

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 428

FREE

OCTOBER 2026



BBQ boys help grill up a great fête

Fresh faces to look after Empire Hall

Meet Seaford's new head Matt Williams



On the cover: Barbeque boys Anthony Forsyth, Miles Amin, Murray West and Paul Pieterse helped grill up a great Graffham fête on August Bank Holiday, generating a whopping £6,200 profit for the village's recreation ground.

More pictures and full report from page 32.

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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.

November 2026 edition deadline 14 October.

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

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Member Editor 2026 Award Winner 2022
Association for Church Editors

Writing from the Rectory: Clearing the loft

The summer holidays may feel rather a while ago now. However they were spent, I hope it was as relaxing and stimulating a time as you could possibly wish.

Unless there are weddings, summer is a quieter time in church life, providing one of the best opportunities for husband Phillip and I to enjoy relaxation and stimulation as well. We found ourselves required to spend our summer rather differently this year, however. With the hope in sight of a purchaser for our family home in Surrey, our summer holidays needed to be spent clearing the loft. In August, we began the painstaking work of sifting through boxes of documents and schoolwork and piles of toys, clothes and bric-à-brac accumulated during 40 years of family life with our four children – stirring recollections all the time of different stages of life, that at times felt like they happened to different people, so changed we now are.

Because we are different now – of course we are. Time changes everyone, though we may continue to attempt to hold onto our past selves, rather too much. It was cathartic, therefore (though at the time it did not seem it) to grit our teeth and flex

► *Continued on page 3*



How Graffham Parish News lands through your letterbox every month.

The Thursday Club has invited the editors to give its next talk.
Find out how your favourite village monthly news magazine's:

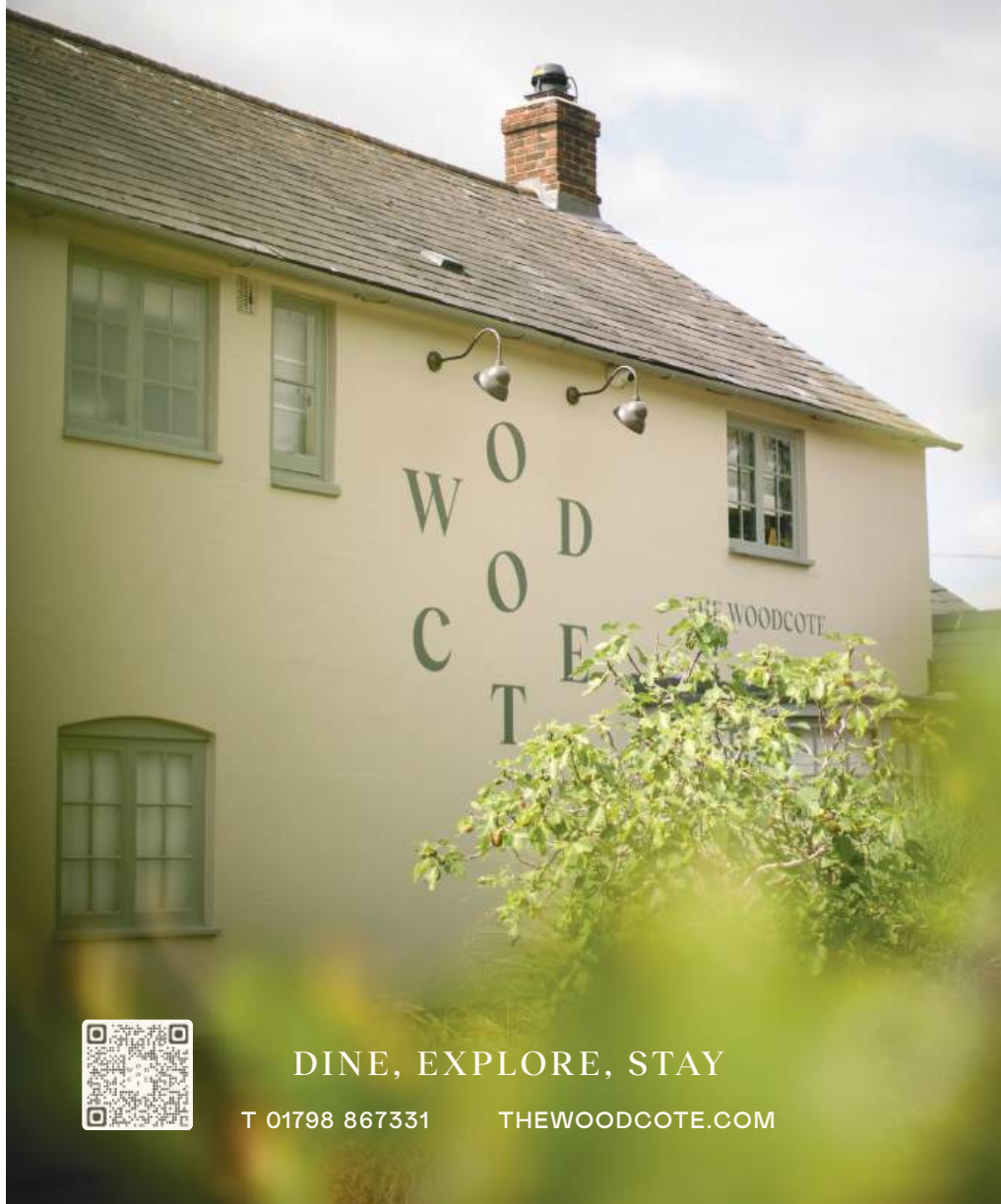
- *Look has developed since its early days.*
- *Content is put together.*
- *Production takes place – from laying out its pages to distributing it to your door.*

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Refreshments and raffle



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► *Continued from page 1*

our muscles and fill up carloads of bin bags of paper recycling and landfill, outdated electronics and metal items, deliver more than 20 carrier bags of books to the National Trust and donate multitudes of ornaments and pictures to the village fête. Now we are holding on only to that which is most precious, no longer hidden amongst the lumber and given space to be fully seen.

It occurs to me that people's minds are much like our loft – so piled up with thoughts and distractions and sentimental and challenging memories of the past, that at times we cannot move for them. It's time now for us to clear out our mental processes, stimulated and inspired by that month-long sorting out and sweeping out of their physical equivalent.

How about you? All minds need space to be free, space which requires time, quiet and open time for prayer and contemplation, for reflection and resolution, for letting go and moving forward. I urge you to allow yourself this blessing as much as you can, to declutter your living space and your thinking space. Best of all, develop a discipline of prayer which is key to mental and emotional and spiritual liberation. (Lectio 365 is a good app you may like to try.) Discover peace and freedom unimpeded by past preoccupations. Become more fully yourself and fully alive to yourself, and the people (not the things) that are important to you, today.

Every blessing.

Vivien

Reverend Vivien

**'...one's life does not
consist in the abundance
of possessions.'**
– Luke 12.15



Priest in charge: Reverend Vivien Turner
hello@stgilesgraffham.org 01798 867199
Vivien's rest days are Mondays and Fridays (other than for weddings and other special events).

Churchwardens: Cindy Bradley 07787 516522
Liz Jenkins 07836 326100

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 stgilesgraffham.org  @stgilesgraffham





Incoming and outgoing hall officers pictured after its AGM, from left: Meetings Secretary Jonathan Simons, incoming Treasurer Jude Sennitt, Maintenance Officer Tom Richardson, outgoing Treasurer Carole Sargent, Chairman Ollie Robinson-Boulton, outgoing Bookings Secretary Anna Shawcross, incoming Bookings Secretary Diana Pettifer, new Projects Officer Michael Pettifer.

Fresh faces to help look after our Empire Hall

Three key new office holders have been appointed to the Empire Hall as a new-look committee was elected at its annual general meeting, attended by 25 residents on Wednesday 2 September. While Chairman Ollie Robinson-Boulton and

Funds boosted by £15,000

The Empire Hall was able to bolster its bank account by almost £15,000 in the year to end March 2026, thanks to a healthy programme of fund-raising activities – taking its reserves to almost £72,000.

Hirers paid a total of £15,500 to use the building, little changed on the year before. Fund-raising events, including the Easter Market, concerts, dances, films and plays, added a further £14,000, up by £10,000 on the previous 12 months, giving total income of some £31,400.

Costs totalled just more than £14,000, little changed in the year before.

Maintenance Officer Tom Richardson had indicated their intention to stand down, they were persuaded to remain in their roles. Meetings Secretary Jonathan Simons is also continuing in his role.

Carole Sargent retired after 11 years as Treasurer, to be succeeded by Jude Sennitt. Anna Shawcross resigned as Bookings Secretary ahead of her family's forthcoming move to New Zealand. Diana Pettifer is taking on that role. Both Carole and Anna were presented with bouquets and gifts as a thank-you for their contributions. Diana's husband Michael Pettifer was

elected to the new position of Project Officer, to take the lead on big maintenance initiatives, like the recently identified need to refurbish the hall's windows.

