsmill, to receive an award on behalf of the Rec Committee from Prince Philip.

He loved family gatherings, with the summer birthday barbecue a particular favourite as five grandchildren, and later ten great-grandchildren, gradually swelled numbers. He also loved watching sunsets and most sports.

He survived bladder cancer in 2002, but never fully recovered from pneumonia and sepsis in 2025.



Two of the proudest days in Den's life – his marriage to Brenda 65 years ago (above) and joining Graham Kingsmill and Dick Challen to receive an award from Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace in 1998.



Petworth Park ant hills to make way for flowers

Work is being carried out at the southern end of Petworth Park this summer to improve the diversity of the park's grassland flora. Areas will be de-thatched to remove the build-up of old vegetation and reduce the dominance of ant hills, creating better conditions for wildflowers to thrive. The work, being carried out as part of the park's countryside stewardship agreement with Natural England, will also provide a valuable opportunity to conduct archaeological surveys in places previously inaccessible. The park team warns that the ground may be left looking a bit stark at first but assure that it will soon recover with more flowers and grasses – and that no ants will be harmed as they live underground, below their mounds.

St Giles the perfect place for Meg and Robbie

St Giles' beautiful South Downs setting made it the perfect place for a Felpham couple to wed, with Meg Grover and Robbie Hamilton marrying in our Graffham village church on Saturday 27 June. They've been together for 11 years, after first meeting at school and became engaged two years ago.



Meg, who owns and runs Lulamae's Café in Arundel, arrived for the ceremony in a Duke 1954 Bentley R-Type with her father, who walked her down the aisle.

As part of her sustainability ethos, she wore a pre-loved traditional white gown she had bought on vinted.co.uk for £30. She carried a bouquet of bright flowers including sunflowers.

Robbie, who teaches physical education at Selsey's The Academy, was sporting a light brown three-piece suit with a burnt orange tie and small sunflower in his button hole.

She was attended by six bridesmaids, each carrying a gold satin slip knot bag made by Meg's nan. Close friend Amelia Oliver was maid of honour, with Robbie's two-year-old niece Peyton as a flower girl. Robbie's brother Angus was best man, supported by six groomsmen.

During the service, conducted by the Rev Vivien, the rings they exchanged were made from hand-me-down gold – his left to him by his late grandma and hers from her late grandpa's own wedding band.

The newlyweds left the church in an old racing green MG, with their 100 guests following them through the village to their reception at Haylands Barn.



School report: Ofsted, farewells, food and fun



Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Business Manager Jenny Godfrey took time out in the rush before the end of the term to provide her monthly update on what is going on at our village schools.

Ofsted outcome delights We are delighted with the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection, which recognised the many strengths of Graffham Infant School. In particular, the inspectors judged our Early Years provision to be a “Strong Standard”, praising the ambitious leadership, carefully planned curriculum and high-quality interactions that help children thrive. Ofsted noted that children develop confidence, independence and a secure foundation for future success, making Graffham an excellent place for children to begin their educational journey. We are proud of what our pupils, staff and community have achieved together and look forward to building on this success.

Farewell and welcome With many of our Year 2 children moving up from Graffham to Duncton and our Year 6 pupils spreading their wings and heading off to secondary school, we wish them every success and happiness in the next stage of their journey. As the school year drew to a close, we also said goodbye and thank you to Louise Wadey, who has been working with us as a 1:1 teaching assistant at Graffham. She’s been a ray of sunshine and wonderful with the children. We will miss her greatly and wish her every success in her new role at Conifers in Midhurst. We are delighted that Thalia Fox will be joining us in September as a teaching assistant at Duncton, and we look forward to welcoming her to the team.

At the time of writing, we still had one vacancy for a teaching assistant. See the advert (right) for details.



We wish all our families a wonderful, restful summer and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Prepping for our own cooking We are thrilled to announce that we have recruited our new catering team as part of our strategy of cooking our own school lunches ourselves. Laura Pinder has been appointed as our chef, bringing a wealth of experience in the catering industry. Some of you may recognise her name as the

► *Continued on next page*

► *Continued from previous page*

talented baker behind Pinder's Patisserie. She will be working with our advisers Chefs in Schools during the summer to prepare our kitchen for the start of the new term in September, and we are eagerly looking forward to unveiling our exciting new menu. We are also delighted to welcome KT Woodman as our kitchen assistant. She will work alongside Laura to deliver and serve freshly cooked meals at Duncton.

Alongside our new menus, we are introducing a family-style dining experience at Graffham School, with tablecloths, shared platters and fresh flowers to create a welcoming lunchtime environment. If anyone in the village is able to donate small bunches of seasonal flowers on a regular/rota basis, we would be very grateful.

We will be holding a special event on 28 August for our school families and the wider community to meet Laura and KT and celebrate the roll out of our new hot lunch provision at both schools.

At the time of writing, we were just shy of our target of £8,400 to pay for the new equipment needed. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to this project – it would not have been possible without your support!

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Sunny sprints There always seems to be a blue sky for sports day at Graffham.

Fund-raising, poetry, performance and sports day Children in Year 6 at Duncton raised a fantastic £195.20 for Cancer Research UK and Little Lifesavers through their 'Fiver Challenge' Pop-Up Market.

Graffham children were treated to a workshop led by local poet Brenda Figg-Wild. The pupils loved it and continued to act out the poems after she had gone.

Pupils at both schools were busy in the latter part of term rehearsing for their annual summer performance, which is always a highlight of the school year. This year's production celebrates the beauty of the natural world, inspired by Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday.

