

GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 379

FREE

SEPTEMBER 2022



Tennis Week serves up a winner
St Giles set for new heating system
Sing in the harvest – then lunch



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On the cover: Graffham's biggest sporting event of the year, Tennis Week, served up its usual treats, kicking off with participants in the 'generation game' mixed doubles tournament lining up to chuck their balls at our photographer. For full report, see page 36.

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Writing from the Rectory: Radiating warmth

Writing this letter for our parish magazine represents a moment in time between the last edition and the next, taking the community's temperature each month. Literally just now, as I fan myself in the latest heatwave. Writing mid-August for the beginning of September requires a bit of foresight on my part to second-guess the future, making me wonder whether the heat will die down and if there will be rain before this is published...

With the drought we're experiencing, I rather think there may not be much, but you never know. You could be reading this amidst a deluge. If so, hallelujah, we need it. I've been hoping the sunny weather stayed around for our August weddings though, for Amber and Archie, and Tom and Jade, and our Bank Holiday village fete. And that it won't be too hot (or wet) for our annual sponsored walk on 19 September, walking from Graffham's St Giles Church to Chichester Cathedral – please support or join in if you can (see page 7).

As it stands, more likely we'll still be reusing water to pour on our hanging baskets and tomato plants. Doing so makes me realise just how much water is unnecessarily wasted

in 'normal' life. So hopefully, some new habits will remain once the drought has passed. St Giles' 'eco-tent' at the fete will have highlighted ideas for



A perfect blend: Ann Brown, Sue Hill and the Revd Vivien just happen to be wearing clothes that perfectly match the fabrics chosen to cover the cushions that will deliver St Giles' new state-of-the-art heating system, to be fitted next month.

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► *Continued on next page*



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

Churchwarden: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113



stgilesgraffham.org



[@stgilesgraffham](https://www.facebook.com/stgilesgraffham)

► *Continued from previous page*

conserving water. And we've made sure our church lightning conductor is in good order just in case the heat wave ends with a bang. If we don't take care of God's good earth, of course, it may not be just this episode of dry summer weather that ends this way. We are nothing if not warned.

Farmers continue to battle in the face of the elements to provide crops for us, which we should not take for granted. We're glad therefore to celebrate with the bright new idea of a Harvest Weekend at the end of this month to give thanks for their work, beginning with 'Sing in the Harvest' on Saturday 1 October at 5pm. Like the Jubilate event for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in June, this will combine seasonal readings and songs to lift the church's roof and spirits, Graffham-style – perfect for a rural Sussex village to radiate gratitude to God for blessings received and respond to the needs of the earth and of others: needs which grow, rather than diminish in these uncertain times.

After the Harvest Eucharist on Sunday morning 2 October, a traditional Harvest Lunch in the Empire Hall is offered free of charge to all residents, courtesy of some of the very best village cooks. Graffham hospitality is as warm as the summer weather. All we ask is that you make sure we know you're coming, so there's enough for all (see page 9). Everyone's welcome, adults and children alike. Just come, ye thankful people, come. Amen



Reverend Vivien



TEDDY TIME IN THE PAVILION TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays 10.15-11.30am

Pavilion, Graffham Rec

*No charge.
All welcome.
Just come along!*



Graffham Summer Fete

On and in aid of the Rec,
Bank Holiday Monday, 29 August, 2pm

All the usual - and some new - fun and games
for all the family and your four-legged friends

Vintage motors Tug of War Raffle Car boot sale

Feast on teas, cakes and BBQ Pimms and beer tent

Lots of other extraordinary ways to get you to part
with your cash for this fabulous village amenity
- and put a smile on your face!

Annual dog show

Class 1	Most Handsome Dog 3-8 years	2.15pm
Class 2	Prettiest Bitch 3-8 years	2.35pm
Class 3	Best Child Handler	3.00pm
Class 4	Best Puppy up to 2 years	3.15p
Class 5	Best Owner Look-a-Like	3.35pm
Class 6	Best Veteran Dog or Bitch over 8 years	3.50pm
Class 7	Waggiest Tail	4.10pm
Class 8	Best in Show (Winners Classes 1-7)	4.25pm

All welcome. Entry £2 per class.

Judging by Messrs Bernard Bayley & George Grammar.

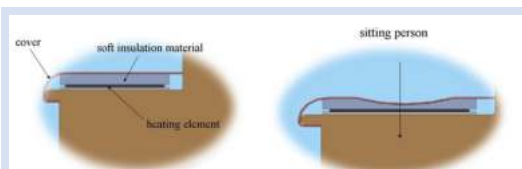
The fete is organised by volunteers from the village.
If you can help in any way and/or provide a raffle prize,
please contact Phil Jones on 07900 937000.

St Giles' new heating system to be fitted next month

St Giles' new state-of-the-art, eco-friendly, cost effective heating system is set to be installed next month – all set to keep our village church's congregation cosy ahead of the onset of autumn chills. The Parochial Church Council Gave a final thumb-up to the move after its 'Rosy Cheeks' appeal to pay for the new system exceeded its £12,000 target just a few months after it was launched in May.

Generous villagers have donated a total of £6,500 – uplifted to £8,250 once Gift Aid has been clawed back from the tax man – towards it, with another £5,000 in the form of a grant from the Beatrice Laing Trust, making a grand total of £13,250. All necessary approvals have also been obtained from the diocese for the work to be carried out.

After exhaustive studies, the PCC selected Pew Heating as our church's new source of warmth. This new system works by fitting each seating area with padded cushions that have electric elements within them, a bit like heated seats in cars, or electric blankets. Heat is released from a cushion only when someone sits on it, maximising efficiency.



How it works: Electric cushions are fitted to the top of pew seats (above left) and emit heat when someone sits on them (above right). As any student of physics knows, heat rises, so warmth from conventional systems in large spaces like churches rises to the rafters (below left), while pew heating (below right) is directed at people.



Pictures © pewheating.com

The current oil-powered central heating system, which is nearing the end of its viability, is being retained as back-up and to provide supplementary heating, if needed, while the pew heating beds in. Additional electric panels can be installed in selected areas where heating through seating is not the solution, if necessary.

Churchwarden Ginny Barrett said: "Advice from the diocese and all other experts is that the best

approach going forward for rural churches like ours is to provide heating for people rather than the entire building. We are also being encouraged to be carbon neutral as soon as possible.

“So, after looking very carefully at all options, pew heating is the first step in a new approach to warming our church – and potentially it will be the complete answer to our needs. Once it is in place and fully tried and tested, we can then assess whether additional forms of warmth are necessary. It is very cost effective to install, compared with more traditional systems, which are of course powered by environmentally unfriendly

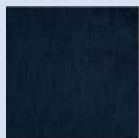
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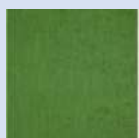
Rosy cheeks: Hugh Brown, PCC member Fiona Mackie and churchwarden Ginny Barrett warmed up by Pew Heating during one of the demonstrations at St Giles last autumn.

Upholstery colours chosen for prayer, celebration and relaxation

A working group, including villager Victoria Caldwell, who runs a successful interior design consultancy, was tasked with choosing the materials to cover the cushions. Their aim was “to create a calm and reflective scheme that pulls the congregation together in prayer, celebration and relaxation”, with fabrics “carefully selected to enhance but not compete with existing textiles and fixed finishes within the church”.



Nave: The cushions in St Giles’ main nave area will be upholstered in dark navy blue, to blend with the terracotta floor and the oak timber of the pews, “creating a smart and contrasting backdrop to colourful kneelers”.



Chancel: In the chancel’s choir seating area, a fresh green material will be used, tying in with the altar cloth and contrasting with the covering used for the nave, to stand out and create a gentle hierarchy to part of the church.



Lady Chapel: In the Lady Chapel and area where the organ is housed, a contemporary terracotta vinyl has been selected “to finish the organ stool and lift the furniture in a neutral, modern way without creating a statement”.

► *Continued from previous page*

oil or gas, and much cheaper to operate, with costs expected to be just £1 per church service."