Five representatives of organisations that regular use the hall also confirmed they would continue as trustees of the building – Christina Federowicz (from Graffham Badminton Club), Fiona Jacobs (Graffham Health Support Association), Hilary Major (Graffham Parish Council), Ann Brown (St Giles Church) and Diane Bellis (Thursday Club).

New windows and outside lights planned next

A major project has been launched to refurbish the Empire Hall's windows – the first time they will have been given a full overhaul since the building was originally put up 120 years ago – while new exterior lighting is to be installed to give what Chairman Ollie Robinson-Boulton described as “a warm and welcoming glow – a subtle presence on those darker evenings without being over the top”.

When the windows were given a deep clean in the spring, they were found to be in particularly delicate state, with the lead between the glass fragile in many places.

Newly appointed Projects Officer Michael Pettifer will lead an initiative to raise funds through grants and other channels for them to be given some care and attention, or replacement where necessary, without altering their character.

The new lights, to be fitted in the building's eaves ahead of the winter, will be downwards facing and dim, to avoid disturbing wildlife or contravening the South Downs' dark skies policies. Besides giving the building a more welcoming feel, they are also designed to make it safer for users to access its treatment room, kitchen and storage units at its rear when it is dark.



The Empire Hall has been looking at its best this summer, after its spring clean, with the Union Flag back flying from the front and beautiful hanging baskets and plant pots, supplied by Graffham Garden Group, and kept watered by a newly installed automated irrigation system.

Challenging changes – but pride at achievements



Chairman Ollie Robinson-Boulton reviewed the past year and looked at what lies ahead for the Empire Hall at its AGM. Here's an abridged version of his report.

As I look back over my first year as Chairman of the Empire Hall, it is fair to say that it has been a challenging one. There have been plenty of hurdles along the way, and, as with any organisation, there have sometimes been differing views about how things should be done — particularly when it comes to change. But looking around the building, I think we can also say with some pride that a huge amount has been achieved.

This hall is at the heart of our village, and it deserves to look its very best and to be welcoming, safe and fit for the future. Over the past year, we have made some really positive steps towards achieving that.

We now have an automated booking system, making it much easier for people to hire and use the hall – all thanks to our outgoing Bookings Secretary Anna Shawcross. The hall itself is looking cleaner and clearer. We have redecorated areas, given the windows a proper sparkle, fully sanded and varnished the stage and made countless other improvements — some obvious, some less so, but all contributing to making the hall a better place.

Little touches have been added that make a real difference. The Union Flag is flying proudly again on the facade, and the clock is now illuminated, bringing a little more character and presence to the building in the evenings.

And then there are the flowers. The wonderful pots and hanging baskets around the hall have made such a difference – a huge thank you to the Graffham Garden Group for making the hall look so colourful and cared for. And, of course, a special mention must go to our Maintenance Officer Tom Richardson, who helped me install the automated irrigation system. This was partly to make sure the plants stayed alive — but, more importantly, to save the Garden Group's Carole Kirke

from having to walk backwards and forwards every day with her watering can!

Improvements to a village hall don't happen through one person – but because people are prepared to give their time, roll up their sleeves and get stuck in. So I want to say a massive thank you to all the committee. Every



single one of them has worked incredibly hard over the past year, giving time, dealing with problems, finding solutions and, at times, overcoming some pretty significant challenges. I am incredibly grateful to them for sticking with it and working together over the past year. I also want to thank the local residents who came along and helped with the big spring clean. That was a fantastic example of what a village can achieve when people come together. It was hard work, but it made an enormous difference.

Change is not always easy. We have had moments when new ideas have met resistance, and that's understandable. The hall has a long history, and people quite rightly care deeply about it. But if we are going to keep it thriving for the next generation, we have to be willing to move forward while respecting everything that has gone before.

There is still plenty to do, and I certainly don't pretend that the challenges will disappear. But we have made a very good start, and I am excited about what we can achieve together in the year ahead. The Empire Hall belongs to the village. It has served Graffham for generations, and our responsibility is to make sure it continues to do so for generations to come.



Scottish dancing
rehearsals at
Graffham Empire Hall
this autumn

Join us for four spirited Sunday sessions in
October and November as we warm
up for **Burns Night 2027!**

- 📅 11, 18 and 25 October and 1 November
- 🕒 4-6pm
- 📍 Empire Hall, Graffham
- £ £2 per person per session

All welcome!

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and a flurry of footwork!*

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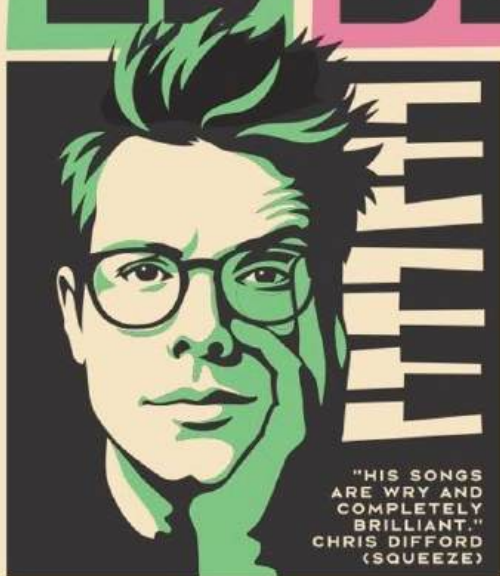
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EMPIRE HALL
GRAFFHAM
SAT 24 OCT

Returning to the Empire Hall 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.

A singer-songwriter hailed by *Rolling Stone* for his 'astonishing mastery of his craft', Ed is an in-demand multi-instrumentalist who can make you laugh one moment and gently break your heart the next.

Drawing comparisons to James Taylor, Paul Simon and Randy Newman, 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 has played. This promises to be an intimate, story-led evening full of humour, honesty and musicianship.

WWW.EDBLUNT.CO.UK

Boundary Review Panel backs parish merger

The potential merger of Graffham and East Lavington Parish Councils has moved a significant step further forward with Chichester District Council's Boundary Review Panel unanimously agreeing to recommend that the full district council should carry out a community governance review of the proposal.

It was due to decide whether to proceed at its meeting on Tuesday 22 September – just too late for this issue of *Graffham Parish News*. It was asked to support the merger review, with the aim of making a final decision within a year.



Graffham and East Lavington's chairmen Gillian Charlesworth and Simon Longman attended the Boundary Review Panel, which was held remotely on a computer dial-in basis, to answer questions from the six-person committee. The proposal has already been subject to extensive consultation across the two parishes in the past few years, with an overwhelming majority of residents supporting it.

Now's the time to trim your hedges and verges

Residents are being reminded by Graffham Parish Council that now is the time to trim hedges and road verges and to look upwards to see if any dead overhanging branches need removing. All restrictions on hedge maintenance due to nesting birds are now lifted – so this is the perfect period to swing into action to ensure our roads will be neat and clear for the whole of the winter.

Most hedges and verges alongside roads do not belong to the council but to the adjacent householder or landowner. It is their responsibility to keep roads and pavements safe for vehicles, cyclists and horse riders by cutting back vegetation on their property to give a minimum clearance of 0.5 metres (1ft 8ins) to the edge of the carriageway and, if there is overhanging growth, to a minimum height of 5.2 metres (17 ft). If you can't do it yourself then you should contact a reputable local contractor to handle it for you.

Please don't block our sewers!

Residents are being reminded not to put wet wipes, sanitary products, cooking oil or other fats down their drains or loos. It comes after more blockages, caused by "fatbergs", to the waste system serving the village, forcing raw sewage into gardens and streams and on to roads.

Meet Seaford's new headmaster Matt Williams

Seaford College's new Headmaster Matt Williams has been busy getting his feet under his new desk in his first term at the school. One of his early tasks was to answer questions from students for a series of videos posted on its social media channels – which we combine and summarise here.

What attracted you to Seaford College? It has a real, strong and tangible sense of community. It's a school that's comfortable in its own skin, that feels down to

Matt Williams has always worked in boarding schools since he started teaching 28 years ago.

He spent 14 years at Rugby School where he was Head of Department and Housemaster of a senior boys' boarding house, before becoming a Deputy Head at Sidcot School in North Somerset.

Before moving to Seaford, he had been Head of Warminster School, a co-educational boarding and day school for two- to 18-year-olds in Wiltshire, where he had been since 2019.

He has always involved himself in all aspects of school life – coaching cricket and rugby, directing numerous drama productions, taking charge of clay pigeon shooting, as well as leading several international sports tours.

He is an ISI Team Inspector, on the Board of the Society of Heads as well as Chair of the Education Committee, and a member of the HMC Public Benefit and Partnerships Committee.

earth and not afraid to think about its tradition but is also forward thinking. I have been so impressed by the warmth and authenticity of the community, and the breadth of opportunities for students.

Academic success matters enormously, but I have always been most proud of the young people who have left my schools as confident, compassionate and well-rounded individuals.