The children loved cheering each other on at our sports days – Duncton's on our own school field on Thursday 18 June and Graffham's at the village Rec the following day, both under blue skies. The enthusiasm, determination and team spirit were wonderful to see – and we were delighted to welcome so many families, helping make the days so special.

Thanks We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the many families and friends who have continued to support our schools so generously. Special thanks go to Stuart Gerrett for his kind donation of an air conditioning unit for Graffham School, which was greatly appreciated during the hot weather.

We are also extremely grateful to Nick Ward for the beautiful wooden carving of Paddington Bear, which now sits outside our front entrance and has already become a much-loved feature.

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

- [instagram.com/graffhamandduncton schools](https://www.instagram.com/graffhamandduncton_schools)
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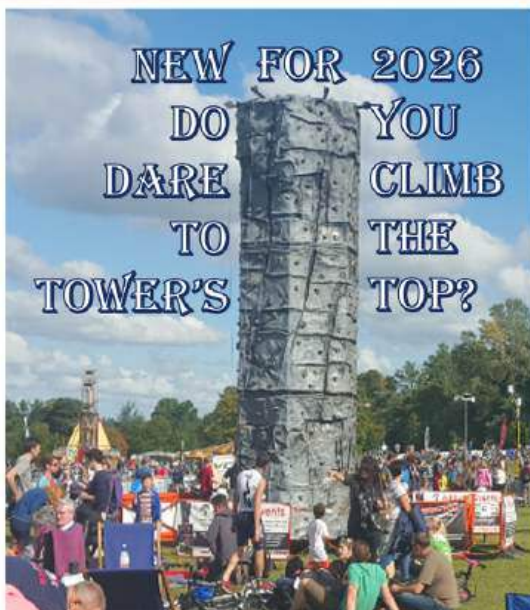
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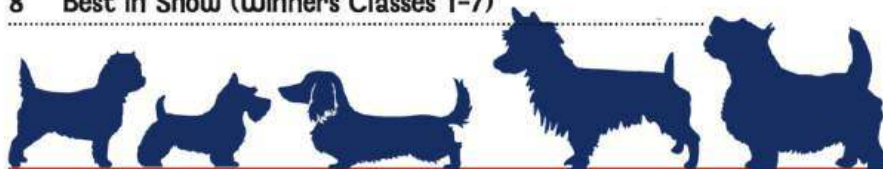
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Bill's bygones: Butterflies, BOAT, bushfires

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 – August 2016: There's no message from the vicar at the front of *Graffham Parish News* as the Rev Michael Barter is called up for jury service. A coffee morning and cake sale hosted by Ann and Hugh Brown raises £385 for St Giles' Flower Fund. New muffles arrive for the church bells. On a wildlife walk around Graffham Common, Michael Blencowe reports 2016 is one of the worst years on record for butterflies. On the bowls green, Wendy Folkes and Vera O'Hara win the Janet Hurst Cup. Graffham Fête makes a profit of just more than £7,000. The White Horse and Willow Barns go up for sale. The first Olympics to be held in South America are staged in Rio de Janeiro – Team GB finishes second in the medal table (27 golds, 23 silvers, 17 bronze). Deaths of actors Gene Wilder (*Willy Wonka*, aged 83) and Kenny Baker (R2-D2 in *Star Wars*, 81).

25 years ago – August 2001: A “thank you” letter is received from Bridget Bafana, a Zimbabwean girl sponsored by Graffham Brownies to enable her to continue her education. Graffham Fête makes a record profit of more than £4,500. Following its recent reclassification as a Byeway Open To All Traffic (BOAT), the Long Bostle Downland Action Group announces it will apply for a Traffic Regulation Order and launch an appeal to the High Court. In the Ashes, Mark Butcher clatters 173 not out as England win the 4th Test at Headingley, but the other four are won by Australia. Deaths of reformer Lord Longford (95) and Graffham villager Colin Clayton (75).

50 years ago – August 1976: The Drought Act is enacted on 6 August, and West Sussex Fire Brigade (who by mid-August have answered more calls than they normally receive in a year) are called to extinguish two bushfires on Ambersham Common. At Graffham Fête, the Under 15 “round the recreation ground” race is won by Bob Crosdil, with Phil Kingsmill second. Caroline Petter wins the 14-16-year-old girls' flat race. Former MP John Stonehouse is jailed for fraud. Niki Lauda suffers serious burns following an accident in the German Grand Prix at Nürburgring. Viv Richards scores 291 as the West Indies hammer England in the fifth Test to take the series 3-0. Deaths of former international lacrosse player and hockey coach Agneta Mary Powell of Graffham's Twin Cottages, and actor Alistair Sim (both 75).

THE WALL OF FLOYD



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ED BLUNT

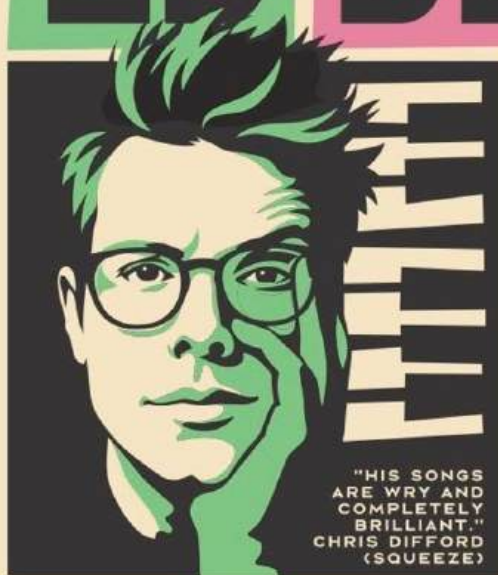
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Singer songwriter Ed returns to Empire Hall

Singer songwriter Ed Blunt is returning to Graffham's Empire Hall on Saturday 24 October – after selling out the venue multiple times before – as part of an autumn tour of England that's taking him from London and Liverpool to Manchester and Robin Hoods' Bay.