This approach should also reduce condensation, which can harm the fabric of the building and which occurs more readily in buildings that are infrequently heated and then left cold.

While pew heating is used by many churches throughout the country, St Giles will be the first to instal it in the Chichester diocese. As part of the selection process, PCC members visited other buildings that had already installed it, and several demonstrations have been staged at St Giles, enabling members of the congregation to try it out and check that it will be in keeping with the historic building.

It will take only a few days to fit the system in St Giles, currently scheduled for the middle of October.

Plans are being developed for a special event formally to inaugurate the new system – watch this space!

Gesualdo Six sing at St Giles in Petworth Festival



St Giles Church was packed for a performance by one of the UK's most accomplished vocal ensembles, the Gesualdo Six, on Thursday 28 July, as part of Petworth Festival.

Their programme marked the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, with St Giles selected for the venue because it was one of the first scenes of Protestant activity in West Sussex – as early as 1536 the rector here allowed the hair to grow over his tonsure and replaced the communion wafer with bread.

Before and after the recital, a "fizz bar", offering sparkling wine or water, raised almost £350 for St Giles.



All set to stride across the Downs to Chichester

An epic group of Graffham walkers is preparing for 2022's parish sponsored walk – from St Giles across the Downs to Chichester's St Richard's Cathedral. The 11-mile trek, to raise funds for our village church, is expected to take around six hours to complete.

It has been scheduled for Monday 19 September, a date chosen to avoid the Goodwood Revival and other events already in the village calendar. They expect to leave St Giles at around 8am.

All are welcome to take part. To register your interest, drop an email to hello@stgilesgraffham.org or contact the Revd Vivien or churchwarden Ginny Barrett (see page 1 for details). One kind and generous parishioner has pledged £1,000 – provided others in the village combined match that total in sponsorship. You can sponsor the walkers online at bit.ly/stg2022walk or by pointing your phone camera at this QR code – or fill in the sponsorship form at St Giles Church.





Crumblethon 2022



Apples to spare? Why not make an apple crumble for our local homeless charity, Stonepillow?

Your crumbles must:

- 🍏 Be freshly cooked, and not pre-frozen, so they can be delivered straight to Stonepillow for freezing.
- 🍏 Contain NO nuts.
- 🍏 Be in the foil containers which fit in the charity's freezers – you can get one (or more!) from:
 - 🍏 Ann Brown on 01798 867561 at Frederick House.
 - 🍏 Jan Brind on 01798 867619 at Occam Cottage.
 - 🍏 St Giles Church from Saturday 1 October.
- 🍏 Have their container lids placed silver side down, with the crumble's contents written on the lid if they are not just apple – pear crumbles, or apple with blackberries, are OK.
- 🍏 Be delivered to Ann Brown at Frederick House on Monday 10 October.

THANK YOU TO THE CORE!

HARVEST WEEKEND

Saturday
1 October
5pm

Sing in the Harvest
Celebration with hymns, songs,
seasonal readings
– and cider or apple juice
(*Learn an anthem at 2.30pm*)

St Giles
Church

Sunday
2 October
12noon

Harvest lunch
Free for everyone – but advanced
booking required (via
marie.bracey@me.co or on 01798
867760) and donations welcome.

Empire
Hall

Songs and lunch to celebrate harvest time

Graffham will mark Harvest Festival over two days, with a weekend of special events to which everyone in the village and any visitors are invited.

On Saturday afternoon on 1 October, at 5pm, there will be a celebration of singalong seasonal hymns, songs and readings at St Giles Church – building on the success of the Platinum Jubilee Jubilate event in June. The programme is being developed to make this a real revels for this time of year, with cider and apple juice offered afterwards in return for donations. Everyone's welcome, whether you want to sing or just listen! No advance booking is needed. Just turn up on the day!

Earlier that afternoon, at 2.30pm, anyone interested in singing as part of a choir is invited to St Giles to learn a song or anthem to be sung at the 5pm celebration. Sheet music will be provided. All welcome!

The next day, on Sunday 2 October at 12 noon, there will be a community lunch. Volunteers will be cooking a two-course feast – open to everyone and free of charge, though donations, again, will be invited. To enable the chefs to cater for the right number of diners, advance booking is required. To book your place, please contact Marie Bracey via marie.bracey@me.co or on 01798 867760. Bring your own liquid refreshments.

THURSDAY CLUB IS BACK!

With a talk by Clive and Sue Fennell on
'The Idle Women of the Canals'



The women who made a vital contribution to the World War II effort by shipping key goods around the country by barge

Thursday 13 October 2.30 pm

Empire Hall, Graffham

Refreshments

Raffle

The Thursday Club is a friendly mixed group of people who enjoy talks and outings during the year – which has been in unhappy hibernation since lockdown! Subscriptions, which will be collected at this meeting, remain at the pre-pandemic price of £12 for the year.

Everyone is very welcome!

July was second driest month recorded in Graffham

July was the second driest month in Graffham recorded by village meteorologist John Sutton, of Heydon Cottage, The Street, since he started logging the village's weather more than a decade ago.

He recorded just 2 mm of rain falling here throughout the month's entire 31 days – compared with 87.3 mm in July last year and 37.5 mm in 2020.

That, though, was twice as much precipitation as fell in the driest month he has yet registered in the village – June 2018, when just 1 mm of rain fell.

In comparison, the wettest month in his records is January 2014 when the sky cascaded 281.8 mm down on us. The month before, December 2013, was the third wettest month recorded, with 230.7 mm.

Rainfall (mm) in Graffham in its					
driest months yet		wettest months yet		recent Julys	
June 2018	1.0	January 2014	281.8	2022	2.0
July 2022	2.0	October 2020	277.0	2021	87.3
April 2021	2.4	December 2013	230.7	2020	37.5
September 2014	5.3	December 2019	229.5	2019	73.5
November 2021	9.6	February 2020	207.5	2018	42.1

Garden group's final fling will be to Ramster

Graffham Garden Group's last visit of the year is to Ramster in Chiddingfold on Thursday 13 October, meeting there at 10.30 am. It has a beautiful woodland garden set in 25 acres with views of lakes and hillsides. The spectacular autumn sights include the amazing 120-year-old acers which are renowned for their seasonal displays of fiery shades of reds and russets. To book your place, please contact Nicky West at nicolamwest@btinternet.com or on 07796144647.



September 2022



Graffham Parish News

Steve, Henrietta and Ipe take on key GVSA roles

Graffham Village Shop Association (GVSA), which owns and maintains the community's retail facilities, has three key new officers, following the decision of Hugh Brown to step down from its committee after six years as Chairman. He has been succeeded by Steve Dover, of Heydons Loft, who has served as the association's Treasurer for the past four years.

Also standing aside, as GVSA's Secretary after five years, although he remains on the committee, is Stuart Mathie.

Steve and Stuart's former roles are being filled by newcomers to the committee – and relative newcomers to the village:

- Henrietta Aparicio, who, appropriately, lives in Pescod's (for many years the village's main shop until closing its doors two decades ago) and is a solicitor and company secretary, has succeeded Stuart as GVSA Secretary.
- Ipe Jacob, an accountant, of The White House, Nonnington Lane, has taken over Steve's old role as GVSA Treasurer.

Providing continuity into the future, Ann Rowney, Neil McLean and Chris Wilson continue as committee members.

Steve said: "During his time on the committee Hugh has done an amazing job in resolving issues and streamlining the association so that it is now a relatively simple organisation, and much easier to run. We are sure that everyone would like to thank Hugh for his time and efforts on behalf of Graffham in making sure we have a thriving village shop, picture framer, and rental property. We would also like to thank Stuart for all his work behind the scenes over the past five years and are delighted to welcome Henrietta and Ipe, both incredibly well qualified for their new roles, to the committee.



"In the near term we will be continuing Hugh's efforts to streamline the GVSA by completing an update of its rules and will continue to improve the finances by paying down the large business loan."

GVSA was formed in 1994, when Pescod's closed down, to ensure that Graffham continues to have its own village shop. It owns and is responsible for maintaining the premises where Jeeva and Vasu run their business, along with the car park, the picture framing unit operated by Stephanie and the

► *Continued on page 14*

Electrifying live performers and their renowned show sees them reglarly sell out Ronnie Scott's, The Hootananny, London Jazz Festival and many more.