Students here clearly have each other's backs and are supportive of each other. That sense of kindness and community is really important



Matt's met as many students as he can – at GCSE results, in the playground and assemblies...

to me. I'm really passionate about the environment, too – and Seaford is in a wonderful natural setting with so much space and nature.

Why did you become a head teacher?

I didn't set out to become a teacher, let alone a headmaster. Once I entered the profession, I quickly realised the profound impact education

can have on young people's lives. Becoming a headmaster gave me the opportunity to shape not just individual pupils' experiences, but the culture and values of an entire community.

What was your favourite subject at school and why? English Literature – I loved the power of stories and the way great writing can challenge your thinking, broaden your perspective and help you see the world through someone else's eyes. English taught me that words matter, whether you are reading a novel or trying to inspire a school community.

School trips are an important part of Seaford. Did you go on any yourself? I was lucky enough to go on some great school trips myself. The one that stands out was to Russia, at a really interesting time, in about 1989, just as things were starting to change there. As a teacher, I've been fortunate to do lots of overseas trips and tours – leading rugby teams to Australia, Singapore, Japan and Canada, and cricket groups to the Caribbean and Sri Lanka. Trips are an amazing part of any school.

► [Continued on page 13](#)



Matt with his family's 'daft' black labrador Murphy.



... on school outings to the Witterings, around the camp fire and while inducting new prefects.

What about future investment at Seaford? It's really important to continue to invest in our facilities and therefore in our students. It is something we will continue to do to ensure Seaford is the very best school it can be.

How do you relax? Sport has always been a big part of my life. The only sport I play regularly now is golf but I have played a lot of rugby and cricket, not much hockey although I enjoyed it, and a bit of tennis and netball. My favourite sport to watch on TV is rugby, although I prefer to see it live – I'm a big Bath fan and have gone to the Rec (Bath's home ground) when I can. As for football, for my sins I'm an Aston Villa supporter. I love the outdoors and as a family we like being by the sea, with a bit of surf, and being up in the mountains, skiing. I also enjoy good food and going to the theatre. On a daily basis, it's a joy to walk our daft black labrador, Murphy.

What is the most surprising thing about you that people might not know? In my younger days, I played the drums in an ABBA tribute band. It has never proved particularly useful in school leadership. Not yet anyway!



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Rosemary and John Sutton won a luxurious cream tea for two at Bepton's wonderful Park House Hotel & Spa in the raffle at Graffham Garden Group's summer flower and produce show – and what better day to take advantage of it than their 64th wedding anniversary!

School report: Welcome back – to lunches, roof and more



Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Business Manager Jenny Godfrey provides an update on what is going on at our village schools as they returned from their summer holidays.

We were delighted to welcome 15 new children into our Reception class, along with a new pupil joining Year 1, as we returned from our summer holidays. We are excited to get to know all of our newcomers and greet back our existing pupils.

We have also welcomed some new members to our school team this term. Laura has joined us as our new chef and we also warmly welcome KT, our new Kitchen Assistant, who will be based at Duncton (see below). Our Duncton team has also grown with the addition of Thalia Fox, who has joined us as our new SEND Teaching Assistant. We are thrilled to have them all as part of our school community and look forward to working with them as they settle into their roles.

Lunches now cooked on site Our new kitchen equipment was installed during the summer break, and our new chef, Laura, worked closely with our partner Chefs in Schools to create some fantastic menus and prepare for the start of term. This has been a huge project for us, and with the wonderful support of our school and



Graffham CE Infant School Open Morning



**15th and 22nd October 2026
9.30am – 11.30am**

- See our beautiful village school and meet some of the fantastic teachers
- Have a guided tour of the school with the headteacher
- Meet our chef and learn about our freshly prepared 'home cooked' meals
- Chat to our wraparound care leader

This open morning is primarily for children joining Reception in September 2027. Contact the office for more information and to book a place

Email: office@graffhaminfant.org.uk

Phone: 01798 867324

Visit our website to learn more about the school <https://graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

If you are unavailable on this date please contact us to make a separate appointment

local community, we have been able to turn our ideas and dreams into reality. Our pupils and staff are thoroughly enjoying the fresh, healthy food. One child summed it up perfectly, commenting: "It's like Christmas lunch, but we get to have it every day!" The menu includes everything from tacos and curry to sausages – and the list goes on! We are delighted to be able to offer our children such delicious, nutritious meals each day.



The school's new chef Laura and kitchen assistant KT

Graffham building improvements The Graffham school site was a hive of activity over the summer holidays. Besides the kitchen improvements, our roofing works, started a year ago, progressed. They are still on-going following a slight delay in the delivery of the tiles, but we are hopeful that the work will be completed by half term this month. Thankfully, most of the scaffolding has now been removed, and we are just waiting for two small areas of the roof to be completed. The building has also had extensive electrical work carried out over the holidays, and the inside of the main school hall roof has been repainted, giving the space a fresh new look.

In addition, our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) area now has a wonderful new veranda, built by Harry Godman-Dorington, and it looks brilliant. It is already proving to be a fantastic addition to this area and will provide the children with a lovely space to enjoy throughout the year.

It has been a busy summer at Graffham, but we are thrilled with the improvements and, most importantly, delighted to see the children enjoying their new surroundings, new food and the start of another exciting school year.



The scaffolding's now down after this summer's roof works, and early years pupils are now enjoying the wonderful new veranda built by Harry Godman-Dorington.

Anna hands osteopathy clinic over to Julie

The osteopathy practice operating in the Empire Hall's treatment room is now in new hands. Anna Shawcross, who has been curing the village's aches and pains there for many years, left the clinic at the end of last month (September) ahead of her family's move to New Zealand in November.

It is now in the care of Julie Brown, a registered osteopath who studied in London, qualified in 2015, with a BA and BSc (Hons) and has been running her Feel Better



Anna (right) has handed over the care of your backs and other bones and muscles at the Empire Hall's osteopathy clinic to Julie.

Osteopathy clinic in Storrington, where she now lives, for the past five years. She also holds a postgraduate diploma in paediatric osteopathy and is a certified baby feeding coach. Before moving to West Sussex, she practised in Chislehurst.

Anna and Julie have been working closely together to ensure the smoothest of handovers for the Empire Hall clinic and its patients.

Anna said: "I am as excited about the opportunities ahead as I am sad to be leaving this wonderful part of the world and all those in it. In particular I am very sad to be saying goodbye to this wonderful community of people. It has been an absolute pleasure to know and care for you all. I thank you all for putting up with me over this past year, through the trials and tribulations to do with the mechanics of actually getting myself, my

family and dogs and a cat to the other side of the planet. I am very relieved to have found a wonderful osteopath in Julie who would be very happy to continue your care. She is able to provide smooth continuity from when I finish in both Graffham and Pulborough (where Anna has also been practising)."

Julie added: "Timing, as they say, is everything! I'd been looking to branch out in our local area for a little while. Then I heard by chance that Anna was soon to be leaving our shores. I quickly messaged her to see if we could discuss how to make sure there was some smooth continuity of osteopathic care and provision for her patients. I very much look forward to hearing from you, meeting you and working

with you. Please do get in touch if you would like to say hello, know more about how I can help you or your families, or to book in.” Before retraining as an osteopath, Julie worked in human resources and change management in London. When she’s not working, she’s a passionate skier, particularly in Croatia where she converted a small stone donkey stable into a house 22 years ago. She also loves taking road trips in camper vans, the theatre and singing in choirs and bands. While treating people of all ages, from young children onwards, she has a special interest in working with women through and post pregnancy and with their babies.

You can contact her to book for treatment at the Empire Hall by email via julie@feelbetterosteopathy.co.uk or by phone at 07967 630604.



Our MP Andrew is now Shadow Chancellor

Our MP Andrew Griffith, who represents our Arundel and South Downs constituency in the House of Commons, is now the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was promoted to the role in a Tory party reshuffle by leader Kemi Badenoch on Monday August 31, replacing Sir Mel Stride in the role.

Andrew said: “It is a huge honour to become Shadow Chancellor for the party I joined as a teenager under Margaret Thatcher. Working as a team, we Conservatives will deliver an economic revolution. As Shadow Chancellor, I will fight every day to make Britain prosperous. We will cut taxes, slash wasteful spending and tear down the barriers that hold businesses back.”



He was previously Shadow Secretary of State for Business and Trade. He has represented our constituency since 2019. Before entering politics, he was Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operating Officer of Sky and Chairman of Just Eat.

Two cars stolen from local roadsides

Motorists are being warned to be vigilant when leaving their cars parked on roadsides in the neighbourhood after two vehicle thefts locally early last month. On Thursday 3 September, a silver Ford C Max, with the registration plate BN11FXE, was stolen from Graffham Common Road at around 12.30pm after the driver had parked it there to take his dog for a walk. Four days later, on Monday 7 September, another vehicle was stolen from Duncton Common Road, on the border of Duncton and East Lavington, at around 9pm.



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Jess is raising funds for WWF through her art

Eleven-year-old Jess Emberson is combining her twin passions of art and wildlife to raise funds for WWF.

