



On the cover: Gay Foord, Diane Bellis and Gillian Charlesworth man the home produce stall at another successful Graffham Easter Market. Full story and more pictures – pages 8-11. Cover photo by © Annabel Heaton

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Contributions and contacts: We're always pleased to hear from you at

editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com

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

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Writing from the Rectory: Break dancing

Writing this at the end of a long stretch of parish engagement, I'm feeling ready for a break. This is both because even though Graffham is relatively tiny in terms of having a parish priest, it still keeps me pretty busy.

I'm expecting the village to be busier than usual when I return, with all the preparations for the Graffham Festival under way – during which St Giles is expecting to celebrate the first two of six weddings scheduled for this year, with three more at St Peter's, and with at least five little people are coming for their baptisms, and more to follow, I hope! I am very aware that this is great cause for celebration, at which Graffham excels!

Meantime, normal services continue, regular meetings take place, food and drink is enjoyed and school assemblies led. I continue to scratch my head in encountering new technology and think about how we can fund repairs to our church roof and everything else we'd love to do and have to do. All the while, we talk and learn and pray together, just as a parish community should.

I continue to believe that all parishes could and should be the way our parish is, and I hope and trust, will always be. Little parishes have to fight their corner though, as evidenced by a relatively new organisation called Save the Parish, which does its best to defend parishes from merging into larger conglomerations. So, I am taking time out from my break to attend its annual





The Rev Vivien holds the
Easter candle aloft (top) after
lighting it from the fire in the dawn
service on Easter Sunday at St
Giles before helping the children
attending the mid-morning service
make their 'Eastingles' (below).



Continued from previous page

conference in Bristol, to see what I think about its ideas and inspiration. I'm pleased such interest is being taken in defending the parish system, and thankful I have the privilege of serving a parish the Church of England can be proud of – even if you are keeping me dancing on my toes with all your creative activity!

A final word about the upcoming Graffham Festival which will see the church decorated with a wonderful floral display called The Glory of the Garden. No doubt there are people in Graffham celebrating a special occasion this year. Here is an invitation to share your celebration by sponsoring one of the arrangements, with a card to mark the event. So, if you have a significant birthday or anniversary coming up or are celebrating a wedding or christening or achievement, please get in touch with me. Having had some elements of the whole display described to me, I



The Glory of the Garden will come to St Giles in June's Graffham Festival.

can't wait to see it, and catch its scent, and sit in church enjoying all the concert music that is planned to be played in its setting.

Off for my break now, quite a cause for celebration on its own...

With love,

Reverend Vivien



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

Please watch out for scammers sending emails purporting to be from the Rev Vivien, asking for an unspecified favour or any kind of money. The real Rev Vivien doesn't send emails like that!

Churchwardens: Ginny Barrett 01798 867113 Cindy Bradley 07787 516522



stgilesgraffham.org



@stgilesgraffham

Graffham Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 22 May at 7pm after social drinks from 6.30pm in the Empire Hall

An annual update on what Graffham Parish Council is doing for the village, including a presentation, using the Empire Hall's new audio-visual system, on proposals for the new playground at the Recreation Ground

All residents of the parish are welcome to attend

St Giles granted £7,000 towards roof repairs

St Giles Church has received two grants towards the cost of the current repairs to its roof, totalling nearly £7,000.

Sussex Historic Churches Trust has offered to make a £5,000 contribution to the bill, which is expected to total around £30,000 when the work is completed. The Benefact Trust is donating £1,750.

Applications have been made to a number of other grant bodies, who are yet to respond. Any shortfall will be met by funds set aside over the years for exactly this kind of maintenance.

The current repairs to St Giles' roof are being carried out by a specialist firm of local steeplejacks, Tarrants, to solve leaks and keep the building watertight for years to come. It is believed to be the most extensive work carried out on the exterior of the building for many years.

Sussex Historic Churches Trust's main source of fund raising is its annual Ride&Stride event, in which participants collect sponsorship for walking, cycling or horse riding between churches in the county, or just holding coffee mornings or other events on Ride&Stride day. St Giles has participated in this in the recent past.

Stuart Lewis, who is leading the project on behalf of the PCC, said: "We are very grateful to both Sussex Historic Churches Trust and the Benefact Trust for their support in helping us ensure St Giles can remain the centre of our parish for generations to come – and of course to the many other local residents who have made donations to enable us to look after our beautiful and historic church."