AN EVENING WITH

THE BIG SMOKE FAMILY

a full London gig....

8.00 PM SATURDAY 15TH OCTOBER

GRAFFHAM EMPIRE HALL

DOORS AND BAR OPENS 7.30PM

TICKETS £17.50 & £30.00



Tickets are available from empirehall.org.uk

"This band is the bomb" - Booker T Jones
"Keeping Funk Alive" - Galactic New Orleans
"Nola-tastic" - The New Mastersounds
"Always brilliant" - Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club
"Get Ready To Move" - Jazz FM



The Big Smoke Family are purveyors of New Orleans funk rock - a unique mix of punchy horns, heavy street beats, chants and samples.

Following in the footsteps of modern New Orleans funk bands such as Galactic and Trombone Shorty, and drawing inspiration from Mardi Gras Indians, James Brown and the Meters.

► *Continued from page 12*

residential unit alongside the shop. All the village's residents are encouraged to support the association by purchasing a £10 share, making them GVSA members and giving a sense of ownership towards these valuable village assets.

Currently, it has some 200 members, all of whom live or have lived in the village or close by. If you would like to join or find out more, contact any of its committee members – see the directory (inside back cover) for contact details or email gvsa2nd@gmail.com

Health Support Association makes key changes

Graffham Health Support Association's key duty of arranging transport is now being shared by its committee members on a rota basis rather than just by Ann Rowney all the time.

The number to call to arrange a lift remains unchanged – 07391 802541 – and the association promises it will make every effort to provide transport to members' medical appointments, from its team of volunteer drivers.

Ann Rowney will continue to handle all issues relating to members' prescriptions – via ann.rowney@icloud.com. The GHSA can arrange free collection of prescriptions from Petworth surgery, which are then dropped off at Graffham Village Shop for pick up from there.



In another key change, Karin Skanberg, on 07920 091014, is taking over responsibility for the loan of equipment to members. The wide range of items available include crutches, walking sticks, commodes, toilet surrounds, bath and shower stools, Zimmer frames, grabbers, bath mats and more.

The committee and their responsibilities are now:

- Chairman, Sarah Lydiard-Wilson, on 01798 867567.
- Secretary, Nicky West, on 01798 867048.
- Membership, Tracy Rowe, on 01798 867020.
- Equipment, Karin Skanberg, on 07920 091014.
- Prescriptions, Ann Rowney, at ann.rowney@icloud.com.
- Treasurer, Zoe Jones, on 01798 867364.
- Committee Member Gill Dover.



CHAPS CHOIR

AT THE EMPIRE HALL, GRAFFHAM

"Joy-inducing, whole-hearted singing from
London's finest male singing troupe"

Prepare for pop song re-hashes, hunting calls, self-aware pirates and, lots of men singing...

Evening concert (7.30pm) + afternoon singing workshop (3.30-5pm)

TICKETS: tiny.cc/graffhamchaps



THE LECONFIELD SINGERS

Vivaldi GLORIA

and other choral classics

17th September 2022 | 7pm
St Mary's Church, Petworth

Conductor | Graham Wili
Organ | Philip Scriven

Box Offices: www.leconfieldsingers.co.uk/events | Tickets:
Telephone: 0333 666 3366 | Adults: £15 | Children (under 18): £7.50

Retiring collection to charitable foundation
Za Maybunie Ukrainy (For Ukraine's Future)



Petworth Fringe is back with its 'best ever' line-up

Petworth Fringe returns with what it claims is its 'best ever' two weeks of music, comedy and drama from Wednesday 14 September.

The comedy line-up is led by one of Britain's highest rated stand-ups Seann 'the bad boy of Strictly' Walsh.

Music ranges from Martin Turner, founder of 70s rock band Wishbone Ash, through soul and folk to opera.

Drama highlights include emerging star Hannah Maxwell in I AmDram. For full details and tickets, go to petfringe.co.uk.

School report: Meet the Governors

Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Church of England schools have for many years operated as a federation under the leadership of one head teacher and one governing body. As the new academic year begins, here is a brief introduction to the current governors. The schools are always interested in hearing from people who may be interested in serving in this capacity. If you would like to know more about what this entails, please do get in touch with either school office – office@graffhaminfant.org.uk or office@dunctonjunior.org.uk



Helen Martin is our Head Teacher and has led the village schools' federation and its governing body for 14 years. As a renowned geographer and the daughter of a forester, Helen's chief love is of the outdoors and all of the benefits it can bring to a child's learning.

Emma Vernon, our Chair of Governors, is a solicitor specialising in financial services. Her daughter joins the Juniors at Duncton this month, moving from Graffham Infants.

Vice-Chair of Governors **Jane Landstrom** has a professional background in finance, sales and marketing. Her two children have both been through our two schools.

Our two local priests, Reverend **Vivien Turner** and Father **David Crook**, both serve on our Governing Body, and we have another Foundation Governor, **Barbara Smith**, whose two grandchildren attend our schools. Barbara is often to be found in school, helping in class and listening to children reading.

Lisa Bassett, who teaches Year 6 at Duncton School, is our Staff Governor and also fulfils the vital role of Safeguarding Governor. Lisa hails from South Africa and her son Luke, now at senior school, was also educated at our schools from Reception to Year 6.

Bill Goodwin has strong family connections with Graffham and many years of senior experience in the education sector. He chairs our Governing Body's Finance and Premises Committee.



To find out more about our village school, including 'virtual tours', see graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk

Please also take a look at and 'like' us at facebook.com/pg/friendsofgraffhamandduncton



Breege Jinks, now retired as Seaford College's Deputy Head (Academic), chairs our Governing Body's Teaching and Learning Committee.

Sheila Butler teaches at Seaford College and is a member of the college's Senior Management Team.

Esther Williams, Deputy Manager of Graffham Nursery, is an elected Parent Governor and has two children at Graffham Infant School.

Similarly, **Henrietta Aparicio** has two daughters at Graffham Infants. Like Emma Vernon, Henrietta is a solicitor with a background in financial services.

Sue Philips, now retired and living in Duncton, spent many years working with the Citizens Advice Bureau.



Family Fridays raring to return this month

Graffham's new 'Family Fridays' are set to return this month, in response to popular demand, after a successful initial run in July then a pause during August while lots of the village's families were away on holiday. Watch for updates via posters and Facebook's Graffham Noticeboard. As always, everyone is welcome.

Family Fridays are a chance for families to chat, relax, share communal childcare, with fun, games and the coals lit on the barbecues by the pavilion at Graffham rec. Organisers Sonya Gillespie and Katie Donald said: "Some of our July weeks were busier than others, but we ended on a high with more than 30 kids thriving, playing and completely in their element. There was lots to entertain them, from bouncy hoppers, to ball games, to sprinklers and even bubbles and ice cream to finish the night. Happy children meant the adults could enjoy a relaxing BBQ in good company.

"Thank you to everyone who joined in – and to the rec committee for its support and the use of its wonderful facilities. It's been an absolute joy to make new friendships and deepening the ones we already have."



GRAFFHAM NURSERY

"Fostering creativity, inspiring curiosity, nurturing respect."



- Hygge Accredited
- Beautiful South Downs Setting
- Outdoor Learning
- Inspired By Nature
- Close Links To Graffham Infant School

SPACES AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2022

For children aged 2-5

Come and have a look around our beautiful pre-school, talk to our staff and get a feel for the unique experience that Graffham Nursery Offers. Our curriculum is influenced by key approaches such as Reggio Emilia, The Curiosity Approach and Hygge (the Danish way of living well).

Visit our website or give us a call;

graffhamnursery.co.uk | 01798 867 324

DEC thanks Graffham for donation to Ukraine aid

Graffham has been thanked by the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) for the £2,730 raised for its Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal at the coffee morning at the Empire Hall on 21 June. In a letter to the hall committee, DEC said: "Thanks to your generosity, our charities and local partners are able to provide vital relief to people in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. Your support is helping us meet the needs of refugees and displaced people by providing food, water, health assistance and care."