She has created a series of paintings of some of her favourite endangered species – a tiger, elephant, polar bear, dolphin and sea turtle – and converted them into greetings cards, book marks, notepads and other items which she is offering for sale through her Tiger Lily brand, with all money raised as a result going to the worldwide nature charity.

At the time of going to press, she'd already collected more than £1,000.

Locally, her work made its first appearance at Graffham fête. It is also now stocked at Graffham Village Shop. Jess has also set up stall at St Giles Church and will be sharing a stand at Graffham Christmas Fair with her near neighbour, noted artist Susan Hill, who has been giving her some tuition.

Susan said: “Jess has been a revelation. I was so impressed by her exemplary attention and her obvious skill and persistence. The results are remarkable and the amount she has already raised for WWF is phenomenal for her age.”



Jess at her stand at the village fête and learning her craft in Susan Hill's studio.



New way to report rights of way problems

A new online reporting tool is now live for reporting issues specific to public rights of way – which you can find via tinyurl.com/reportROW. It works the same way as the highways online reporting system and allows you to pinpoint an exact location on the map, add relevant information and upload photographs. Residents are encouraged to use this link to report any issues relating to footpaths, bridleways and other rights of way.

Graffhamites invited to join revived Petworth WI

The Petworth Women's Institute (WI) branch is being given a renewed breath of life – and is inviting Graffham residents to join. It meets on the third Monday in the month in the town's Sylvia Beaufoy Hall from 1 to 3pm - on 19 October next, with a visiting speaker demonstrating the delights of "chair yoga".

One of the organisers, Gloria Heywood, said: "The WI is not a fuddy duddy group, we are lively, progressive and fun, open to every woman over 18. With a focus on fun, friendship, education and everything interesting, we are proving to be what so many women have been wanting!"

The first WI meeting in England was held in 1915 in Charlton, between Singleton and East Dean. Its original aim was to revitalise rural communities and encourage women to become involved in producing food in the First World War. It has grown into the largest organisation for women in the UK. Graffham had its own branch until the late 1960s. An attempt was made to resurrect it in the 1970s until it closed, with today's Thursday Club filling the gap that it left.

Library of stars booked for Literary Festival



Petworth Literary Festival 2026 opens on Friday 23 October for a fortnight of talks and discussions by the likes of Michael Gove, Gyles Brandreth, Jonathan Porritt, Alistair McGowan, Lynda La Plante, Max Hastings, Nigel Planer, Kate Mosse, Sarah Raven, Mary Portas, Robert Peston, Prue Leith, Sebastian Faulks, Victoria Hislop, Peter James, Mike Batt, Rick Wakeman, Alexandra Shulman, Fergal Keane, Nick Higham, Simon Sebag Montefiore, David Shukman, Stephen Sacker, Jeremy King and Tobias Elwood. For full details and to book, see petworthfestival.org.uk

Water works scheduled to close local roads

Graffham Common Road is scheduled to be closed from 5 to 7 October between Perrot Lane and The Street for Southern Water to repair underground pipes, and again between 19 and 23 October for the water company to make new connections and water meter works. Southern Water also expects to have to close Selham Road from 18 to 21 October for maintenance works. For full details, see one.network

From Town Hall: Councils reprieved – for now

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



The government on 7 September announced it was pausing its plans to scrap West Sussex County Council, Chichester District Council and all the other local authorities in our region and replace them with a series of single-tier assemblies.

It will now review whether its proposals are “robust and align with new government priorities”. No timeline has been given for when its reassessment might be completed. Locally, it had proposed replacing West Sussex County Council and its seven district and borough councils with two new single-tier authorities, with an elected mayor covering East and West Sussex along with Brighton and Hove.

The move leaves Chichester District Council, like many other local authorities, in a complete state of limbo. We cannot make any future plans for the critical infrastructure of a new organisation if one is eventually to be put in place, its IT systems, financial and accounting services and so on. We must continue to develop our local plans – without knowing whether they will be relevant. The list goes on.

We now have to wait for the government to decide what it chooses to do. Meanwhile, what will not wait are the local elections scheduled for next May. They will now not be for the new unitary authorities but instead for the district council which will still be in place because of the government’s latest delay. What a mess!



RIP: Biddy Dimmer 1948-2026

Biddy was born Bridget Goodricke on 27 July 1948 in Durban, South Africa, to a South African father, a solicitor, and an English mother. From a young age she was an enthusiastic ballet dancer and was fortunate to attend Eileen Keegan's ballet school in Durban. Eileen was a seminal figure in ballet in South Africa – her distinguished pupils went on to dance with major companies around the world.

Biddy duly moved to London when she was 17 to join the Royal Ballet School. She subsequently won a place in the corps de ballet of the Royal Ballet, where she was described as a “very neat, serious little dancer”. Her best-known role was in the Royal Ballet's 1971 film *The Tales of Beatrix Potter*, in which she danced the parts of both a squirrel and a country mouse. The costumes and masks were



magnificent but hot, uncomfortable and difficult to dance in. The dancers had to be led onto the set because they could barely see through them – and yet were somehow expected to perform.

In 1969, Biddy married Paul Dimmer, another dancer with the Royal Ballet. Life with the company involved a relentless routine of 12½-

Biddy began ballet in Durban as a young girl before moving to London to dance with the Royal Ballet.

hour days, six days a week, so after Paul had spent 11 years with the company and Biddy around five, they decided it was time to leave. They initially did some dancing work for television, before Paul began a second career making and installing fitted kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms. Biddy worked at a nursery school in New Malden until their daughter Claudia was born in 1975.

In April 1979, a month after son Anthony arrived, the family moved to Red Oak in Graffham – where they would remain for more than 40 years.

Biddy soon established her own dance school in the Empire Hall, teaching children from pre-schoolers through to teenagers both ballet and European folk dancing.

After six years, she became increasingly aware that running a busy dancing school was taking her away from her own family for too much of the time, so she moved to teaching ballet at Conifer's School in Midhurst, where she could do most of her work during school hours.

For many years, she served also as the Empire Hall's Booking Secretary.

Biddy had only recently retired from teaching when, in 2003, she was diagnosed with a brain tumour. Initially given only a few months to live, she underwent surgery at London's National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. Because of its location, not all of the tumour could be removed, gradually leading to increasing disability.

In their retirement, Biddy and Paul threw themselves into downland conservation. They became involved in the Long Bostle Downland Preservation Society, campaigning to restrict motor vehicles on the South Downs. They also became key



Biddy with Paul in their beloved Graffham Down Trust reserves.

members of the Graffham Down Trust. Biddy was particularly knowledgeable about British butterflies and greatly enjoyed work parties and butterfly surveys on the reserves, where Paul was Reserves Manager and a trustee. One of its reserves is named after him.

After Paul died in 2022, Biddy moved to a care home in Bath, near to her family, where she died on 4 August 2026.



A memorial service for Biddy will be held at St Giles Church on Saturday 3 October at 11 am, followed by a light lunch at the Empire Hall. All welcome.

RIP: Selham's Harry dies after polo accident

We were saddened to learn, as this issue was going to press, of the death of local polo professional Harry Revell after an accident while playing the sport at Cowdray Park Polo Club's Ambersham lawns on Friday 11 September.

He was airlifted from the ground by Air Ambulance Charity Kent Surrey Sussex at 5.45pm to a major trauma centre.

The club posted a statement five days later, on Wednesday 16 September, announcing his passing. It said he had been unconscious immediately following the accident and remained peaceful and in the very best care until he slipped away.



Harry was 32 and had married Lily three years ago, on Saturday 30 September 2023 at Graffham's St Giles Church, with some 120 relatives and friends joining them to celebrate.

The couple had bought their own home in Selham a few months before, after living for two years in East Lavington. They had met in New Zealand in 2017 when he was there playing polo and she was on a working holiday as a groom.

Cowdray described Harry as "a much-loved and respected member of the polo community". It had remained in close contact with his family since the accident and would continue to offer whatever support it could: "Our thoughts are first and foremost with his wife, family, friends and teammates."

It added: "We are also enormously grateful to the medical teams who responded and to everyone involved in Harry's care."

The Lovelocks Polo Stud, for which he rode, said: "We are deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Harry. He was a greatly valued part of the Lovelocks Team, and his memory will live on through every horse he rode for us. He will be deeply missed. We send our sincere condolences to his wife, family and friends at this incredibly difficult time."

Auckland Polo Club in New Zealand where Harry played for many years during its polo season described him as "an absolute perfect gentlemen – an asset to every polo team, sideline, dinner table or polo party."

Near neighbour Ollie Robinson-Boulton, of The Three Moles, posted on Facebook: "There really are no words for how devastated we are to have lost our dear friend Harry. Wherever he was, there was usually laughter, plenty of noise and a party going on! He had an incredible personality and an infectious energy that made it

impossible not to smile when he was around.”

Two other players were also injured in the accident. One was taken by road ambulance to a local hospital. The other was treated at the scene.

As a mark of respect to Harry, the club abandoned this year's Farewell Cup.