Hailed by *Rolling Stone* for his “astonishing mastery of his craft”, Ed is an in-demand musician who can make you laugh one moment and gently break your heart the next. Drawing comparisons to James Taylor, Paul Simon, Randy Newman and The Divine Comedy, he blends folk, jazz and roots with a dry, self-deprecating wit and a gift for turning everyday moments into profound songs.

You may have heard him on BBC Radio, at the many festivals or other venues he plays in the UK or abroad, as a headliner himself or supporting one of the many acclaimed artists who regularly call on him. Or you may have caught him while downing a brew at Café Nero – he's a fixture on the playlist at its thousand outlets.



Although London is now his home, he has solid connections with the village. And while he's a multi-instrumentalist, the focus for this autumn tour will be his first love – the piano. He says: “I can't really remember a time when I didn't play the piano. It's been with me from the very beginning, and since then we've gone through a lot of ups and downs together (mainly ups). This autumn tour is a celebration of those ivory and ebony keys and everything they've brought into my life – some of my closest friends, travels around the world and opening that hidden path into the creative mind. It will feature songs old and new, a few stories – and a battered old upright!”

It promises to be an intimate, story-led evening full of humour, honesty and musicianship — the kind of night that feel like catching up with an old friend.

Tickets £17 (plus booking fee) from www.empirehall.org.uk/tickets

To advertise in Graffham Parish News, contact
ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

Graffham Chronicles: A life behind the lens

In her column this month, local historian Pauline Goodwin talks to Graffham-based photographer Colin Barker about his 50-year career as a cameraman.

On 11 June, Graffham's Colin Barker gave an illustrated presentation to a packed session of the village's Thursday Club in the Empire Hall about his 50 years as a professional advertising photographer. The list of his clients over this time period is extensive and prestigious, hard earned while battling against fierce competition.

In today's age when simple point-and-shoot cameraphone selfies dominate our photographic world, it is worth reflecting on the craft, vision, knowledge and skills required to create the sort of quality images that Colin has produced across the past half century.

It is the making of Colin's images during these five decades that we are focusing on here, and the photographic history that these reveal. To illustrate the article, he has chosen six images from the thousands in his archive, which identify key periods in his working life and which trace the development of photographic image making.

His career began in the mid 1970s when, on leaving Canterbury College of Art, he took on a photographic assistant post in London with renowned advertising photographer Bob Marchant.

His boss allowed Colin to use the firm's studio warehouse in Camden when it was quiet. However, Bob was usually busy, so "quiet times" meant that Colin regularly

worked deep into the night, until one day he fell asleep at work because he'd been burning the midnight oil for too long.

From that tricky start, Colin built a career of which any photographer would be proud.

His body of work, whether analogue or digital, surely conforms to the great photographer Ansel Adam's philosophy: "You don't take a photograph, you make it"! Only one letter changed but a world of difference.



Colin in front of some of his work at his open studio in the 2024 Graffham Festival.

1978: Covent Garden mural artist



The first of his images Colin chose was taken in his earliest days as a full-time photographer, in Covent Garden, using his first professional camera, the iconic Olympus M1. In those times, all cameras used film, which was developed into negatives or transparencies.

This image was printed on lithographic paper – Colin's favourite photographic paper at the time, a smooth surfaced, quality medium that allows for a rich tonal quality when developed with diluted chemicals.

In this stark monotone picture, a hoarding surrounds the old Covent Garden market which had just been pulled down. Monochrome seems a suitable choice of medium for this scene of destruction.

The focus is carefully directed to the image's centre, towards the spartan anti-graffiti cleaning materials laid out on the cracked paving – firstly by the bold area of black hoarding from the right and pointing to the heart of the image and secondly by the gaze of the two elderly women.

1983: Computer on slate



The second image was designed and constructed by Colin as a self-promotional piece for his portfolio to secure a breakthrough into studio work for London advertising agencies. He travelled to a North Wales slag heap to obtain the slate which he took back to his London studio.

The image was shot on a single piece of 10x8 (inches) film loaded into a film holder which gives a negative 52 times larger than regular 35mm film. Four separate exposures were required to be made in perfect registration to achieve the end result. The night sky was shot from Colin's studio balcony in black and white, and coloured by hand later. The slate and computer monitor were then photographed separately and the montage completed. All of this took three days to complete successfully.

1988: Gordon the tender engine



The third image – of Gordon, the tender engine – is described by Colin, using his typically modest understatement, as a “technical challenge”.

Gordon was a toy made for the Hornby company which produced model train sets. The client wanted the 9 ins model to look like a moving express locomotive.

To achieve this, in the days long before today’s artificial intelligence and image manipulation, three assistants were needed to operate the three separate levels of movement within the image.

Colin was under the table producing the smoke coming out of Gordon’s chimney for the final touch of authenticity!

This was all achieved in camera and received a Gold Award from the Association of Photographers.

1990: Quito child



The fourth image is one of which Colin is particularly proud. It was designed for a pharmaceutical company that produced vitamins for young children.

Colin shot it using his niche high-end professional Sinar 10x8, a camera that Colin describes “as a superb piece of kit” but represented a “huge investment”. Renowned for its precision, it is a modular large format camera system using bellows.

Precision is a vital element in this image, creating the message expressed by the child’s naturally beautiful face and allowing the perfect capture of blue light and shade on the face – particularly difficult as the model was only 18 months old.