Petworth House and Park looking for volunteers

The National Trust's Petworth House is looking to recruit more volunteers to cover a number of roles to ensure visitors to the building, its collection of priceless works of art, from Turner paintings to Grinling Gibbons carvings, and its 700-acre deer park can make the most of their time there. Anyone interested is invited to take part in its Volunteer Recruitment Morning, on Sunday 4 September, 11am-1pm. No booking required – and free entry to the house, garden and park. Any queries to petworth@nationaltrust.org.uk

Bellmans
FINE ART AUCTIONEERS

Inviting Entries

Valuation Days

Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:30am – 4:30pm

Our specialists are available for free valuations, please see our website for more information.

Bid online for free with Bellmans Live.

bellmans.co.uk

*Results subject to buyers premium @ 22% + VAT.



A 19th century diamond-set cross pendant. Provenance: Countess Dysart of Ham House. **Sold for £5,500 (plus BP).***

SUSSEX

Newpound, Wisborough Green, West Sussex, RH14 0AZ
01403 700858 sussex@bellmans.co.uk

Mary Tupper 1931-2022: Quiet, kind, unassuming

Mary Tupper, who passed away on 9 July, lived all but the last few years of her nine decades in Graffham. She and her twin brother John were born on 18 July 1931 at Carpenters Town – when it really was a ‘carpenter’s town’, as base for father Ned Challen’s activities as carpenter for Lavington Estate and home to a family with 10 children. The twins were the last born to mother Dorothy.

They all attended Graffham School and left in their teens to find their own way in the world. By then, the family had moved to 2 Woodcote. Mary started work, aged 14, at the dairy run in those days behind The White Horse. She loved the dances at the Empire Hall and at other nearby villages with her sister Eileen and would cycle to the cinema in Midhurst and even Bognor Regis.

When she was 25, she wed woodsman Ray Tupper, from Heyshott. Her sister Eileen had married Ray’s brother, Harry. Two brothers tying the knot with two sisters cemented the Tupperts and Challens firmly together, and the two Tupper boys came from a large family, too – with 10 other siblings.

Mary and Ray’s wedding was held at St Giles Church on 28 July 1956 at 9 am – although they told their extended family that it was at 10, as Mary ‘didn’t want a fuss’.

At first, the newlyweds shared home with her parents, with Paul born nine months later. Then, when 9 Woodcote was completed after a year or two, they moved there – which is where Paul still lives today. Phil joined them soon afterwards, and they moved again, to 1 Guillods. Mary’s sister Eileen and Ray’s brother Harry lived next door at 2 Guillods, and other members of the Challen/Tupper clan occupied five other addresses in the block alone.

With the arrival of Jill in 1963, the family was complete. By then, Mary was working as caretaker at Graffham School, a role she performed until she retired. Her days started early, lighting fires in every classroom to keep the pupils and teachers cosy. She also kept the books for the civil engineering and landscaping business Ray founded with three of his brothers, Graffham Contractors, where he worked until he was well into his mid 70s.

Their Guillods home became the meeting place for their extended family, with brothers and sisters, uncles and aunts, nephews and nieces gathering there, particularly on Saturday afternoons to follow the football, while Mary

dished out a never-ending supply of tea and ham sandwiches. Eldest son Paul remembered "She was always in the kitchen, not because she was a particularly great or keen cook, but that was where she felt comfortable. She loved and lived for her family."

They would take day trips to the Witterings and go on holiday with their many relatives and village friends, too – always somewhere in England: Dorset, Devon, Cornwall, Weston-Super-Mare... Phil smiled: "Mum wouldn't go near a plane. She went on a train once – never again. And she took the ferry to the Isle of Wight one time – that sea trip was another once-in-a-lifetime experience for her, too!"



Soon after Ray died in June 2018, at their 1 Guillods home, Mary had a bad fall, breaking her hip and leg, and she moved to a care home at Liss, as dementia increasingly took its hold.

Her funeral was conducted at Chichester Crematorium on 9 August. Of her nine siblings and 11 brothers- and sisters-in-law, just one on each side of family survive her – along with Paul, Phil and Jill, her grandchildren and legions of nephews and nieces. How will they remember her? Daughters-in-law Gina and Julie, quick as a flash and in unison: "Quiet, unassuming, kind, and with a heart of gold."



The Empire Hall, Graffham AGM

in the hall

Friday 16 September 7.30pm

All villagers welcome

Meet your neighbour: The Whites of Summerfield

A regular feature, in which we meet one of our village neighbours. This month, editor Michael Blunt catches up with Nick and Sarah White, who moved into Summerfield, on Graffham's Street, in June 2021.

Nick and Sarah White completed the sale of their old house, near Godalming, just as lockdown was easing in early 2021 – with nowhere to move to. “We knew it was a good time to sell,” they said, “but hadn’t really appreciated how difficult it would be to find somewhere to buy!” Their gamble paid off, as they wound up in Graffham.

Nick had recently retired and their two daughters had flown the nest – eldest Charlotte to Chiddingfold, where she lives with her partner and baby, and Abi to Sydney, Australia. So Nick and Sarah no longer needed such a big house nor to live in the commuter belt. The pandemic had opened the floodgates of families looking to leave London for greener pastures – prompting the Whites to put up the ‘for sale’ sign after 23 happy years at Hydon Heath. “It was real leap of faith, and all happened so quickly,” Sarah remembered. “With two weeks to completion, we didn’t have a clue where we were going to live.”

They knew they wanted to stay roughly in the same area, just further away from London – but couldn’t find anything suitable to buy. Friends loaned them a weekend retreat – a converted railway carriage right on the beach at West Wittering – where they stayed “in holiday mode” for six weeks, then rented a place near Petersfield. All their belongings were put in storage.

“We ended up hiring a property search agent, which turned out to have been a very good move,” said Nick. On a Sunday, the agent emailed them the particulars for Summerfield, but noted that it didn’t meet their specifications for a detached house. It sparked their interest all the same, so they made the journey to Graffham for a drive-by to see how the 200-year-old Grade II house and locality looked in reality.

Sarah took up the story: “We thought the village was fabulous and the house well worth a proper viewing. So we were back the next day to look inside and loved it. The garden was wonderful and we felt we could adapt the house to make it our own.

“John and Caroline Uphill (the previous owners) were keen to move and we were ready to roll, so a deal was quickly done and we were able to move in

here just four months after leaving our old house. Everything just fell into place. We were very lucky." Adaptions they have in mind to make Summerfield 'their own', include – subject to approval of a planning application submitted several months ago – enlarging the kitchen, installing dormer windows at the back on the top storey, just as the other two houses in the terrace have already done, and erecting a garage.

Nick continued: "Our new neighbours could not have been more welcoming when we moved in – and ever since. I feel, for the first time in my adult life, that I am now part of a real community. When we married, we lived in

South West London

where you don't even know who lives in the flat next to you. Then, when we moved to Surrey, I was on the 6.45am train to Waterloo and the 6.45pm train back home, which I hated, while the weekends were focussed on our daughters, and we didn't have a village shop or pub so rarely saw our neighbours. We know more people in Graffham after just a



year than we did after nearly a quarter of a century where we lived before." He met many of his new neighbours while walking his 13-year-old yellow Labrador, Dotty. "At first, I knew most people by the names of their dogs," he smiled.

Until he retired, Nick worked for 30 years as a broker with insurers Marsh McLennan. Sussex-born, he spent his childhood outside Horsham, and went into the City directly after leaving Radley College, in Oxfordshire.

And it was in the City that he met Sarah. She grew up in Oxted, Surrey, before moving to South West London in her late teens to become a secretary at an American bank, switching soon to its trading desk, then transferring to Austrian, French and Japanese banks. A colleague arranged after-work

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drinks with some of his old Radley school friends, and Nick was one of them. They married 38 years ago and their two daughters arrived while the family lived in Clapham. When the girls were a few years old, they moved to the house they recently sold, and Sarah jumped off the bank treadmill in her 40s. For the past seven years, she's worked in a boutique in Haslemere but has packed that in now too, to spend more time in their new Graffham home and their bolthole in Portugal's Algarve.