Cowdray asked for privacy for Harry's family, noting that messages of condolence could be sent to them via members@cowdraypolo.co.uk.



Harry in full flight in a recent polo chukka.

© Paul Grove



Wish you were here The winter 2026-27 entertainment programme at the Empire Hall blazed off on Saturday 19 September with a show by the eight piece Pink Floyd tribute band Wall of Floyd – a spectacular performance that left the sell-out audience appropriately comfortably numb (above). Next gig up is by singer songwriter Ed Blunt, based in London but with strong local connections, on Saturday 24 October (see page 8), as part of his 15-date autumn tour of England. Ed has sold out the hall on his last couple of appearances there. Then, on Saturday 14 November, there's the return of the ultimate disco party Le Freak, recreating the sounds of Nile Rodgers and Chic (see page 37). Meantime, Graffham Empire Movies raises the curtain on its late 2026 season, screening *Hamnet* on Saturday 17 October, using the hall's state-of-the-art audio visual system (see page 31). And Scottish dancing practices resume on Sundays this month ahead of January's Burns' Night (see page 7).

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Property watch

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

Wallace Square, Lavington Park GU28 0FJ: End of terrace house. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms plus cloakroom, reception room, kitchen/diner, utility, integrated garage. 161 sq m (1,737 sq ft). Garden. Guide price £875,000. *Purple Bricks, London 020 3909 6783. Listed 9 Sep.*



The Laurels, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QA: Detached house. Five bedrooms, four bathroom plus a cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner, utility, study, playroom. 252 sq m (2,722 sq ft). External office with bathroom, double garage, garden. Guide £1.75 million. *RH & RW Clutton, Petworth 01798 303593. Listed 8 Sep.*

Sayers Cottage, Hoyle Lane, Heyshott GU29 0DX: Detached house. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, drawing, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility. 260 sq m (2,798 sq ft). One-bedroomed annexe. Garden. Guide price £1.85 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 11 Sep.*



High Street, Duncton GU28 0LB: Detached house. Three bedrooms, one bathroom plus a cloakroom, dining and sitting room, kitchen/breakfast room, office, workshop/store. 151 sq m (1,624 sq ft). Garden with outbuilding. Guide £675,000. *Savills, Petworth 01798 301451. Listed 2 Sep.*

Guillod Cottages, Graffham GU28 0NW: Semi-detached house. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, lounge, kitchen/diner. 100 sq m (1,082 sq ft). Garden. Guide price £475,000. *(NB Incorrect price given in our previous issue.). Cubitt & West, Pulborough 01798 309665. Listed 4 Aug.*



Woodside, Lodsworth GU28 9DJ: Detached house. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms plus a cloakroom, sitting and dining rooms, kitchen, workshop/store. 146 sq m (1,574 sq ft). Garden. Garages with store above, outbuildings. Guide £975,000. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 11 Sep.*

The Stores House, Lodsworth GU28 9BZ: Double-fronted house. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms and a cloakroom, living room, snug, kitchen, mezzanine, utility, cellar. 259 sq m (2,787sq ft). Courtyard garden. Guide price £1,175,000. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837. Listed 10 Sep.*





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Planning applications

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

Glenmore, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QG: Replacement rear extension and new rear dormer to roof. *SDNP/26/03068/HOUS. Validated: 19 Aug 2026.*

Decisions

Old Perrot House, Perrott Lane, Graffham GU28 0NZ: Removal of existing glazed roof, infilling of affected roof and addition of a new rooflight. External alterations and changes to fenestration. *SDNP/26/02777/HOUS. Approved 7 Sep 2026.*

The Folly, Graffham Common Road, Graffham GU28 0PT: Use of existing garage as habitable accommodation and erection of two storey extension to dwelling. *SDNP/26/00022/HOUS. Approved 24 Aug 2026.*

Little Bury, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QG: External alterations in relation to change of use of agricultural building to Class C1 permitted under prior approval. *SDNP/26/00408/FUL. Approved 25 Aug 2026.*

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Graffham Empire Movies

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

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BUCKLEY

PAUL
MESCAL

Directed by
CHLOË ZHAO

Screenplay by
CHLOË ZHAO & MAGGIE O'FARRELL

HAMNET

Visually stunning and emotionally charged, bringing to life the powerful love story that inspired the creation of Shakespeare's timeless masterpiece, *Hamlet*, as he and his wife cope with the death of their 11-year-old son. The 2026 BAFTA Outstanding British Film, with Jessie Buckley winning the 2026 best actress Oscar.

'If you have tears, as the Bard says, prepare to shed them now. The essential Shakespeare movie.' The Times

Certificate 12 | 126 minutes

Saturday 17 October
Empire Hall

Doors and bar open 7pm
for 7.30pm start



Interval ice creams

Wine, beer, mocktails,
chocolates, popcorn.

Tickets – £10 adults –
from ticketsource.co.uk/GEM
or at the door



Movie night is back – starting in the open air

Graffham Empire Movies (GEM) has turned on its projector for its 21st season, starting by linking up with the Foresters Arms to offer two late summer screenings in the pub's garden. Two more films are booked for the next few months back in GEM's regular home, the Empire Hall, using its state-of-the-art audio visual kit.



The pub screening of *Mamma Mia!* and *The Bridges of Madison County* raised some £200 for Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance. The audience enjoyed sweets, chocolates, popcorn and ice creams besides the inn's regular offerings.

The rest of the season will be in – and raising funds for – the Empire Hall. It begins with the multi-award winning *Hamnet* on Saturday 17 October (see opposite), followed by the comedy *The Roses* on Saturday 7 November. Tickets are £10 for adults and £5 for under 18s, bookable in advance via ticketsource.co.uk/GEM or at the door on the night. There's a bar – and interval ice creams. GEM was established 20 years ago with the dual aims of bringing the cinema to our village and raising funds for the Empire Hall. Since its first screening, on 11 November 2006 (of *The World's Fastest Indian*), it has shown 120 films and contributed an estimated £15,000 to the Empire Hall. The most popular movie shown to date was *The Queen*, featured in February 2007, which attracted a near capacity audience just shy of 120.

Foresters special events

The Foresters has two special events planned for this month:

- Quiz night with Lucas Thornley on Thursday 15 October evening.
- Wine tasting with a special food menu and a commentary on the wines from a connoisseur on Wednesday 28 October evening.

Booking is advised for both events.



Hot dogs A steady flow of our four-legged friends kept the judges in the dog show arena busy all through the fete under a dappled sky.

Bank holiday's fête raises £6,200 for the Rec

The withering heat of the summer of 2026 had abated in time for the Graffham Fête on August Bank Holiday Monday, but, other than the briefest sprinkling, the extensive throng who gathered enjoyed dry, often sunny weather at a comfortable temperature, *writes joint editor Bill Barrett.*

For what was for the first time in many years, if not ever, a four-hour event rather than the usual three, grateful thanks go to John Bracey and David Sparkes, who masterminded the event planning and marshalled operations on the day. Once again they had successfully encouraged local “ambassadors” to support the event financially. Top sponsor was The Woodcote which generously underwrote the climbing wall and provided the top raffle prize of lunch for two. Estate agents Todd



Bangers The line-up of classic and vintage cars was longer than in many a year.



Chicken nuggets Janet Wakeford and Liz Jenkins manned St Giles' stand with its contest to guess the name of the cockerel on the church's weather vane- revealed at the end of the day as William.



Thirst quenchers Charlie and Sam Major poured gallons of Pimms, with just the right amount of cucumber and fruit, while Simon Longman led the beer tent - where the Hepworth's best was drunk dry by mid afternoon.

Anstee backed the bar, Padwick Builders the pavilion and solicitors MacDonald Oates the dog show with Westerlands also sponsoring the festivities.

The display of baking confection available with tea in the pavilion was the usual splendid affair, with Marie Bracey and Gillian Charlesworth organising the chefs and helpers with customary efficiency. Despite an exploding beer barrel catastrophe on the eve of the fête, the Longman family bar team kept the ale flowing while for the Majors it was Pimms o'clock all afternoon. This year's BBQ-ers were Miles Amin, Paul Pieterse, Murray West and Anthony Forsyth (let's hope

▶ *Continued on next page*



Baked beings The crowds flocking to the fête enjoyed mainly hot sunshine.



Mixed grill Trade was as hot as ever for Jude Sennitt (left) on the bric-a-brac (aka pre-loved) stand.



Toppings Plenty of punters dared to attempt to scale the full height of the mobile climbing wall.

► *Continued from previous page*

the spicy chicken burger is on the menu again next year) and Deluca's ice cream van had plenty of business. As ever, Bernard Bayley, assisted by George Grammer and Kym Pegram, presided over what is undoubtedly the finest annual dog show to be held in Graffham. The name of the supreme champion is quickly forgotten by everyone but its owner, although Charlie Major's boxer Willie has as a stronger claim to the title than many.