Lithium ion battery blamed for fire at shop

A lithium ion battery is being blamed for a fire which broke out in a wheelie bin at Chapel View, the residential unit next to Graffham Village Shop, on Tuesday 9 April. West Sussex Fire and Rescue rushed to the scene where a passer by was already tackling the blaze.

The picture framer's workshop next door suffered some slight charring, but otherwise damage was fortunately minimal.

The firemen attending said the lithium ion battery was the likely source and issued a reminder to the public to take care when storing and disposing of such items.

Choose your Sussex Police and Crime czar

Graffham residents – along with their counterparts throughout the county – will be voting on Thursday 2 May to elect the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner. Four candidates are standing for the post:

- Liberal Democrat Jamie Bennett.
- Conservative Katy Bourne, who is looking for another term in the role.
- The Green Party's Jonathan Kent.
- Labour's Paul Richards.

Graffham's polling station is the Empire Hall – and don't forget to take an appropriate form of identity if you want to cast your vote.

The Three Moles wins yet another award

The Three Moles' trophy cabinet is getting fuller and fuller. In early April, it was named the winner for West Sussex in the National Pub and Bar Awards 2024. Earlier this year, it was named runner-up in PubAid's 2024 Community Pub Hero Awards, a 'Champion' by the British Institute of Innkeeping and certificated Silver for its approach to sustainability by the South Downs National Park.

Thursday Club hears from Nonnington's Emma



Emma Wallace, the relatively new owner of Nonnington Farm, will be guest speaker at the May gathering of the Graffham's Thursday Club – in the Empire Hall on – you guessed it – Thursday 9 May at 2.30pm. All welcome. The club meets once a month for a talk, raffle – and good old natter!



Graffham Empire Movies



Set in Sussex during World War II, this moving journey of love and friendship sees an Englishwoman open her heart to a boy evacuee after initially resolving to be rid of him PG 99 minutes

What a lovely, hopeful, magical movie this is – The Guardian

Gemma Arterton is magnificent - Daily Telegraph

Gorgeous to look at and immaculately played – Empire

Adorable tale with a difference - Evening Standard

Saturday 11 May

Empire Hall

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start £10 adults, £5 under 18s

No need to book - just come on the night!

Bar and ice creams Cash-free – cards or contactless only, please!

Graffham Village Shop Association needs you!

Graffham Village Shop Association, which owns the premises operated by Jeeva and Vasu, the unit alongside currently used by picture framer Stephanie Marx and the Chapel View residential house, is looking for new committee members to help it look after these vital village assets.

Chairman Steve Dover said: "All three of our properties are leased out and we are not involved in running the businesses. However, as their landlord, we still need to maintain the buildings and consider, with our tenants, how we can improve them, besides representing our members' interests, administer the association, manage the leases and so on. In the longer term we also want to develop a robust business plan to ensure the sustainability of these core elements of our village."

Particularly needed on the committee are a new treasurer and company secretary with incumbents Andy Paterson and Neil McLean indicating they intend to stand down at its annual general meeting next month.

If you would be willing and able to support the work of the volunteer committee in any way, please contact Steve on dovergs@icloud.com

Memorial stone to Diana 'Bun' Payne

The many friends of long-time Graffham resident Diana 'Bun' Payne may be interested to know that an engraved stone in her memory has been laid in the graveyard of St Bartholemew's Church, Burstow, near Horley, where she was christened and later married Lawrence. The couple lived for almost two decades at Ladywell Cottage before moving in 2019 to Suffolk, where she died on New Year's Eve 2022. Her funeral was held here at St Giles Church, where she had been organist, in January 2023.



Brain tumour fund raiser brings in £2,000

The latest fund-raiser for Brain Tumour Research staged by Heather Russell, of Guillods Cottages, whose daughter was diagnosed with the disease five years ago, brought in almost £2,000. The event at Heyshott's Unicorn Inn, featuring Willie Austen and Paul Stenton playing live, raised £1,784.10. That was boosted by £200 from a Lent appeal by Cocking's St Catherine of Siena Church. Heather and her family said: "Thanks to everyone who supported the event for their donations."