She's toying with joining Graffham Tennis Club while keen sportsman Nick (an MCC member who played rugby, hockey and cricket and ski-ed when younger) has joined Cowdray Golf Club where he plays in a weekly foursome with his new neighbours. He also takes part in work parties tidying up St Giles' churchyard and Graffham Down Trust's reserves.

"And we feel we should be shareholders in the White Horse and Foresters Arms, we've spent so much time in them," they joked. They are huge fans too of Graffham Village Shop: "The quality and range of the produce is superb and Jeeva and Vasu are such a lovely family."

Sarah concluded: "Moving to Graffham has turned out to be the best decision we have ever made. I wake up here every morning and it feels like we're on holiday. We love it!"

Four-legged farewells: The Brinds' Ollie

It is often said in our village that we know many of our neighbours mostly by the pets they own – and their passing can hit us badly. In a new column in Graffham Parish News, we will bid them farewell. If you've lost a beloved pet and would like them featured, just let us know.



Jan and Robin Brind, of Occam Cottage, said goodbye to Ollie on 27 July. Aged 11, he succumbed suddenly to untreatable 'bloat'. Jan said: "He left us and our family feeling heartbroken and bereft. He had the sweetest and most laid back of natures. He much enjoyed meeting his many human friends who he was sure had pockets full of treats just for him. We lost count of the times children he met thought he was a bear!"

Diary of a New Farm: Surviving the drought

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

So much has happened already this year and the drought is one reason we'll never forget 2022! The past few months have been testing with the lack of rain – we have had little grass growth. It's taught us a lot about Hoyle Farm and made us even more motivated to protect and build our soil.

While many farmers have already had to dip into their winter feed to supplement grazing, we are fortunate that now is the time the wildflower meadows at Hoyle Farm need cutting. We are trialling using the cows to graze down half of them while the tractor will mow the other half. By grazing the wildflower meadows, we not only have forage for our cows but as the cows will get through the meadow much slower than the tractor, we provide niche habitats for a little while longer. We're interested to compare the two meadows next year and see what the cows' effect will be.

A few weeks ago, we had another arrival on the farm – for a 10-week stay! With the help of the Red Poll society, we welcomed 'Outlaw', a Red Poll bull who is currently with our five Red Poll girls. Outlaw has lots of dairy genetics and in May next year we hope to have five little Red Poll calves arrive at Slow Grown Farm! This will mean that we will be able to start cheesemaking as we share the milk with the calves.

Our pigs have managed to keep cool in the woodlands which always feels a few degrees cooler. The pigs look like they're growing every day and we are monitoring their impact on the woods as they are keeping themselves very busy with all their foraging.

We have been surprised and excited to find lots of little tree saplings (oak, beech and elm) that have self-seeded around the fields – natural regeneration at work. By surviving the drought, these saplings are proving that they have what it takes and we're making an effort to protect all of them by re-using old tree guards (right).



Graffham Down Tracks: Jonathan Simons

A regular feature in which we invite a villager to pick eight favourite tracks, a book and luxury item, with a brief explanation – like in Radio 4's Desert Island Discs. This month, Jonathan Simons gets in the groove.

Jonathan came from the Isle of Wight to Graffham via Horsham, where he spent much time teaching Mathematics. He has lived at Millburgh Hall with Jenny since 2004.



1 Last Thoughts on Woody Guthrie Bob Dylan If there has to be just one Dylan track on this list then it has to be this one. It is just words: a search for meaning amid the vanities of the world that beset us all. It is a young man's view but the driving rhythmic force of the words has stayed with me long into old age. The final stanzas give a hint as to where to find salvation. I have laid it down that it will be heard in full at my funeral. You are all invited.

2 Bach's Chromatic Fantasy played by Wanda Landowska (accept no substitute). I have read that the harpsichord on this recording sounds like an industrial sewing machine. It will be played VERY LOUD at the start of the funeral to grab everyone's attention.

3 She Came in Through the Bathroom Window *The Beatles* The Beatles charted my adolescence. Their Abbey Road album seemed to promise that they would go on with me into adulthood. The music and the arrangements here are so inventive. The sequence around this track is particularly joyful. I recall almost giving up a prayer of thanks on first hearing it. Tragically the music stopped and I had to go it alone.

4 Don't Worry Baby *Beach Boys* If I cannot choose the whole of their *Pet Sounds* album, then I will settle for this. It just makes me cry.

5 Tunnel of Love *Dire Straits* I listened to this on the car radio late at night so many times, ending up waving my arms in the air as it transported me home. Wishbone Ash, Thin Lizzy and Deep Purple can induce similar excitement but Mark Knopfler takes it to the sublime.

6 Autumn Leaves *Cannonball Adderley, Miles Davis etc* This is from the first 'modern' jazz album I ever bought – in middle age. It is very mellow and gets you right into head-nodding and foot and finger tapping mode. Taken with libations of Heineken's Special Brew this sort of thing can get you through tough times.

7 St Louis Blues *Louis Armstrong* This is rather a random choice from Satchmo's catalogue, but wonderful!

8 Berceuse from the **Dolly Suite**, played by the *Lebeque sisters* for instance. This is the funeral walk-out music. Listen with Mother. Oh NO, that is eight already! I have missed out Beethoven, Grieg, Vaughan Williams, the Watsons, Brahms, David Ackles... Never mind, save them for the wake.

Book: A difficult choice between **The Fungi of Switzerland volumes 1 to 6** and **The House at Pooh Corner**. On balance, I will have to go for the A.A.Milne classic. I scarcely needed to read any fiction after this as it packs in so much adventure, pathos and worldly wisdom.

Luxury item: **The Fungi of Switzerland volumes 1 to 6.**



Graffham Down Trust Quiz Night

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buytickets.at/graffhamdowntrust/745156

Graffham Parish News' spectacular September quiz

Ten quick fire questions to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers below (no cheating now!)

- 1 Who was appointed Minister for Drought in the last week of August 1976?
- 2 Whose professional driving career was ended by an accident in the Glover Trophy at Goodwood in 1962?
- 3 The Cayman Islands, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica and Puerto Rico make up which group of islands?
- 4 Which US band reached number 3 in the UK singles' chart in 1978 with September?
- 5 Why did Golden Globe-winning, BAFTA-nominated actress Janet Munro visit Graffham on the afternoon of Sunday, 14 September 1969?
- 6 Which NASA space probe was launched on 5 September 1977?
- 7 "What do they know of England who only England know?" is a line in the 1891 poem *The English Flag*. Who wrote it?
- 8 Jane Vigor (née Goodwin), daughter of St Giles' rector George Goodwin, who was born in Graffham in 1699 and died on 6 September 1783, became famous for her letters written in the 1730s from which imperial court?
- 9 Who was conductor at the Last Night of The Proms from 1947 to 1966?
- 10 Which clerical comedy series featured appearances by Bishop Len Brennan?