Simon and Siobhan Ray oversaw splatted rats and Simon Longman, with a variety of assistants, offered coconuts to be shied at. Zoe Jones kindly provided the training horse and Sandy Macqueen the putting track and kit. Fifty years ago they would have won a live suckling pig, but in 2026 Tony Hancock and Edward Caldwell had to settle for a bottle of age-appropriate fizz for bowling most skittles over.

The raffle was again supervised by Holly and Rich Sabin. Christine Gillott won lunch at the Woodcote, Lucas Thornley a bottle of Gusbourne sparkling, Ann Brown a voucher for an MOT (for a car) at Midhurst Engineering and Bill Barrett golf at Cowdray. Many thanks to the generous donors. Jude Sennitt sorted out yet another bric-a-brac, there was an unusual fowl competition at the St Giles' stall



Scrambled eggs Matilda Shelton-Agar took on the chucking duties at this year's egg toss (left) with contestants whittled down until Paul Pieterse smashed his shell (second right), leaving Will Caldwell (right) winner for the second year running.

and the clothes swap spot ensured pre-loved garments found new wearers. Throughout master-of-ceremonies Michael Blunt's commentary informed and amused all afternoon.

The finale was once again the egg toss, the lobber this year being accomplished cricketer Matilda Shelton-Agar with Angie Thornley cheerleader-in-chief. One-by-one the competitors cracked under the pressure as their brains scrambled and the tension boiled. All were toast except the finalists – in the junior section Holly Sparkes and Maddie (alas, her surname is lost to posterity) could not be separated and a tie was declared. In the grown-up version, accomplished cricketer (is there a theme here?) Will Caldwell triumphed, for at least the second year running, when Paul Pieterse coddled in the throw-off.

The Recreation Ground Committee are indebted to everyone who volunteered to oil the many moving parts before and on the day, but particular thanks go to Theo Longman for great help behind the scenes, William Godman-Dorrington for supplying the hay bales, Seaford College for their tents and Hilary Major (who else?) for counting the proceeds. Thanks too to the Double LL Car Club for their annual parade of vintage cars.

The net proceeds exceeded £6,200, all of which go towards running, maintaining and improving our recreation ground and pavilion for another year.



Pot luck Rich and Holly Sabin pick out the winning raffle tickets as master of ceremony Michael Blunt calls out the lucky numbers.

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8.00PM**

DOORS AND BAR 7.30PM

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Bill's bygones: Duncan, daffodils, Divisions (3 & 5)

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 – October 2016: A memorial service at St Giles commemorates automobile connoisseur Duncan McGregor, long of Graffham's 1 Hillside, following his death in August, aged 72. A watercolour workshop with artist Karen Pearson is held at the pavilion. The Empire Hall is the venue for the first of Deborah Albon's yoga classes, a village Halloween Party with music provided by Midwich Dawn, Graffham Empire Movies' showing of *Brooklyn* and a gig by singer/songwriter Richard Navarro. The Government approves a third runway for Heathrow. Bob Dylan wins the Nobel Prize for literature. Death of scriptwriter Jimmy Perry (*Dad's Army*, aged 93).

25 years ago – October 2001: At its AGM, Graffham Bowls Club captain Graham Kingsmill reports 21 games were won and 20 lost, and that two-thirds of the £24,000 cost for its new pavilion had been raised in grants. Graffham Garden Group plants 400 daffodils at four sites in the village and plans to do this twice a year. The village's Brownies hold an autumn BBQ on the Graffham Down Trust's reserves. Graffham School Association chairperson Zoe Jones reports that more than £4,000 was raised at an auction attended by 70 supporters. Quizzes are held by the Football Club at the pavilion and the Rustics at the Empire Hall, the latter in aid of its lighting fund. US forces invade Afghanistan, aided by British submarines. The IRA announces it is decommissioning its weapons. Death of Quentin Hogg (Lord Hailsham, 94).

50 years ago – October 1976: Graffham Youth Club raises £71 at its jumble sale. In Division 3 (north) of the West Sussex League, Graffham Football Club's first team moves into second place after beating Petworth 3-1 away. In Division 5 (central), the village's seconds draw 2-2 with Pulborough and hammer Loxwood 6-1, both away, but are beaten 2-0 by Watersfield and, in the Division 5 Cup, 1-0 by Billingshurst. Pre-election debates between US President Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter are televised. The InterCity 125 train comes into service. James Hunt comes third in the Japanese Grand Prix and clinches the World Championship, making a British trio of world motor sport champions with Barry Sheene and Peter Collins (speedway). The first single marketed as "punk rock" (*New Rose*) is released by The Damned. Death of actress Dame Edith Evans (88).

Graffham Chronicles: Happy 90th birthday, Janet!

In the year Graffham Bowls Club marks its centenary, local historian Pauline Goodwin looks at the life of its president Janet Wakeford who celebrates her 90th birthday this month – on 11 October 2026.



As we know her today, Janet, as Bowls Club president, presents a trophy to Kym Pegram.

Whereas the Bowls Club has had several presidents in their senior years, there cannot have been many, if any, who have still been playing while holding this office. To be playing bowls at 90 is an extraordinary achievement. During this year's season, current club president Janet Wakeford played every Monday night at its roll up nights and then a couple of times during the week in matches.

Born as Janet Leitch in 1936, she grew up in Terwick, a small, sparsely populated hamlet near Rogate and went to Rogate Primary School. Her first job was working in a shop in Petersfield. She was introduced to the man who

would become her husband, Gordon, when he came to a cribbage card evening at their house. They wed in November 1956, at Easebourne Church, when she was 20, and began their married life in Heyshott before moving to Graffham.

They lived in three different cottages at Woodcote Farm during her 30 years of working for Rosemary and Jim Godman-Dorington. One of the cottages has since been demolished and rebuilt, another was Woodcote Farm Cottage in which Pam Woods, a previous landlord of The White Horse, subsequently lived. Janet and Gordon then moved into 2 Flint Cottages.

Janet also began working at The White Horse, the pub (now The Woodcote) which was also owned at that time by the Godman-Doringtons. At Rosemary Godman-Dorington's suggestion, Janet helped Paul and Maggie Rixon who were landlords of the pub then, giving them a few hours of her free time. Janet ran the bar for them, which she found she enjoyed – helping others and being part of village life.

The enjoyment derived from being part of the community provided the Wakeford family with a very special memory. Janet, her daughter Lynda and son Mark all mentioned this same treasured memory. It was from the early 1960s when villagers were becoming more mobile with their own cars, resulting in days out known as "Graffham on Tour". At first this was for trips to West Wittering. Cars full of Howicks, Wakefords, Tupperes, various Challens and later Mosses would gather in

a circle on the grassy spaces by the beach like wagons on the Oregon trail. In this encampment, Ray Tupper's camping stove would boil a kettle and fry up bacon and sausages. During the day, activities like dips in the sea, sandcastle building, cricket matches and kite flying would take place, followed by a late afternoon trek around the extremities of the pre-eroded East Head. Then the homeward convoy would wend its way back along the lanes to Graffham. Later tours travelled further afield to "glamorous" seaside venues like Aberystwyth, Cliftonville and Portland.



Janet and Gordon on the wedding day at Easebourne Church 70 years ago, in 1956.

Janet has always enjoyed keeping active and played stoolball for Graffham for many years. There's a team photo from 1958 featuring a 22-year-old Janet who had begun to play for the village when she had only been living in Graffham for a couple of years. She continued to play the game for the village across the years and ended up in the same side as daughter Lynda. Gordon was also involved and took on the important job of umpire.

Janet and Gordon had a difficult few months when they had to leave Graffham for Chichester. Thankfully, Peter Parish, who served as a churchwarden and parish councillor, helped them to find a home back in the village at All Saints Cottages where they were very happy. They were then able to move across the road to Stuart's Meadow where Janet has lived for 30 years and still calls home today.

For 17 of those years, she cared for Gordon in his wheelchair. After Gordon was confined to his wheelchair, they decided they did not want to just sit at home. They still went to village events and even continued to travel abroad – to Spain and the Balearic Islands and on cruises with their friends Brenda and Den Petter and John and Hazel Durrell. John was happy to help with the wheelchair transfers at ports and airports. Since Janet was widowed in late 2010, her son Mark has travelled with her to a variety of places including the Caribbean, Italy, Athens and Norway. Her daughter Lynda says of her Mum: "She has always loved being around people and has made so many wonderful friendships over the years." True to form, Janet is currently involved with a variety of groups and activities, besides the Bowls

▶ *Continued on next page*



Janet played stoolball for Graffham in 1958, soon after arriving in the village. She is standing second from left in this team photo, with the cup and shield they won at a tournament at Felpham. Also with her are, from left: (back row) Dorothy Speak, Betty Weller, June Challen, Stella Hilton and Pat Moore, (front row) Eileen Tupper, Delphine Standing, Peggy Weller, Flo Loader and Marjorie Burns. Picture courtesy of Graffham Archive.