Property watch

Homes for sale or rent locally, posted at rightmove.com since our previous edition:

Perrott Wood, Woodcote Lane, Graffham GU28 0NZ:

Detached house, five bedrooms, three bath/shower rooms plus cloakroom, entrance hall, drawing, family and dining room, study, kitchen, utility, double garage with store, workroom and further room, studio, 4 acres of grounds including paddock and woodland. Internal floor area of 313 sq m (3,373 sq ft). Guide price £2.85 million. *Hamptons, Haslemere 01428 770935. Listed 18 Apr.*





Coach House, Church Road, West Lavington GU29 0EH: Coach house conversion house, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen/dining/family room, sitting room. Double garage with room above. Garden. 168 sq m (1,806 sq ft). Guide price £1.35 million. *Jackson-Stops, Midhurst 01730 774837*. *Listed 17 Apr.*

Crypt Lane, Cocking GU2 0HP: Semi-detached house with three bedrooms, one bathroom, living room, kitchen, garden. 77 sq m (833sq ft). £450,000. *King & Chasemore, Midhurst 01730 774838. Listed 8 Apr.*





Haymarsh, Duncton, Burton Park GU28 0JX: Grade II listed detached cottage, three bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, sitting and family rooms, conservatory, study, kitchen, utility, garden and one acre paddock. 179 sq m (1,923sq ft). Offers IRO £1.2 million. SOLD STC. Henry Adams, Midhurst 01730 771345. Listed 2 Apr.

Planning matters

Meadowbrook Farm extension approved A proposal to add a single-storey extension to the rear of Meadow Brook Farm, in Woodcote Lane, has been approved by South Down National Park and Chichester District Council planners.

Planning applications for Graffham and East Lavington filed with the South Downs National Park as we went to press (for details, see bit.ly/sdnp-planning):

Glebeland, The Street, Graffham GU28 0QE: Demolition of existing dwelling and detached store and erection of replacement dwelling and detached store. SDNP/24/00739/FUL. Received 21 Feb.





Have an 'art': Rich and Holly Sabin buy a few cards from Richard Davidson (left) while Denise Clay's a customer for Sue Hill (right).

Easter Market springs into the Empire Hall



A colourful, sunny Graffham Easter Market raised almost £2,400 for the Empire Hall on Saturday 23 March.

Organiser Sally Blunt said: "Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a huge success – the wonderful people who helped with the setting up and bringing down, who assisted

Gay Foord and her Heaton girls (left) and Gillian Charlesworth and Diane Bellis (below left) did a roaring trade on the yummy home produce stall while Hugh and Ann Brown clock up lots of raffle ticket sales (below).







The Empire Hall was full of stalls and lots of villagers for the Easter Market.

with the organisation, who cooked for and managed the brimming quiche café and produce stall, ran the children's games, welcomed everyone, plus all those in the village who generously provided raffle prizes, bought the tickets and came to the fair." The Easter Market is one of the main fundraisers to maintain our unique village hall. While numbers through the doors were down on last year, many people





Which one shall I buy? The visiting stalls tempted Graffham buyers aplenty.



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people came from afar, adding to the fun and enjoying the lovely welcoming atmosphere. Thanks also to the local businesses who generously provided wonderful raffle prizes: The Goodwood Estate, The Weald and Downland Museum, West Dean, Hennings, Austens Home Hardware, Serena Jones Hairdressers and Red Card of Petworth.

All set for the Easter egg hunt (above) while quiche kitchen queens Alison Davidson, Carole Kirke and Denise Clay (below) meant there were lots of happy eaters (right).





Crimestoppers

Sussex Police's log of incidents locally in recent weeks. If you have any information which might help, please report it.

Petworth, Martlet Road: A number plate was stolen from a vehicle parked outside the owner's home.

Midhurst, Church Hill: Multiple vans were broken into overnight and tools taken.

Stedham, Tote Hill: Garden machinery and tools were stolen from three garden sheds and an outbuilding.

Fernhurst, Fridays Hill: A garden shed was broken into and a power tool stolen.

Fernhurst, Marley Hanger: Around 10 cars had their windows smashed.

Fernhurst, Vann Common: A garage was entered via an insecure door and bicycles and power tools stolen.

Diana Kingsmill, 1934-2024

Diana Audrey Kingsmill died peacefully in Portsmouth's Queen Alexandra Hospital on Monday 15 April – exactly one week after her 90th birthday, writes her youngest daughter Ginny Barrett. She had been taken to hospital following a heart attack two days earlier, on Saturday 13th, and told the nurse that the last time she had been in hospital was to give birth! This may not be 100% accurate, but she had certainly been very fortunate healthwise. She saw several of her much beloved

grandchildren in her last week and even more of them in the last few months.