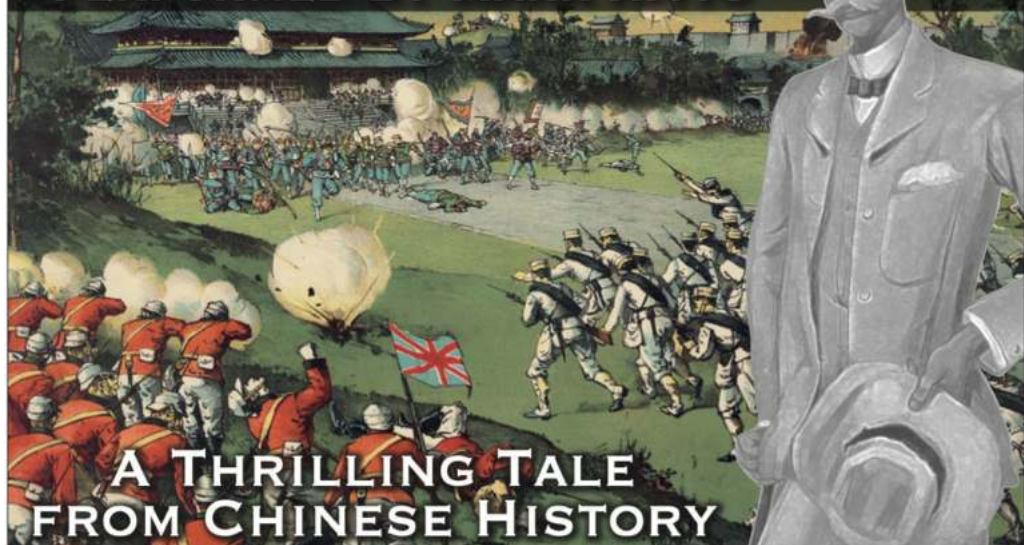


Answers: 1 Denis Howell. 2 Stirling Moss. 3 The Greater Antilles. 4 Earth, Wind and Fire. 5 She opened the new sports pavilion. 6 Voyager 1. 7 Rudyard Kipling. 8 The Russian court of Empress Anna Ivanovna. 9 Sir Malcolm Sargent. 10 Father Ted.

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David Haig, actor and writer

Nature Notes: The Sound of Silence by The Crickets

A monthly column by Sussex Wildlife Trust's Head of Community Action for Wildlife Michael Blencowe.

I'm a huge fan of sci-fi B-movies and they don't come any better (or worse) than 1957's *Beginning of the End*. It's the usual story – over-eager government scientists intent on increasing crop yield inadvertently create giant irradiated grasshoppers the size of doubler-decker buses which set about destroying Chicago. There are some similar creatures lurking on the Downs around Sussex. OK, they're not going to come stomping round Graffham any day soon but they're still mighty impressive.

The Great Green Bush Cricket can claim to be Britain's biggest insect. Yet this Godzilla of the undergrowth is surprisingly hard to see. Its long leaf-like body blends in amongst the brambles, rendering it almost invisible. Bug eyes, impressive jaws and twirling antennae give it some monster movie credentials, but there's nothing to fear from this harmless native.

There are about 35 species of crickets and grasshoppers (orthoptera) in Britain. Crickets differ from grasshoppers by having much longer, thread-like



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antennae and they 'sing' by rubbing their wings together (while short-antennae grasshoppers rub their legs against their wings).

This song or stridulation is the male's way of romancing a female –

who, if interested, will reply. The best chance of finding the Great Green Bush Cricket is to head out on a warm September evening and listen for their downland duets – a loud, incessant rattle. Imagine a maraca player after drinking too much caffeine.

Last month I was leading a wildlife walk through the flower-rich meadows of one of our South Downs nature reserves and I was blown away by the wall of sound created by hundreds of crickets and grasshoppers. But it became apparent that not everyone could hear this orthopteran orchestra. The sad truth is that as we get older our ears can't tune in to the higher frequencies produced by these insects and species by species they fall silent.

I have a compilation CD of the chirps and buzzes of Britain's crickets and grasshoppers – a sort of *Now That's What I Call Stridulation*. I played it this morning and track 24 had gone. It was there a few years ago but now... silence. I've started to lose my crickets! The beginning of the end.

It isn't just me who will be hearing less wildlife in the future. Our countryside is becoming quieter as crickets, bees and birds vanish. Over the decades, changes in agricultural practices have made large parts of England quieter. The *Silent Spring* predicted by Rachel Carson in 1962 has seeped across every season.

This September, get out and listen to the sounds of summer before they fade!



A Great Green Bush Cricket by Sussex wildlife artist © Mark Greco.

Crimestoppers and police appeals

Sussex Police's log of incidents locally in recent weeks. If you have any information which might help, please report it, quoting the serial number – by phone on 101 or online at bit.ly/crimeupdate

Midhurst, Grange Road: Between Wednesday 13 and Saturday 16 July both number plates were stolen from a vehicle. Serial 0305 04/08.

Graffham Chronicles: Harry Ricardo, pioneering engineer

A regular column by village historian Pauline Goodwin

There is an outpost of Graffham in Shoreham-on-Sea! It is just before the Adur Bridge, opposite Lancing College. In the 1950s, we regarded it as a landmark on our daily travels to Holes and Davigdor Dairy, or to see our grandparents in Hove. In those days, it was a modest building emblazoned with a sign which read 'Ricardo', the family name of the multi-talented Graffham dynasty.

This company, founded by Sir Harry Ricardo (right) and cousin Ralph in 1919, still exists today with its slick Shoreham Technical Centre premises.

Wikipedia describes it today: "Ricardo develops engines, transmissions, vehicle systems, intelligent transportation systems (ITS) and hybrid and electric systems in addition to providing environmental and strategic consultancy services." David Shemanns, CEO of Ricardos for 16 years to 2021, says Sir Harry was "one of the greatest engineers of the last century – up there with Brunel".



From a very young age, Sir Harry was enthralled by all things propulsion. His childhood was punctuated with key events that revealed the capabilities of his intellect. From the age of seven, while at London's 13 Bedford Square, he had a small workshop in which he and his friend worked on projects like installing lights in his sister's dolls' house.

Sir Harry was an articulate child who captured the attention of adult listeners. Family friend Edward Burne-Jones, uncle to Rudyard Kipling, shared Sir Harry's interest in butterflies and machines. The young Harry took Kipling and his daughter to see the rare Dark Green Fritillary butterflies on the Downs above Rottingdean. In Sir Harry's *Memories and Machines: The Pattern of My Life*, he describes how "during the walk, Kipling talked to me as though I were his equal in age and experience".

His father, Halsey Ricardo, bought him a small lathe and encouraged him to build a steam engine. At Rottingdean School, he and Ralph designed and built many miniature steam engines, selling them to friends for 20 shillings. Halsey also assigned Harry the task of building an engine to drive the deep



wheel water pump (left) installed at their newly-built Graffham house, Woodside. His design consisted of a "box bed plate carrying the crankshaft and two camshafts... with the cylinder mounted on four steel columns... further extended to carry the cylinder head" (*Memories and Machines*).

In this design he incorporated his work on stratified charge, which matched the strength of the charge with the load of the engine. Sir Harry's concern with the concept of stratified charge was to prove vital in the development of supercharged engines needed for aircraft in the decades to come. Even at this age, he had a unique understanding of the internal combustion (IC) engine and its potential. His expertise is illustrated by his final year at Rugby School when he presented a paper to the Natural History Society on steam and IC engines. This caught the attention of Sir Dugald Clerk, a pioneer in IC research who became Sir Harry's mentor and friend.

In 1903, Sir Harry went to Cambridge University, joined the Engineering Club and won its 1904 competition, to design and build a machine that could travel the furthest on one imperial quart (1.14 litre) of petrol. Although his engine had a single cylinder and was the heaviest entered, his motorcycle design won the day, covering a distance of 40 miles (64 km).

He was persuaded to join Bertram Hopkinson, Professor of Applied Mechanics, researching engine performance, efficient combustion and more. Specifically, in 1917 Sir Harry worked with Shell to develop the concept of different octane fuels for motorists that would eliminate knock.

This involved detailed research of the internal measurements and structures of the combustion chamber and other IC components. A test bed engine was built at Shoreham (right) which allowed adjustments to these components. This, and the glass-windowed chambered engine, were forerunners of his flame photographic studies of combustion.

His achievements with leading IC engineers are remarkable. During World War I, Ricardo designed a 150hp, six cylinder tank engine, allowing the vehicles to travel without detection.



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Eight thousand were built in the conflict's final two years. A research paper written in 1927 led to the development of aircraft engines by the likes of Napier, Bristol and Rolls-Royce. Following this success, in 1929, Ricardo was elected Fellow of the Royal Society.

His work and research contributed greatly to the high power aircraft engines of World War II and from 1941 to 1945 he was a member of the War Cabinet engineering advisory committee. After the war, he continued to develop the diesel pre-combustion chamber, originally designed in the 1930s, which made high-speed diesel engines possible. Fleets of London buses and cars were fitted with his engines. He also assisted in the design of the combustion chambers and fuel control system of Sir Frank Whittle's – and the world's first – jet engine.