She was still playing for the team three decades on, in the 1980s – Janet’s far left in this picture showing off their silverware, with Gordon on the right and their daughter Lynda standing next but one to him. Also with them are, from left: (back row) June Challen, Maureen Vokes, Wendy Challen, Linzi Griffiths and Lynda Tichacek, and (sitting) Mary West, Sue Brown, Faye Wardrop, Sue Stevens and Nicola Royce.

► *Continued from previous page*

Club. She attends the village’s Knit and Natter gatherings, Food with Friends, Keep Fit, Lunch Club and Pilgrims, and the Bible study group led by the Rev Vivien and just some of the St Giles activities in which Janet takes part.

Another church venture she recently participated in was, at the age of 85, the sponsored walk from St Giles to Chichester Cathedral. Janet joined the walkers at their Goodwood halfway point. All was well until they reached the Centurion Way, on the city’s outskirts, when it started to pour with rain. Despite all the walkers being soaked through, Janet was determined to finish. As her daughter Lynda remarked: “A bit of rain was certainly not going to stop her!” Janet completed the walk and raised a good sum of money for the church.

Walking is something that Janet enjoys. During the COVID pandemic, Janet took her permitted walk every afternoon with near neighbour and old friend Brenda Petter along Graffham’s footpaths. Until recently, she often walked the coastline of Thorney Island with her son Mark, a distance of around 7 miles (11 km).

Indeed, it is family that has always been the heart of Janet’s life. She now has four grandchildren – Carl, Daniel, Jack and Ella – and one great grandchild, also Ella.

Happy 90th birthday, Janet. A long life well lived – with more to come!

Graffham Parish News' omnilogical October quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers at the bottom of page 57 (no cheating!)

- 1 Which classics were shown at the Foresters' Graffham Empire Movies sunset film nights last month?
- 2 Who opened ICI's new conference centre in Fernhurst on 17 October 1986?
- 3 Which comedian headlined at Midhurst Rother College last July as part of the Petworth Festival?
- 4 Which BBC series is filmed at Court Barn in Singleton?
- 5 Your parotid glands produce what?
- 6 What does the "PG" in tea brand PG Tips stand for: [a] Procter & Gamble, [b] pre-garibaldi, [c] pre-gestive?
- 7 Which landmark television drama, first broadcast in October 1981, featured characters Charles Ryder, Sebastian Flyte and his teddy bear Aloysius?
- 8 How old will Cliff Richard be on 14 October: [a] 66, [b] 76, [c] 86?
- 9 Which Grand Slam tennis tournament did Emma Raducanu win in 2021?
- 10 A witch doctor claimed to have placed a curse on Harry Kane before England's World Cup match against which opponent this summer?



Graffham Down Trust *Conserving our chalk downs*

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

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

Please email jimkirke@hotmail.com if you plan to come along and say if you would like a ride up so that we can arrange transport.

Work parties 2026-27

Sunday 25 October
Saturday 28 November
Saturday 12 December

Sunday 10 January
Saturday 27 February
Saturday 20 March

The poster features a group photo of volunteers at a work party, a map of the South Downs, and illustrations of butterflies and flowers.

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Out and about: Fly Agaric

An occasional column by Jonathan Simons, amateur mycologist and mathematician manqué.

The Fly Agaric, *Amanita muscaria*, is the archetypal toadstool. It is instantly recognisable from its bright red cap covered in white warts. It features in all sorts of merchandise and illustrations when a distinctive fungus is called for.

The flecks on the cap are the remains of the veil that protected it when it was just a button. In addition, it has the bulbous base, floppy stem ring and white gills of the *Amanita* genus and so is related to the Death-cap. It grows with birch, pine and spruce and can be found in some quantity on all our commons in the autumn season.



It has been used in milk to kill off flies, hence the name. However, it is famously hallucinogenic, as Alice discovered in *Wonderland*. It is also said that Lapp reindeer herdsman would feed Fly Agaric to their beasts and then drink their urine which would be just about the right strength for a flying trip. It seems inescapable that this practice is the source of the idea of a red and white clothed Santa Claus in his flying reindeer sleigh.

Free Foray

Saturday 10 October

10.30am-12.30pm

Graffham

Common East



Children are welcome – but the event is not suitable for dogs.



The focus is on finding and identifying fungi – rather than looking for lunch!



Places are limited, so please apply by email to jonathanHsimons@outlook.com



Further joining instructions will be sent by return.

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

Is my fear, as evolutionary psychologists believe, an inbuilt self-preservation instinct inherited from the cavemen? Is it a response conditioned by a spider-fearing society? Or is just because spiders have those creepy, long, hairy legs? All I know is that, after researching this article, I'll be sleeping with the lights on till Christmas.

I understand that some animals out there actually do have big teeth and need to be feared and respected, but they can be cleverly avoided by not going snorkelling at



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night in the upper Amazon basin. There is no avoiding spiders. They will find you in the one place you thought was safe – your own home. There are many spider species which have the audacity to swan into our homes uninvited, but the real monsters belong to the genus *Tegenaria* – the house spiders. These spiders love dark, cool places so when humans invented the concept of ‘indoors’ they happily followed us inside. There’s an easy way to identify the *Tegenaria* spiders. If you’re hyperventilating, swearing and sobbing while stood on a chair then you’ve found one. There are five *Tegenaria* species but the big daddy of the bunch is *Tegenaria parietina* aka The Cardinal Spider (named after Cardinal Wolsey who apparently lived in fear of one of the eight-legged horrors of Hampton Court creeping up his cassock). Its leg span can reach a whopping 5 inches (12.5 cm).



House spiders’ leg span can grow to 5 ins.
Neil Fletcher, Sussex Wildlife Trust.

Tegenaria are most active in the autumn. The mature males scuttle scarily along the skirting board looking for the bigger, even more frightening female. After mating, he dies – and then she eats him. A simple relationship – but suitably horrific. She’ll then saunter around your house, giving you a minor heart attack as she passes by, before finding somewhere dark and cool to hole up until she lays her eggs in the spring.

So, to all the spider-lovers out there who come to our rescue with a glass and a bit of card, I salute you! To the rest of us, I have no words of consolation. Even that story you heard about spiders being scared of conkers isn’t true. Oh, and while you were reading this, I think I saw a really big one crawling behind your sofa. Happy Halloween, dear readers.

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

Graffham Tennis Club



Two of the final three club tournaments took place in September, producing our men's singles winner and ladies' doubles champions. The club's awards evening will be held next month. Watch for details in our next issue.

The men's singles tournament was blessed with excellent weather and produced some superb tennis throughout. The standout match was undoubtedly the final,



Men's singles champion Theo Longman (left) and runner-up Patrick Roseveare with match umpire Rich Sabin.

which was a fascinating contest packed with clever shot-making, changing momentum and tactical angles that kept spectators engrossed from start to finish.

Theo Longman appeared to be in complete control when he raced into a 4-1 lead, but Patrick Roseveare showed tremendous determination to battle back and take a 5-4 advantage. Just when it looked as though the momentum had swung decisively, Theo responded brilliantly, finding another level when it mattered most. In a tense and high-quality finish, he won the final three games to clinch a deserved 7-5 victory.

This was a fitting end to a highly enjoyable tournament, played in great spirit and under perfect conditions.

The Ladies' Doubles tournament was contested by four pairs in a round robin format. With the competition having been won for the preceding seven years by Emma Amin and Sian Green, a new pair was certain to take the trophy following Sian's departure for Wales. After the early rounds concluded, the finalists were Emma and her new partner Sam Adams versus Angie Thornley and Rebecca Ruff. Despite their strong performance at the net, the challengers were just unable to get past Emma and Sam's consistency, losing after a closely fought tiebreak. The summer leagues have finished, with the exception of Andy Craig's Mixed



Ladies' Doubles contestants are all smiles before the tournament, with eventual winners Emma Amin (again!) with her new partner Sam Adams third and fourth from left.

Doubles team who still have two matches to play at the time of writing. The other three teams finished comfortably within their divisions and thoroughly enjoyed the summer of sun. Thanks go to:

- Men's captain Richard Bates, whose team finished the season strongly to end sixth of nine in Division 4.
- Ladies' A captain Kate Hogan, whose team finished third of six in Division 2.
- Rebecca Ruff in her first season as captain of the Ladies' B, who finished a probable (other teams yet to finish) fourth of eight in Division 4.

Our recent tennis league results:

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results				
24 Aug	Won 5-3	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Ropley
26 Aug	Won 5-3	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Haslemere C
9 Sep	Drew 4-4	Ladies' Doubles	Div 2	vs Haslemere B

There is just one home fixture in October.

Graffham Tennis Club October home fixtures				
17 Oct	1.30pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 2	vs Fernhurst A

Graffham Bowls Club

The finals of internal cups were played over the August Bank Holiday weekend. The Holbard Cup was won by Ian Morrison, the Police Shield by Andy Wood, the Robertson Rose Bowl by Kym Pegram and the Captain's Cup by Lucy Tyrrell. The season was rounded off with our Candlelit Bowls Night on Friday 11 September, when we were joined by family and friends for a BBQ ([pictures on next page](#)).