Much patience was needed to convey the message of purity and simplicity outlined in the client’s brief. Colin’s instinctive capture of the downward, shy gaze of the child is key to this sentiment.

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2007: Swimmers – father and son



We fast forward into the digital age with the fifth image. In 2003, Colin moved to Graffham and set himself up with the latest 35 mm professional digital camera with an Apple Mac computer and large monitor to process the resulting digital film images.

This image was to be included in a commercial for an Italian electricity company. The brief was for a fun image, but it wasn't until the figures were made more extreme and the Climping Beach background added with Photoshop that it achieved the director's vision.

Colin was initially rather shocked by his client's initial reaction – he threw back his head laughing out loud as he ran round the room clutching the image in delight.

2018: John and Boswell



Finally, we come to the last image, which marks Colin's transition to his now favourite challenge of photographing horses and his adoption of the label "equine photographer".

In this "John and Boswell" image, he combines this love of the equine form with the symmetrical background of an ancient Sussex thatched barn.

He aims to keep his equine images looking natural but relies on a bank of battery powered flashlights to "to show the conformation of the horse and to give a depth to the image".

See more of Colin's
amazing photographs
and read more about
his work at
www.colinbarker.co.uk



60 step up for Graffham Down Trust picnic

Some 60 villagers and other friends of Graffham Down Trust (GDT) braved some of the hottest temperatures Sussex has experienced on Sunday 5 July to gather in GDT's reserves for its annual picnic.

Wildlife expert and *Graffham Parish News* columnist Michael Blencowe had camped there overnight to keep an eye on the moth traps he had set up. When he opened them up in the morning, with Butterfly Conservation Reserves Officer Fiona Scully, they counted more than 75 species, some of which had not been spotted in this locality before.

Some of them were passed from hand to hand for close examination with more butterflies spotted by the visitors on their walkabout, including two of the Downs' most celebrated residents – a Hawfinch and Purple Emperor – along with plenty of Marbled Whites, Dark Green Fritillaries and Peacock butterflies. Despite (or because of?) the drought, the wildflower meadows were resplendent.

The visitors then tucked into a barbeque of lamb burgers from Westerlands and sausages from Graffham Village Shop, along with tea, coffee and cake.



Michael Blencowe opens the moth trap – with elephant hawkmoths among the 100 species found inside.

Out and about: Snakes alive – part 2

A regular column by Jonathan Simons, heathland habitué and amateur herpetologist – completing last month's spotlight on our native snakes.

The Grass Snake, *Natrix helvetica*, Britain's largest snake, is often more than a metre long. It can be found on heathland or in gardens with access to ponds and streams. To see one swimming across a pond as effortlessly as it can move on land is a wonderful sight.



Apart from its sheer size it can be recognised by its greenish-yellow tinge, particularly on its underbelly and head which has no eyestripe but a black and yellow collar, pictured left.



I only have four records from the Graffham area – one lurking on Graffham Common West, one swimming in Fitzlea Pond, one squashed on the road on the way to The Three Moles and one tangled up in some old nylon netting by my shed.

This last specimen gave a token twitch when I pulled at the netting, confirming it was still alive. It was quite upsetting to see it in such a dire situation all because of my negligence over garden junk. I grabbed some scissors and cut it out sufficiently to move it to an operating table. I snipped all the constricting bands away from its body by carefully inserting the scissors between it and the nylon. When I had nearly finished, it twitched itself off the table, fell to the floor and started to loop off. I scooped it up again to complete the job. Finally I was satisfied and allowed it its freedom. I was very cheered as it disappeared off down the path. I felt I had given it a second chance at life by passing on to it some of what was left of my own.



The grass snake caught in Jonathan's garden net (left) and after its release, with some bruising below the head.

Read Michael Blencowe on grass snakes – next page

Nature Notes: Slithering through Sussex

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

“Go wild in the country, where snakes in the grass are absolutely free.” I can still remember Annabella Lwin, of new-wave pop group Bow Wow Wow, singing those words on *Top of the Pops* back in 1982. Next morning, her hypnotic good looks were the talk of the playground but it was that chorus that stuck with me – a clarion call for early 80s urbanites to get out into the wild.

Annabella was ecologically correct too. There are indeed free snakes out there – a fact that still thrills me each time I encounter one slithering through Sussex. As a child, I thought snakes were exotic creatures which hung off African jungle branches in Johnny Weissmuller *Tarzan* movies to convey a vague sense of something sinister. But there's nothing sinister about the grass snake – the commonest of Britain's three native snake species, with their mesmerising eyes, gorgeous sleek scales of olive-green and a series of stripes along their flanks. For a cold-blooded reptile they sure look hot. A key identification feature is that yellow collar encircling the back of their head. Grass snakes have been rather short-changed when it comes to their name – they're much better at swimming than they are at sitting in the grass (a bit like ol' Johnny Weissmuller who performed better in the water than he did on dry land). You'll find grass snakes gliding through the wet ditches and dykes alongside the Rother or even in your garden pond as they hunt for their favourite food of frogs and toads.

These amphibious feasts really pile on the pounds, so when their snakeskin suits become too tight they slip their skin to reveal a larger shiny set of scales underneath. They undertake several costume changes each year and can grow to an impressive size. Two to three feet is typical for an adult grass snake but there are rumours of 6 ft long monsters out there. Of course they're nothing be scared of. If threatened, they hiss a lot – or release a pungent, foul-smelling substance from their anal gland.

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



michaelblencowe.com

Coincidentally, I've used at least two of these defence strategies myself in the past.