In 1944, Ricardo was elected president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and in 1948 he was knighted in recognition for his work in the field of internal combustion engineering.

His *Memories and Machines* explains how "the Ricardo household was characterised by a tremendous capacity for enjoyment... amidst a range of exciting activities". In 1961, Sir Harry and Lady Beatrice shared this search for enjoyment on the occasion of their golden wedding when they provided a tennis court for the people of Graffham at the Recreation Ground. I participated in the 1960s Saturday afternoon all-age club sessions which were an absolute delight.

As William Pearce states in *Old Machine Press*: "Harry was one of a kind."

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Bill's bygones: Murray, massive cat, M*A*S*H

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 – September 2012: Children from Duncton School visit the Olympic Stadium to watch the Paralympics. Graffham's pavilion appeal is within £9,000 of its target of £114,000 to complete refurbishment. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel is shown at Graffham Empire Movies. The Midhurst and Petworth Observer switches from broadsheet to tabloid. Barack Obama accepts the Democrat nomination for the forthcoming US presidential election. Andy Murray defeats Novak Djokovic to win the US Open and his first major. Death of singer Andy Williams (aged 84).



25 years ago – September 1997: A panther-like 'mystery big cat', the 'size of a border collie', is seen for the fourth time behind Nonnington Lane. Graffham and Heyshott Guides are on their biennial trip to Switzerland, organised by Carol Tickner. Selham's biennial fête raises £2,000 towards the estimated £70,000 cost of repairing the church roof. Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales, at Westminster Abbey. Midhurst and Petworth shops close for its duration. Elton John is UK number one with *Candle in the Wind*. Scotland and Wales vote in favour of devolved assemblies. Deaths of Mother Teresa (87) and journalist Jeffrey Bernard (65).



50 years ago – September 1972: Graffham Stoolball Club hold an end of season party at the pavilion where president Margaret Parish presents the Drawbridge Trophy to Brenda Petter for holding the most catches (20) in the senior games. Heavy rain ends the driest summer since 1949 – a bumper harvest is expected. Norway rejects membership of the EEC. Bobby Fischer defeats Boris Spassky to become World Chess Champion. First airings for TV series *M*A*S*H* and *Are You Being Served?* Emerson Fittipaldi becomes youngest yet Formula 1 World Champion, at 25. Clive Lloyd bludgeons 126 as Lancashire defeat Warwickshire to win the Gillette Cup. Deaths of Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury 1945-61, aged 85, and 11 Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics.



With Graffham's sporting year peaking in July and August, this edition highlights some end-of-season victors as well as the village's famous Tennis Week. The courts remain open throughout the year for members to play throughout our increasingly mild winters.

Graffham Tennis Club



Tennis Week: July's final week saw Graffham host its rival to Glorious Goodwood, the village's annual Tennis Week. Thanks to the Tennis Club committee for preparing the grass courts, which seemed better than ever, and for organising the schedule. Masters of ceremonies Richard Gyles and Chris Major ensured that the first weekend's events ran smoothly. Post-pandemic holidays (and Covid itself) meant that the programme was scaled back from its normal full-on format, but there was no absence of excitement.



Richard Gyles briefs the players on how the 'generation game' tournament works

Saturday afternoon kicked proceedings off with the 'generation game' doubles tournament, masterminded by Richard Gyles and requiring competitors to adjust their play between the grass and hard courts. Round-robin early rounds gave all entrants three sets of tennis, with the strongest two progressing

to a final. The older generations were rather predominant this year so it was pleasing to see one of the top juniors, Owen Russell, make it through to this stage. Partnered by club stalwart and former men's singles champion Andy Craig, they faced the pairing of Angie Thornley and Stephen Watson, the latter seemingly coming out of tennis retirement! Fiercely contested, the match reached 5-4 to Owen and Andy but spectators' comments about starting to engrave the trophy inspired Angie and Steve to make a final push and steal the victory 7-5. Spectators and competitors celebrated with the barbecue late into the night.

Sunday saw the 'morning after' men's doubles tournament with the main club trophy up for grabs. A small entry of four pairs was organised so that everyone played everyone and the ultimate winners were Lucian Smithers and David Sparkes, both new names for any of the Graffham trophies. This



Play underway on all four courts – two grass, two hard – during Tennis Week's 'generation game' doubles tournament

was followed by Brett Creed's soft ball cricket competition for individual pairs, with five runs sacrificed for a wicket. Ian and Angie Thornley emerged as winners following a thrilling match with some big hitting – notably from David Sparkes off his own daughter's bowling! – and some outstanding fielding, with a reflex catch at silly point by Jenny Dwyer-Ward the highlight.

Junior coaching took place during the week, with the grass courts being well-used for practice. Monday evening saw an East Hants League match

between Graffham Ladies Bs Sarah Jeffries, Anna Moore, Susie Oakley and Angie Thornley versus Liphook for a tightly-contested 4-4 draw.

Graffham's coach Richard Hopp organised Tuesday's main event, the annual Graffham vs Rest of the World junior match, followed by a Pizza 'n Coke match tea.

Although this is open to boys and girls, this year Graffham's team was an all-boy affair, with the village represented by Lawrence Bates, Alan Erkhova, Owen Russell, Freddie and Seb Wethered and Gene Williams. The opponents came from a combination of Rogate and Chichester and the match ended at



Something for everyone: Tennis Week catered for all ages, from the seniors (above) to the juniors (below), tucking into Pizzas and Coke after the Graffham vs Rest of the World match.



3-3, leaving the 'trophy' in the hands of the Rest of the World, as the current holders. Thanks to Tessa, SJ and Zara for organising the match teas.

Another league match took centre stage on Wednesday evening while Thursday's American doubles was reformed into a round robin club evening. The traditional Friday evening family event was enhanced by coinciding with the final Family Friday (see page 17). Existing and prospective players were treated to ball machine sessions run by Denise Clay, with cones used as target practice and Percy Pigs as prizes. The BBQ was managed by Howard Donald while Beetle Clay ran the bar, bringing to a close perhaps the first completely rain-free tennis week for 95 years.

All league matches in September are away.

Graffham Tennis Club results for East Hampshire LTS League					
Women's Doubles Division 1			Women's Doubles Division 3		
Graffham A vs Headley A	Lost	0-8	Graffham B vs Liphook	Draw	4-4
Graffham A vs Swanmore A	Lost	3-5	Newman Collard vs Graffham B	Lost	2-6
Mixed Doubles Division 2					
Graffham vs Alton A			Lost		1-7

Graffham Bowls Club

By Secretary Liz Pegram



Left: Club President Vera O'Hara (centre) presents the Jubilee Shield to winners Kym Pegram and Janet Wakeford. Right: Wendy Folkes retains the Ladies Trophy.

After a busy few months of bowls, the season is drawing to a close. The weather has been perfect for bowls although a little hot at times! Results have been mixed with the final outcome not always reflecting the closeness of the scores. Two internal competitions took place in the July sunshine. Janet Wakeford and Kym Pegram triumphed in the Jubilee Shield. On Ladies Day, Wendy Folkes was the worthy winner of the Ladies Trophy for

the second year running. Both trophies were presented by our President, Vera O'Hara.

With only a few more friendly games to play and Finals Day for the internal knock-out competitions, the season will be finished for another year.

Finally thank you Peter Bradley for your kind donation.

Graffham Bowls Club results					
Petworth	<i>Away</i>	Lost	Billingshurst	<i>Home</i>	Lost
West Dean	<i>Home</i>	Won	Haslemere	<i>Home</i>	Won
Stedham	<i>Home</i>	Lost	Petersfield	<i>Home</i>	Lost
Petworth	<i>Home</i>	Lost	Southbourne	<i>Home</i>	Cancelled

Graffham Bowls Club home fixtures: September

FINALS DAY: Sunday 4 September 2.30pm

Graffham ladies' cricket

Graffham Ladies have been practising hard for the next fixture, at home versus West Wittering on Sunday 11 September from 10am. This regular fixture always seems to bring the sun out and there will surely be music provided by the cricket supremo and coach Brett Creed. Practice sessions continue until then at 6.30pm on Thursdays and there may still be a place on the team if you would like to play.