Nine years ago she wrote the story of her life – here is an extract of the beginning which describes how her parents met: "My father Edward Philip Streatfield was on his first leave from the Far East where he worked for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank – they had to work a tenyear stint before they were allowed home leave and by then he was 32. He met my Canadian mother Margaret Monro Easson, who was 13 years younger...

"The story was that she had come to England to go to Oxford (University on a scholarship), but instead she and my father married in a registry office after knowing each other for three weeks. She was... headstrong and decided it would



Diana in her early Graffham days with her first child Joanna...

be much more exciting to go off to Japan as a grown-up married woman than to study (history?) at Oxford.

"The novelty and excitement soon faded for my mother – she at 18 was a complete fish out of water among my father's much older wide circle of friends, he had been used to a bachelor existence for ten years – golf, bridge, 'tiffin' at the club, late nights... She was lonely and bored and unable to touch up her 'blond' hair as peroxide was unknown in Japan – the final straw."

Her mother left the scene and, to cut a longer story short, Diana was brought up in a children's home in England for many years while her father continued his work in the Far East. Diana didn't see her father from the age of four until she was 11 – he had been a prisoner of war in Asia and when she was finally reunited with him he weighed just 6 stone despite being 6 ft tall. His sister Maude patiently nursed him back to 'health' and took Diana in during the school holidays.

Diana went to St Swithun's School. Punishments consisted of writing out hymns which is why she was word perfect in so many! The punishments didn't stop her becoming head of her house nor did they stop her sunbathing topless on the school roof. Later she trained as a nurse at the Middlesex Hospital – chosen because they



...and more recently at a family gathering to celebrate another birthday.

allowed nurses to wear brown tights instead of the regulation black. Sometimes she'd take her hamster in her pocket with her on night duty.

She went on to work as a midwife, cycling around the country lanes of Dorset, and was pleased when Mini cars were made available to midwives. She says this was before they were on sale to the general public.

In 1958 she met pilot Graham Kingsmill. A few months later they were married and moved to Graffham. They have five children, 14 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Diana was always involved in village life, serving on the parish council for many years and learning to spin, dye and weave wool at Graffham Weavers. Many will

remember her for the distinctive jumpers, hats and gloves. She was knitting and smiling right up until the end.

She died three days short of her and Graham's 65th wedding anniversary and will be missed by us all.

Diana Kingsmill's funeral will be held at St Giles on Tuesday 7 May at 1.30pm. Her family says that there's no need to wear black – but if you have an item which was knitted by Diana then please do wear it! No flowers. Collection in aid of the church.



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From Town Hall: What South Downs does for us

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



Spring has arrived, my favourite time of the year – that vivid lime colour on the trees, so vibrant, and short-lived. Spring is a renaissance, a renewal. We are very fortunate to live in a national park where great effort is put into protecting the landscape. So, for this edition, I thought I'd concentrate on what the South Downs National Park is doing to help biodiversity and enhance the landscape.

I represent Chichester District Council on the South Downs National Park Authority and we recently had a meeting where the work of the South Downs National Park Trust was reviewed. The trust is the charitable arm of the park and gives money to help achieve the park's aims and objectives — such as obtaining green finance for securing 324 hectares of land for nature, restoring 10 ponds, restoring 8.36 km of hedges, planting 31,000 trees...

But it is not all about ploughing money into flora and fauna. More than 40% of the £1.4 million a year the trust raises is spent on engaging communities and improving their experience – improving access for walking and cycling, for example. Near Graffham, the Centurion Way is now nearing completion, providing a new 6 km route for walkers and cyclists between East Dean and Cocking. The hope is to continue it all the way to Midhurst, opening a new pedestrian and cycle route from Chichester to Midhurst. Other projects include working with schools on various mini conservation grants and initiatives to support youth volunteering.



If you want to help, and whether you are young or old, the Rangers of the park are always in need of extra hands.

Finally, I wanted to give a 'shout out' for the Sustainable Communities and Volunteer Fund, which gives support and funding to community-led projects promoting the aims of the park in enhancing and protecting the landscape. One such project locally, Botany Bay conservancy in East Lavington, has received funding to restore a meadow and for tree planting projects.

Graffham Garden Group diary for 2024

Graffham Garden Group has a busy programme of visits and other events this summer, taking in some of the best, most historic and newest gardens to open to the public locally – and its ever popular plant sale and summer show here in the village. To book your place on any of the outings, contact Nicky West at nicolamwest@btinternet.com or on 07796 144647. The trips are open to all, not just members. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!