In July the female grass snakes excavate a chamber in a mound of decaying vegetation – a compost heap is perfect. Inside she lays five to 20 leathery eggs and the heap's heat and humidity cook them to perfection. Set your egg timer for ten weeks and you'll return to find pencil-sized snakes emerging into the world.

I guess not everyone followed Bow Wow Wow's advice back in 1982 because when leading my wildlife walks I'm always amazed at how many adults have never seen a snake in Britain. But it's never too late to go wild in the country.

A poster for a 'Tea in the Reserves' event. The background is a scenic view of a grassy hillside with wildflowers and butterflies. In the foreground, there is a table with a white tablecloth, a glass vase with flowers, a large cake on a plate, and two cups of tea. A wooden signpost on the left points towards 'SOUTH DOWNS WAY' and 'GRAFFHAM 2 MILES'. The Graffham Down Trust logo is in the top right corner.

Tea in the Reserves

For villagers and Graffham Down Trust members who have not been able to access the reserves of late, please join us for

Saturday 15 August 2.30 - 4 pm

Tables, chairs, tea and cake provided.

Lifts from convenient points in village will be arranged, with stair access into the vehicles.

RSVP to arrange your pick-up, to Jude Sennitt at sennitt2@gmail.com

Foodbank updates its shopping list of urgent items

Petworth Foodbank has updated its list of items most urgently needed as the summer holiday season approaches. You can contribute at its collection points in All Saints Chapel, directly opposite Graffham Village Shop or at St Giles Church or supermarkets in most local towns. Items currently most wanted include:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Chocolate | • Red lentils | • Tinned tomatoes and veg |
| • Cooking oil | • Shampoo | • Toilet roll |
| • Deodorant | • Sponge puddings | • Toothbrushes |
| • Kitchen roll | • Sugar | • Tomato ketchup |
| • Long-life juice and milk | • Tinned fish and meat | • Washing powder |
| • Nappies sizes 6 and 7 | • Tinned fruit and pulses | • Washing up liquid |

Graffham Parish News' awkward August quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers at the bottom of page 61 (no cheating!)

- 1 True or false: one of Graffham's Rectors was called Thomas Tuchel?
- 2 Who was elected Chair of Graffham Tennis Club in 1986 and served in that capacity for 25 years?
- 3 Where will the UK Loggers be holding their National Championship next year: [a] East Dean, [b] Pendean, [c] Aberdeen?
- 4 The name of which Christian holiday on August 1 derives from the Old English hlāfmæsse, meaning "loaf-mass"?
- 5 How old will 44th US President Barack Obama be on 4 August: [a] 75, [b] 65, [c] 55?
- 6 An ailurophile is a lover of what: [a] rats, [b] cats, [c] bats?
- 7 Which golfer won the British Open in 1951, lived his later years in Pulborough and died at St. Richard's Hospital in 2005 aged 88: [a] Peter Alliss, [b] Arnold Palmer, [c] Max Faulkner?
- 8 Which meteorological landmark at Lord's was placed on the Grandstand 100 years ago this summer?
- 9 The first British Grand Prix was held on August 7, 1926. Where?
- 10 Andy Burnham's recent "He's a very naughty boy" quip in the House of Commons was a line from which 1979 satirical film?



Graffham Tennis Club



Tennis Week Graffham Tennis Club’s Tennis Week kicked off on the evening of Friday 17 July with an adult-junior club night, culminating in its grand finale Curry Night the following Friday.

Watch for a full report and pictures in next month’s issue of *Graffham Parish News*.

Club tournaments The first of the annual club tournaments got under way with the early rounds of the Mixed Doubles. Six pairs were divided into two groups, each playing in a round robin format to determine the two finalists. In each group there was a clear winner, with many-time victors Emma Amin and Andy Craig emerging as winners of Group A and Sarah Selman and James Mitford from Group B. The final will be held over three sets at a later date when Emma and Andy will be looking to reclaim the title that they lost for the first time in 2025.

The Men’s Doubles tournament lured some top names out of retirement on Saturday 11 July. Andy and Sam Major, David and Ollie Sanders and Andy Craig and Ross Anderson are all previous trophy winners and they turned out to challenge the other pairs of Patrick Rosebeare and Stas Lawicki, Rich Sabin and Jeeva, Tom Sharman and David Sparkes plus Richard and Lawrence Bates. After some thrilling matches in the round robin stage the finalists were Andy and Ross versus the Bates father and son pairing. The youth and agility of Richard and Lawrence won out, though, with a final result of 6-4. It was such an enjoyable morning that certain of the pairs stayed on beyond the final to contest a “wooden spoon” match. The “winners” of that will remain a secret!



Men’s Doubles finalists Ross Anderson, and Andy Craig and eventual winners Lawrence and Richard Bates.

East Hants league

There are just two home fixtures in August – do come and watch!

Graffham Tennis Club August home fixtures				
5 Aug	6.30pm	Ladies’ Doubles	Div 4	vs Fernhurst C
13 Aug		Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore A

The club has recorded another mixed bag of results in recent league matches:

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results				
15 Jun	Lost 8-0	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Liphook
16 Jun	Won 5-3	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Haslemere B
22 Jun	Lost 7-1	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Swanmore A
1 Jul	Won 5-3	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Denmead
6 Jul	Drew 4-4	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Denmead
9 Jul	Lost 8-0	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	vs Steep A
10 Jul	Lost 6-2	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs The Avenue
13 Jul	Won 5-3	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Alton C
13 Jul	Won 6-2	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Alton B
14 Jul	Lost 5-3	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	vs Swanmore B



Centenary special Have there ever been so many players on Graffham's bowling green before? Graffham Bowls Club's special tournament to mark 100 years since its formation brought competitors from nine other local rivals.