Its now traditional candlelit night was Graffham Bowls Club's final session of the season.

Georgia is player of match in women's T20 final

Georgia Adams, daughter of Seaford College's Head of Cricket Chris and Graffham Tennis Club stalwart Sam, was Player of the Match for the Trent Rockets team which won the Women's Hundred final at Lord's on 16 August. She took two wickets for only nine runs, snaffled the catch which removed the Sun Risers Leeds' main batting threat Phoebe Litchfield and ran out Jess Jonassen for a duck. All rounder Georgia's batting was not needed – set 92 to win, Trent Rockets knocked off the runs for the loss of only two wickets with 46 of the 100 balls to spare!

She has played county-level cricket since 2009, won her first full international cap in 2024 and is currently captain of Hampshire in the major English league and New South Wales in Australia. Her sister Mollie plays cricket for Sussex.



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Foodbank updates shopping list of urgent items

Petworth Foodbank has updated its list of items most urgently needed as the summer holiday season ends. 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:



- Bags for life
- Chocolate
- Hand soap
- Shampoo
- Snacks (crisps, cereal bars etc)
- Tinned custard
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned peas and other veg



*Bring your pet to be blessed at our
Creationtide service for animals!*

St Giles Church, Graffham

Sunday 4 October

10.30am



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Former organist Richard scores half century

Former Seaford College teacher and St. Giles organist Richard Bailey celebrated 50 years' musical involvement with the Church of England on 6 September, the day before his 57th birthday.

Many Graffham villagers will remember his vibrant playing, expertise on matters theological and astronomical (amongst others) and legendary pub quizzes. Richard started out as a choirboy in Liverpool, and after arriving at Seaford in 1995 spent nearly 20 years in the school and village.

He left at the end of 2014 to take up the position of organist at Falmouth's King Charles the Martyr, the church behind him in the photograph.



PACT to hear about church of the future

Roger Ellis from Chichester's Revelation Church will be speak about *The Church of the Future* at the autumn lecture of Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) on Friday 9 October at 7.30pm at Wisborough Green's St Peter's Ad Vincula Church. It will be followed by wine and canapes. Free entry. No need to book.

Trust buys Petworth's United Reformed building

The former United Reformed Church (URC) in Petworth, frequently used by PACT and for many other community activities, has been bought by an interdenominational Christian Trust.



TAIZÉ PRAYER

song, prayer and silence

Sunday 18 October 6.30pm

All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite shop)

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

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 Mondays and Fridays.

September

27	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Creationtide 4 Reading: Exodus 17.1 -7	St Giles Church
29	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
1	Thu	3.30pm	Messy Church	St Giles Church
3	Sat		No Come and Sing!	
		11am	Memorial Service for Biddy Dimmer RIP	St Giles Church
4	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist end of Creationtide with Animal Blessing Reading: Psalm 148	St Giles Church
6	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
9	Fri	7.30pm	PACT autumn lecture	Wisborough Green
11	Sun	10.30am	Education Sunday Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
13	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
18	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles Church
		10.30am	St Luke Parish Eucharist	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taizé Prayer	All Saints Chapel
20	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer followed by Pilgrims	All Saints Chapel
21	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
		6.30pm	PCC meeting	
25	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Dedication Festival	St Giles Church

RINGING and SINGING

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

What's on in and around the village

- For weekly events, see page 57. For church services and other events, see page 53.
- 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

October				
1	Thu	10.30-11.30am	UKHarvest surplus food market	Sylvia Beaufoy, Petworth
3	Sat	11am	Memorial service for Biddy Dimmer, followed by light lunch at Empire Hall	St Giles Church
4	Sun		Grandparents' Day	
			Chichester half marathon	Chichester
		10.30am	Animal blessing service	St Giles Church
5	Mon		World Teachers' Day	
6	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society Midhurst talk on <i>The Story of Turkey's Iznak Ceramics</i>	Midhurst Methodist Church Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex talk <i>Pompeii – Digging Deeper with the Muddy Archaeologist</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
7	Wed	7.30pm	Sutton & District Horticultural Society talk by Milli Proust <i>How Does Your Garden Grow</i>	Sutton Village Hall
8	Thu	2pm	Thursday Club – <i>How Graffham Parish News lands through your letterbox</i>	Empire Hall
9	Fri	7.30pm	Petworth Area Churches Together autumn lecture: <i>Church of the Future</i>	St Peter's Ad Vincula, Wisborough Green
10	Sat	9am-2pm	Autumn market	Midhurst
		10.30am	UK Fungus Day foray with Jonathan Simons	Graffham Common
		7.30pm	Graffham Down Trust annual quiz night	Empire Hall
11	Sun	11am-6.30pm	Racing Season Finale	Goodwood
		4-6pm	Scottish dancing practice	Empire Hall
		7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
14	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory
			Deadline for November's <i>Graffham Parish News</i>	
15	Thu	9.30am	Open morning for prospective parents	Graffham Infant School
		Evening	Quiz night hosted by Lucas Thornley	Foresters Arms
16	Fri		Seaford College half-term (to 1 Nov)	
		7.45pm	Petworth Sessions presents Honey & The Bear folk music	Leconfield Hall
17	Sat		World Singing Day	

17	Sat	7pm	Graffham Empire Movies screens <i>Hamnet</i>	Empire Hall
18	Sun	4-6pm	Scottish dancing practice	Empire Hall
19	Mon	1pm	Petworth WI talk on chair yoga	Silvia Beaufoy, Petworth
21	Wed	6.30pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
22	Thu	9.30am	Open morning for prospective parents	Graffham Infant School
23	Fri		INSET day at Graffham and Duncton schools	
			Petworth Literary Festival (to 7 Nov)	
24	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		evening	Ed Blunt singer songwriter gig	Empire Hall
25	Sun	2am	<i>End of British Summer Time – Clocks go back one hour</i>	
		9.30am	Graffham Down Trust work party	Meet at St Giles
		4-6pm	Scottish dancing practice	Empire Hall
		7-10pm	Booze 'n' Blues Night	Three Moles
26	Mon		WSCC schools half-term (to 30 Oct)	
27	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
28	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
		Evening	Wine tasting with talk by expert and special menu (booking advised)	Foresters Arms
31	Sat		Halloween	

November

1	Sun		All Saints Day	
		4-6pm	Scottish dancing practice	Empire Hall
2	Mon		Graffham Camping and Caravan site closes for winter	Graffham
3	Tue	10.45am	Arts Society Midhurst talk	Midh'st Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex AGM and talk: <i>Sumptuous Veronese</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
4	Wed	6.30pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall
5	Thu		Guy Fawkes Day	
7	Sat	From 5.30pm	Petworth Bonfire Night	Hampers Green
			Graffham Empire Movies <i>The Roses</i>	Empire Hall
12	Thu	2pm	Thursday Club	Empire Hall
14	Sat	From 7pm	Heyshott Bonfire Night	Heyshott
		evening	Le Freak Nile Rogers/Chic tribute band	Empire Hall

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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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
	6-8pm	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. ¹**Fitflows Fitness:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956. ²**Osteopath:** Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Julie Brown on 07967 630604 or at julie@feelbetterosteopathy.co.uk ³**For all Westerlands events:** Book online at www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit ⁴**Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 367009. ⁵**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297. ⁶**Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk, on 07904 069457. ⁷**Badminton:** Contact Christina Federowicz on 07900 055574. All welcome. ⁸**Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956. ⁹**Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.

Quiz answers (for questions see page 41)

1 *The Bridges of Madison County* and *Mamma Mia!* **2** Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. **3** Paul Merton. **4** *The Repair Shop*. **5** Saliva. **6** [c] Pre-gestive. **7** *Brideshead Revisited*. **8** [c] 86. **9** The US Open. **10** Ghana (the witch doctor's home country – the curse has since been lifted!)



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		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 old phone box outside Pescods	Code is also C159X
		In old phone box opposite The Three Moles	No code needed
		In old phone box at Seaford College	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	Diana Pettifer	bookings.empirehall@gmail.com	07887 469957
	Chairman	Ollie Robinson- Boulton	07584 625059
	Maintenance	Tom Richardson	07932 865154
	Treasurer	Jude Sennitt	sennitt2@gmail.com
	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		07859 743446
	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
Graffham Parish News	Editorial and circulation:	editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com
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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
Graffham Village Shop	Jeeva and Vasu	01798 867700
		graffhamvillageshop.co.uk
Graffham Village Shop Assoc	Chairman Steve Dover	07770 499223
	Treasurer Andy Jones	andy.jones@graffham.net
	Secretary Ros Britton	rosalind.britton@btinternet.com
Katherine Maud Guilloid Fund	c/o Graffham PC Clerk	graffhamp@gmx.co.uk
Lavington Estate	info@lavingtonstud.co.uk	01798 867275
Lavington Park Federation		graffhamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk
	Graffham CE Infant School	01798 867324
	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	Julie Brown	07967 630604
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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