Local foodbank runs out of some vital supplies

Chichester District Foodbank, which also covers the Graffham, Midhurst and Petworth district, has completely run out of some key items on its list – and is urging locals to help replenish stocks. Items urgently needed include:






- Nappies sizes 5, 6 and 7
- Washing up liquid
- Treats eg chocolate or energy bars
- Tinned fruit
- Biscuits
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Shaving foam/gel
- Tin openers

Please drop off any of these, or other, items you can spare at the collection points at Graffham Village Shop, Petworth Co-op or Midhurst Sainsbury's or Tesco. How about buying and giving some of them when you next shop?

Only items that are in-date, unopened and, because of 'Natasha's Law' (to protect allergy sufferers), with a full ingredients list can be accepted.



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Property watch

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

South Corner House, Duncton GU28 0LT: Detached Georgian three-storeyed home, seven bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room and cellar, numerous outbuildings garage, gardens with views of South Downs. 364sq m/3,921sq ft. Guide price £1.1 million. *Savills, Petworth, 01798 678003. Added 19 August.*



Planning applications

A summary of latest applications for planning approval in Graffham and East Lavington civil parishes filed with the South Downs National Park as this edition went to press. For details, see bit.ly/sdnp-planning

Dower House, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NP: Proposed 1st floor window to main dwelling. Single storey lean-to extension, addition of windows and doors and six solar panels to existing outbuilding. SDNP/22/02495/HOUS Received: 24 May Validated: 11 Jul

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Petworth Area Churches Together: Feeding 44 families



The Petworth Area Churches Together (PACT) Food Bank has made a regular monthly food box (or boxes) delivery to 44 families in Petworth and surrounding villages – approximately 80 boxes a month – during the summer holidays, providing meals for all those children who normally have free school lunches, *writes Gerald Gresham Cooke*. This is a mammoth task for our team – not just delivering, but collecting the sorted food from Chichester (up to a quarter of a ton of it a week), and also packing the boxes. As usual our volunteers have responded magnificently. We continue to be most grateful for the food donations donated in the baskets outside Graffham Village Shop and other local stores.

- PACT's autumn lecture this year is on *Supporting Refugees and Asylum Seekers* by Roger Pask of the Sanctuary in Chichester, a very topical subject considering the number of Ukrainians being hosted locally – on Friday 14 October at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church Petworth. All welcome.

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.

United Reformed Church: Petworth. *Minister:* Revd Anne Lewitt *Tel:* 01798 872535. *Web:* petworthurc.co.uk *Worship:* Sundays 10.30am.

What's on at our church and chapel

- All residents of and visitors to Graffham 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 St Giles Church and All Saints' Chapel are open daily.
- See stgilesgraffham.org or Facebook's @stgilesgraffham for any changes.

September				
4	Sun	10.30am	St Giles Patronal Festival with refreshments	St Giles
6	Tues	9.30am	Morning Prayer + Pilgrims at 10	All Saints
7	Wed	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time	Rec Pavilion
11	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 13	St Giles
		6pm	Evensong	All Saints
13	Tues	9.30am	Morning Prayer + Pilgrims at 10	All Saints
14	Wed	10.30am-12	Coffee morning	Occam Cottage
		10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time	Rec Pavilion
16	Fri	11am	Burial of ashes of June Challen	St Giles
18	Sun	9am	BCP Holy Communion	St Giles
		10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 14	St Giles
19	Mon	estimated 8am-4pm	Parish sponsored walk, from St Giles to Chichester Cathedral	Across the Downs
20	Tues	9.30am	Morning Prayer + Pilgrims at 10	All Saints
21	Wed	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time	Rec Pavilion
23	Fri	3pm	Wedding rehearsal	St Giles
24	Sat	11.30am	Wedding of Edward and Lucy	St Giles
25	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Trinity 15	St Giles
27	Tues	No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims		
28	Wed	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time	Rec Pavilion
October				
1	Sat	5pm	'Sing in the Harvest' celebration	St Giles
2	Sun	10.30am	Harvest Parish Eucharist	St Giles
		12noon	Harvest Lunch	Empire Hall

Bell-ringing practice returns on 6 September. New learners welcome!

We rely on the generosity of villagers and visitors to safeguard the future of Graffham's St Giles Church and the ability of our parish to deliver its mission to the community – including this magazine. Please support it through a donation – preferably a regular one via our Parish Giving Scheme. You can also raise donations for St Giles virtually every time you shop online – at no extra cost to you. For details, see www.bit.ly/stggive1

Key dates and what's on in and around the village

September				
1	Thu	10am-5pm	'Come out and play' games (till 4 Sept)	Petworth Park
			WSCC schools term starts	
3	Sat	9am-2pm	Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst
		11am	Yoga in the Park ³	Petworth Park
6	Tue		Midweek Racing	Goodwood
7	Wed		Seaford College term starts	
		10.30am	Watercolour landscape painting workshop ³	Petworth Park
11	Sun		Graffham ladies cricket v West Wittering home fixture	Rec
14	Wed	10.30am	Coffee morning in aid of St Giles	Occam Cottage
		10.30am	Beginners' photography workshop ³	Petworth Park
			Petworth Fringe (till 1 Oct) (see page 15)	Petworth
16	Fri		Goodwood Revival (to 18 Sep)	Goodwood
		7.30pm	Empire Hall AGM	Empire Hall
19	Mon	c8am-4pm	Sponsored walk to Chi Cathedral (page 7)	St Giles
		6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford Coll
20	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet chiropodist ¹	Empire Hall
		2.30pm	U3a talk on Midhurst's links to Royalty and Gertrude Jekyll See midhurstu3a.org.uk	Midhurst Methodist Church Hall
24	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
			Lucy and Ed's wedding	St Giles
		7.30pm	Chinese Boxing play (see page 29)	Empire Hall
28	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
October				
1	Sat	2.30pm	Sing in the Harvest learn a song workshop (see page 9)	St Giles
		5pm	Sing in the Harvest celebration (see page 9)	St Giles
2	Sun	12noon	Harvest festival community lunch (see page 9)	Empire Hall
7	Fri	7.30pm	Graffham Down Trust Quiz night (page 27)	Empire Hall
11	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet chiropodist ¹	Empire Hall
13	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club talk on World War II's women canal bargers (see page 10)	Empire Hall
15	Sat	7.30pm	The Big Smoke Family gig (see page 13)	Empire Hall
26	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
29	Sat	3.30pm	Chaps Choir singing workshop (Page 15)	Empire Hall
		7.30pm	Chaps Choir concert (See page 15)	Empire Hall
31	Mon		Graffham Camping and Caravanning site closes for the winter	

¹**Great Feet Chiropodist:** Available to Graffham Health Support Assoc members only.

²**Lunch Club:** Graffham Empire Hall 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 £8 a head. Please book by calling Sarah on 01798 867567.

³ **Petworth Park and House events:** Booking essential, via nationaltrust.org.uk/petworth or on 0344 249 1895.

Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)			
Mondays	<i>Daytime-early evening</i>	Osteopath ¹	Empire Hall
Tuesdays	<i>8.30am–12noon</i>	Post Office	Empire Hall
Wednesdays	<i>9.15–10.30am</i>	Yoga ²	Empire Hall
	<i>10.15-11.30am</i>	Teddy Time toddler group ³	Pavilion
Thursdays	<i>Daytime-early evening</i>	Osteopath ¹	Empire Hall
	<i>10.30-11.30am</i>	Ease Into Exercise ⁴	Empire Hall
	<i>2-4pm</i>	Post Office	Empire Hall
Fridays	<i>9-10.15am</i>	Yoga ²	Empire Hall
	<i>10.30-11.15am</i>	Pilates ⁵	Empire Hall

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

¹**Osteopath:** Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 867523.

²**Yoga:** Deborah Albane on 07790 367009.

³**Teddy Time:** No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

⁴**Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Abigail Martin on 07523 860167.

⁵**Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297

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