Graffham Bowls Club

Graffham Bowls Club celebrated its centenary with a special tournament on Saturday 27 June with nine teams from nearby clubs invited to play alongside a



Graffham's President Janet Wakeford and Charlie Tyrell presented trophies to the tournament's eventual winners from Arundel.

home side. Fortunately, it was slightly cooler than most of the rest of summer.

The day began with bacon rolls before play started in a round robin format. After a much-needed break for a BBQ lunch, play continued through the afternoon and finished with a play-off between Pulborough and Arundel, with the latter

emerging as overall winners.

The club would like to thank all the teams who took part, Newy Ltd and Folkes Architects for their sponsorship, and The Foresters, Graffham Village Shop and The Unicorn for donating raffle prizes.



100 not out On one of this summer's slightly cooler days, 10 teams battled it out for Graffham's centenary trophy.



Graffham Ladies Cricket Club

Graffham faced a stern challenge away at Petworth without their star player, Matilda Shelton-Agar on 22 June. The stunning location just inside the park provided a wonderful backdrop on one of those hot, hazy evenings.

Petworth batted first and set a manageable 114 target after the 20 overs. The match was in the "double wicket" format where each pair remains in for four overs but five runs are deducted for each fallen wicket. Some tight bowling was recorded by Ardra and Vasu but the only wickets to fall were off the bowling of Jess Hill (four) and Philippa Sanders (one). Graffham's fielding was vastly improved, with superb catches held by Jess Hill, Amelia Bradley and wicket-keeper Holly Sabin. They were not able to match their fielding standard with their batting, though, and some

► *Continued on next page*



Smiles from Graffham's lady cricketers, despite the loss, on a gorgeous evening in the lovely setting of Petworth Park.

rounders or just fielders. The age range ran from 10 to 70 with a roughly equal male/female split making it a truly inclusive village event. Highlights included some terrific bowling from youngsters William Smithers and Alfie Cooper. Phil Bowden delivered her speciality Shane Warne-style leg spinners and Bill Barrett tried out his paciast delivery (with limited success). Angie Thornley directed her fielders brilliantly, helped by youngsters Poppy and Isla Harding, and Vasu hit the decisive winning runs for her team.

Cash prizes on offer for best photos of Downs

The theme of this year is “Serene South Downs: Back to Nature”. The judges say they will be “looking for breathtaking images that celebrate the national park’s serenity and those moments of slowing down and taking stock”. Cash prizes are up for grabs – £250 for first place overall, £150 for second and £75 for third, with £150 prize for the best wildlife best and £100 for the runner-up.



Previous winner Tim Kahane's shot of Chanctonbury Ring.

► Continued from previous page

costly errors resulted in a final total of 67 for 7. Top scorers were Denise Clay and Sally Pattie.

The end of June saw another “Turn Up and Play” session on Sunday 28 June. The Big Bash yielded two teams of 12-a-side on yet another warm, sunny morning. Brett Creed devised an ingenious way of making the teams even by getting everyone to identify themselves as batters, bowlers, all-

rounders or just fielders. There will also be a public vote for the “people’s choice”, with £100 for the winner. For the first time, there will also be a special monochrome category, with a £100 prize. The deadline for entries is midnight on Saturday 31 October 2026. For more details, including how to enter, see www.southdowns.gov.uk/care-for/photo-comp/

Busy summer for Sussex family support charity...



Family Support Work is the Sussex charity supported by Petworth Area Churches Together, which includes Graffham's St Giles. It provides early intervention, practical support and emotional guidance to help families navigate a wide range of challenges.

Help support us There are many ways to support Family Support Work, from donating and volunteering to fundraising. Long-time supporter Peter Gayler is continuing his Cathedral, Abbey and Church (CAC) Pilgrimage across England, Wales and Scotland, attending services and exploring the history of each location. So far, Peter has raised an incredible £8,415 and hopes to complete his challenge in April 2027. If you would like to support him or see his regular updates please visit this link: justgiving.com/page/cacpilgrimage

Summer food donations For the summer holidays, we would be very grateful for donations of tinned pasta, tinned vegetables (not pulses), tinned tomatoes, tinned fish, ketchup and mayonnaise, instant coffee, jelly pots or packets, and tinned fruit.

June's work in numbers

- 205 home visits to families
- 507 phone calls/remote support to 234 parents and 179 children
- 44 group sessions, 520 adults and 256 children supported
- 75 food deliveries made
- 57 volunteers who gave a total of 636.5 hours of their time.

To find out more, see familysupportwork.org

...and for Petworth Area Churches Together

July was a busy month for Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) with its service to open Petworth Festival and its Kids Club Summer Holiday Bible Club.

Guest speaker at the Petworth Festival opening event, at St Mary's Church, Petworth, on 16 July, was Sir Alex Beard, Chief Executive of the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden and one of Britain's leading lights in the artistic world.



The Kids Club Summer Holiday Bible Club was held from Monday to Friday 27 to 31 July, open to all children of primary school age, with more than 50 taking part, at the Sylvia Beaufoy Centre. The theme was "The Mystery Gang", based on the Scooby Doo stories.

Other denominations locally

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

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

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

Society of Friends (Quakers): St Anne's Community Centre, St Anne's Hill, Midhurst, GU29 9NN. *Web:* sussexwestquakers.org.uk *Meetings:* 2nd and 4th Sundays 10.30am.

Details of services at Graffham's St Giles Church
are on the opposite page.

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What's on at our village church and chapel

- All residents and visitors are welcome to all services.
- St Giles Church is at the far south end of Graffham Street, near the Downs.
- All Saints' Chapel is opposite Graffham Village Shop. Both are open daily.
- See stgilesgraffham.org 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.
- Neither Morning Prayer nor Pilgrims is held on Tuesdays during August.

August				
1	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing!	St Giles Church
2	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 9	St Giles Church
8	Sat		District bell-ringing practice	St Giles Church
9	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 10	All Saints Chapel
16	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30 am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 11	St Giles Church
23	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 12	St Giles Church
30	Sun	12.30pm	Parish Eucharist conducted by Canon John Bundoock	St Giles Church

Messy Church is on fire

July's session of "Messy Church" was one of the biggest yet in Graffham. With more than 20 children and almost 15 adults enjoying its "Moses and the Burning Bush" theme, with crafts, games, stories and supper sharing together. In Messy Church the crafts are creative and fun to make, the bible stories are valuable to learn. The worship takes place in St Giles' Lady Chapel which contains visual aids like the dove with olive branch embroidered frontal and Easter-themed stained glass window. The food is delicious and conveniently served in the school hall, across the road from the church.

Watch out for the next Messy Church date in September! All families welcome – and all helpers appreciated! Contact Rev Vivien for information or just go along!



A Messy Church game in the open air.

What's on in and around the village

- For weekly events, see page 61. For church services and other events, see page 57. For home sports fixtures, see page 51.
- 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

August				
1	Sat	10am-4pm	Bignor Sunflower Maze and Pumpkin patch (till end Aug)	By Bignor Roman Villa RH20 1PH
		11am-7pm	Qatar Glorious Goodwood racing	Goodwood
		11am-2pm	Madhurst Unplugged	Midhurst
		10am-6pm	Loxwood Joust (also 2 Aug)	Loxwood RH14 0AL
			Cowes Week (till 8 Aug)	Isle of Wight
6	Thu	10.30-11.30am	UKHarvest surplus food market	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth
7	Fri	7.30pm	MADhurst presents Squinty McGinty Band's high energy folk, Celtic and singalong	South Downs Memor'l Hall, Midhurst
8	Sat	10am-6pm	Loxwood Joust (also 9 Aug)	Loxwood RH14 0AL
		Afternoon	Heyshott summer show	Cobden Hall, Heyshott
9	Sun		Heritage crafts exhibition	Coultershaw
		7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
11	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
12	Wed		<i>The Glorious Twelfth</i>	
15	Sat		VJ Day	
		10am-6pm	Loxwood Joust (also 17 Aug)	Loxwood RH14 0AL
		2.30pm	Graffham Down Trust tea in the reserves	Graffham Down
		From 8pm	Absolutely Dragulous drag night	Three Moles
16	Sun	6.30pm	MADhurst presents Forza Opera Tenor Duo	Midhurst
22	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		7.30pm	MADhurst presents Mission Impossible Soul Band	South Downs Memor'l Hall, Midhurst
		7.30pm	Comedy night	Langham Brewery
23	Sun		Stationary engines and machinery	Coultershaw
25	Mon		Graffham clothes swap (till end of Aug)	All Saints Chapel
26	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
28	Fri		Meet our new chefs event for parents	Graffham Inf't School
			August Bank Holiday Racing (till 30 Aug)	Goodwood
29	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		2-7pm	Summer Street Party	Midhurst Market Sq

30	Sun	5-10.30pm	Big Music Bash	Petworth Pk Cric't Club
		7-10pm	Booze 'n' Blues Night	Three Moles
31	Mon		August bank holiday	
		From 2pm	Graffham Summer Fête	Rec
September				
1	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society Midhurst talk on <i>Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera: The Golden Age of Mexican Painting</i>	Methodist Hall, Midhurst
		1.15 for 2pm	Arts Society West Sussex talk on <i>The Enigma of Edward Elgar</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
			WSCC term starts but INSET day at Graffham and Duncton Schools	
2	Wed		INSET day at Graffham and Duncton Schools	
		10.30am	Graffham Garden Group outing	West Dean
		6.30pm	Empire Hall AGM	Empire Hall
3	Thu		Seaford College term starts	
		10.30-11.30am	UKHarvest surplus food market	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth
6	Sun		Graffham Tennis Club men's A singles tournament	Rec
8	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
		11.30am	Autumn Racing	Goodwood
9	Wed	6.30pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Pavilion
12	Sat		Graffham Tennis Club ladies' doubles tournament	Rec
			Heritage weekend (also Sun 13 Sept)	Coultershaw
			Last Night of the Proms	Royal Albert Hall
13	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
18	Fri	7am-7pm	Goodwood Revival (to 20 Sep)	Goodwood
19	Sat	evening	Wall of Floyd Pink Floyd tribute band	Empire Hall
21	Mon	6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford College
23	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
		11.30am	Autumn Racing	Goodwood
25	Fri	6.30pm	Village harvest supper	Empire Hall
26	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
			Seaford College Prep School open morning	Seaford College
27	Sun	7-10pm	Booze 'n' Blues Night	Three Moles

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

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



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AWARDS



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

Mondays	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness ¹	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	6pm in summer	Bowls Club practices – all welcome	Rec
Tuesdays	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice – newcomers welcome	St Giles
Wednesdays	9-10am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	11.15am-12noon	Pilates ⁵	Empire Hall
	1.45-2.45pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching ⁶	Rec
	3.30-6.15pm	After school tennis club	Tennis Club
	5pm	Nina's Core to Floor ³	Westerlands
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁷ – all welcome	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ²	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁸	Empire Hall
	6-7.15pm	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ⁹	Empire Hall
	3-4pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching ⁷	Tennis Club
	Evenings	Tennis Club evenings	Pavilion
Saturdays	8.30am	Boxfit with Nina ³	Westerlands
	9-10.15am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall
	10am	Nina's Core to Floor ³	Westerlands
	10.30am	Yoga with Kate ³	Westerlands
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ⁹	Empire Hall

Empire Hall: For booking and contact details, see Directory, inside back cover. **¹Fitflows Fitness:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956. **²Osteopath:** Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 303557 or see annashawcross.co.uk **³For all Westerlands events:** Book online at www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit **⁴Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 367009. **⁵Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297. **⁶Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk, on 07904 069457. **⁷Badminton:** Contact Christina Federowicz on 07900 055574. All welcome. **⁸Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956. **⁹Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.

Quiz answers (for questions see page 50)

- 1 False, but Thomas Michel was Rector from 1742 until 1750.
- 2 Chris Major.
- 3 [a] East Dean – at West's Wood Fair.
- 4 Lammas.
- 5 [b] 65.
- 6 [b] Cats.
- 7 [c] Max Faulkner.
- 8 The Old Father Time weathervane.
- 9 Brooklands.
- 10 *Monty Python's Life of Brian*.

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Directory: Useful local contact info

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	Midhurst Riverbank Medical Centre	01730 812121
	Haslemere Minor Injuries Unit	01483 782334
DEFIBRILLATORS	On outside wall of Empire Hall	Code is C240Z
	On outside wall of Pavilion	Code is C159X
	In phone box outside Pescods	Code is also C159X
	In phone box opposite The Three Moles	No code needed
FLOOD ALERT for Lods Bridge	To check river level	bit.ly/lodsbridge
POLICE	In emergency	999
	Non-emergency	101@sussex.pnn.police.uk 101
BURST WATER MAINS	Southern Water	0800 820 999
POWER CUTS	Scottish & Southern Electric	0800 0727 282
99 FLEX BUS	Linking Graffham with Chichester, Petworth etc	Book via Ring Pingo app 01243 858854
All Saints Chapel Trust	Chairman Clive Rowntree	01798 867536
Badminton	Christina Federowicz	07900 055574
Bees / Swarms	Wisboro' Green B'keepers Tom Moore	07984 606214/01798 343470
	Local beekeeper Murray West	evenings 01798 867048
Chichester District Council		01243 534734
District Councillor	John Cross jcross@chichester.gov.uk	07592 307027
Dog Warden	Office hours/Emergency	01243 534734/01243 785339
Citizens Advice Bureau		03448 487969
East Lavington Parish Council	Chairman Simon Longman	simon.longman@eastlavington-pc.uk
	Clerk Amy Harte	07889 979820 eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com
Empire Hall		empirehall.org.uk
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
Foodbank	info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk	01243 773687
Foresters Arms	forestersarmsgraffham.com	01798 867386
Graffham Archive	Robin Brind	graffhamarchive@outlook.com 01798 867619
Graffham Bellringers	Tower Captain Howard Pescott	01798 867029
Graffham Bowls Club	Secretary Liz Pegram	01798 867770
Graffham Down Trust	Chairman Jim Kirke	07718 559675
Graffham Empire Movies	Michael Blunt	mblunt@btinternet.com
Graffham Garden Group	Carole Kirke	07855 515739
Graff'm Health Support Assc	Chairman Fiona Jacob	fifi@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
Graffham Lunch Club	Harriet Rowntree	07415 256432

Graffham Nursery	School Office	01798 867324
Graffham Parish Council		graffham-pc.gov.uk
	Chairman Gillian Charlesworth	gcharlesworth@graffham-pc.gov.uk
	Clerk Amy Harte	clerk@graffham-pc.gov.uk
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Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council		stgilesgraffham.org
	Priest-in-Charge Rev Vivien Turner	01798 867199
		hallo@stgilesgraffham.org
	Churchwardens Cindy Bradley	07787 516522
	Liz Jenkins	07836 326100
	Treasurer Dinah Lamming	graffhampcctreasurer@gmail.com
Graffham Rec Committee	Chairman John Bracey	01798 867760
	Bookings Sec Sonya Gillespie	graffhamrecpavilion@gmail.com
Graffham Tennis Club	Chairman Simon Longman	01798 867317
	Secretary David Sparkes	07958 486211
	Coaching Emma Amin	01798 867063
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	Treasurer Andy Jones	andy.jones@graffham.net
	Secretary Ros Britton	rosalind.britton@btinternet.com
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Lavington Estate	info@lavingtonstud.co.uk	01798 867275
Lavington Park Federation		graffhamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk
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	Dunton CE Junior School	01798 342402
	Friends of Graffham & Dunton Schools	01798 867324
Long Bostle Downland Soc	Gillian Brandt	01798 867276
MP Arundel & South Downs	Andrew Griffith	andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk
Midhurst & Petworth Observer		01243 534163
National Trust (Lavington Common)		01730 816638
Neighbourhood Watch	Michael Crickmay	01798 867486
Osteopath	Anna Shawcross	01798 867523
Oil Buying Syndicate	Derek Bradnum	derekbradnum@gmail.com
Pilates at Empire Hall	Nicky Capes	07990 517858
Potholes	To report a pothole or other road problem online	bit.ly/report-potholes-west-sussex
Seaford College		01798 867392
Sussex Wildlife Trust		01273 492630
Three Moles	Ollie and Tom	thethreemoles.com 01798 861303
Thursday Club	Secretary Diane Bellis	01798 867444
West Sussex County Council	General enquiries	01243 777100
	County Councillor Tom Richardson	07463 785039
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