Wednesday 29 May 10.30 am Visit to Gilbert White's House

The Wakes, High Street, Selbourne GU34 3JH

Featured recently on BBC1's Countryfile, the 17th century house is now a museum, with collections belonging to pioneering 18th century naturalist Gilbert White, South Pole explorer Lawrence Oates and his uncle, naturalist Frank Oates. The 18th century gardens have been restored to their former glory and include a wildflower meadow. Café and onsite brewery. The Selbourne Arms is a short walk for anyone who would like to have lunch after the tour.

> £12 including introductory talk. Payment details nearer the time.





Monday 10 June 1pm

Visit to High Beeches

High Beeches Lane, Handcross RH17 6HQ

27 acres of woodland and water gardens with the wildflower meadow its main feature in June. Takeaway refreshments available – or bring a picnic.

£10 pay on arrival (free for Historic Houses members).



Saturday 13 July 2.30pm

Flower and produce show

Empire Hall, Graffham



A chance to show off the results of your hard work in your garden and kitchen this summer, with classes for flowers, vegetables, fruit, baking and preserving, along with five photography classes – Graffham village life, a splash of colour, animal, reflections, and, for under 16s, any photograph. Don't be shy about your entries – it's the taking part that's important!

Wednesday 7 August 2pm

Visit to Fittleworth House

Bedham Lane, Fittleworth RH20 1JH

Three acres of country garden. Walled kitchen garden growing wide range of fruit, vegetables and dahlias. Mixed flower borders, roses and lawns. Glasshouse and potting shed. Teas available.





Friday 13 September 12 noon

Visit to Parham House

Parham Park, Pulborough RH20 4HS



A four-acre walled garden with wide herbaceous borders, rose garden, vegetable garden and orchard, with a 1920s Wendy house and a greenhouse with pelargonium collection. Further gardens with lake and specimen trees. Tearoom. Should you wish to visit the house, note that it is not open until 2pm.

£11.50 to visit the gardens only (RHS and Historic Houses members free). Pay on arrival.

Reports from the Rec

Edited by Philippa Sanders

Take your pick from cricket, football, tennis, bowls, pickleball and badminton. All happening within the village boundaries. Contact details can be found in the back pages. We start, though, with an annual Graffham special...









Eyes on the prize - and eggs - contestants try to avoid the yolk being on them.

Graffham's Easter egg toss

The original version of this event – a repeat takes place at the summer fete – took place on Easter Sunday (31 March), on the Rec. The clouds parted just in time and the ground, having been soggy since last summer, was firm enough for contestants to have a sound footing.

It was a little too kind to the eggs, though, as it soon became clear that failure to catch did not result in elimination (through breakage). Judges soon introduced a rule insisting on a fair attempt at a catch and entrants soon began

to fall by the wayside.

Some first-time villagers joined the contest and two new 'throwers' propelled the eggs increasingly long distances – Ben Lloyd-Ennals and Rory Addison were close to being out-distanced by the catchers but a final hurl from Rory separated the final two catchers, Joe Amin and Hector Addison. Hector sealed the victory with a smoothly held 'take' over what must have been a record distance for this event.

Earlier on we saw some very impressive junior participation from Leo Marks and Isiah Keith-Jordan, out-catching some of the adults!



Runner-up Joe Amin places the winner's Easter bonnet on the head of victor Hector Addison.

Graffham Tennis Club

Socials Social tennis continues with regular sessions on Monday mornings for seniors (over 60s), club night at 6pm on Fridays, as well as a new family session on Sunday afternoons (more details



next month). Coaching for children and Rusty Rackets adults continues as reported last month.

Winter leagues The winter leagues ended happily for our teams with the Ladies' staying comfortably in Division 2 and the Mixed team surviving a critical final game to retain their position in Winter Division 1. Facing Swanmore A, who were at the top of the table, our team needed to win enough games, if not sets, to guarantee survival. Despite not winning a set, the team managed to win 29 games versus 51 – a heroic performance by Andy Craig, Emma Amin, Ross Anderson and Sarah Selman.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants results							
7 Apr	Lost 8-0	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	vs Swanmore A			

Summer leagues The summer league begins in earnest this month. Graffham has four teams entered and four valiant captains who always welcome new players:

- Ladies A Sam Adams.
- Ladies B Denise Clay.
- Men's Richard Bates.
- Mixed Andy Craig.

Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: May								
Do come and spend an early summer's evening supporting your teams!								
1	Wed	6.15pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 1	vs Headley			
14	Tue	6.15pm	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Denmead C			
15	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 1	vs Swanmore A			
22	Wed	6.15pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 1	vs Headley			
28	Tue	6.30pm	Men's Doubles	Div 4	vs Alton B			
29	Wed	6.30pm	Ladies' Doubles	Div 4	vs Liphook			

Graffham Bowls Club by Secretary Liz Pegram

The season opened fully on 21 April with the club's traditional open day and match reports will start next month. The regular session happens on Mondays at 6pm. All welcome.





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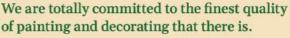
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Graffham Pickleball and Football

Villagers who enjoy ending their weekends with a blast of sport on a Sunday afternoon will be pleased to hear that they now have a choice of activities.

Pickleball will continue, as it has during the winter, in the Empire Hall at 5pm. Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417 for more details.

Casual football is resuming at the Rec at the same time now that the pitch is dryer. Absolutely all abilities and experience are welcome. Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997 if you'd like to find out more.

Graffham Ladies Cricket

Brett's spring training has been taking place on Thursday evenings on the tennis courts, ahead of the traditional season opener, away to West Wittering on 28 April. The focus has been on batting, and the high scoring sweep shot in particular. The report on the match will appear in June's issue, along with dates for future fixtures.



TEDDY TIME IN THE PAVILION TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays 10.15-11.30am Pavilion, Graffham Rec

No charge. All welcome. Just come along!

Graffham Parish News' marvellous May quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers at the foot of page 37 (no cheating!)

- 1 In 1976, St Giles Church was used as the scene of a wedding for which BBC TV drama series?
- **2** A bust of which King of England is located on the eastern aspect of the Market Cross at Chichester?
- **3** Victorian terrariums inspired a ten-sided glasshouse, opened to the public in 2022, at which nearby National Trust property?
- 4 Which regency architect designed Brighton Pavilion?
- 5 The UK has how many thousands of miles of river: [a] 33, [b] 44, [c] 55?
- **6** Barrington Pheloung is best known for composing the theme and incidental music to which police television series?
- 7 How was John Eric Bartholomew, who died in May 1984 aged 58, better known?
- 8 Sphairistike, patented by Major Walter Wingfield in 1874, is a code of which racquet sport: [a] tennis, [b] pickleball, [c] branstonball?



EVERY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE

- **9** Which (men's) British football club won the European Cup in May 1979?
- **10** What was the name of Clint Eastwood's pet orangutan in the films *Every Which Way but Loose* and *Any Which You Can*?



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...a summer arts celebration

A Festival for all ages in the wonderful South Downs village of Graffham, between Midhurst and Petworth. Concerts, open studios and gardens, a floral celebration, talks, a special film, food, wine and much more.



14 - 23 JUNE 2024

Graffham Festival 2024 Programme

We are delighted to present our 2024 Festival Programme. Come and join us - there is something for everyone!

FRIDAY 14



FESTIVAL OPENING & STRING QUARTET

A grand launch opening reception in a stunning garden next to St Giles Church for those attending the opening night concert. Includes an exclusive preview of the Glory of the Garden display created by Georgina Macqueen. We then move inside the Church for a recital by the acclaimed Benedetti Foundation Ambassador String Quartet.

Time Reception from 6pm. Venue St Giles Church. Drinks and theatre snacks served during the opening reception. Donations to St Giles Church.

Tickets £10 **B** buytickets.at/
graffhamfestival2024

THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL





THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

A stunning display created by St Giles flower arrangers, directed by floral designer Georgina Macqueen.

Not to be missed!

Time 8am-8pm throughout the Festival.

Closed during weddings each Saturday 1 - 3.30pm, and available only to ticket holders when concerts are taking place in the church.

Venue St Giles Church GU28 0NJ

Tickets Free to view. Donations to St Giles appreciated.





LOVE YOUR BURIAL GROUND AND BIODIVERSITY SURVEY

St Giles' churchyard is open year-round – and Graffham Festival coincides with the national Love your Burial Ground Week. Churches Count on Nature 2024 runs at the same time and focuses on the brilliant wildlife to be found in churchyards.

Time Open throughout the Festival.

Venue St Giles Churchyard GU28 0NJ

Tickets Free to view. Donations to St Giles appreciated.



BOX OFFICE for most festival events requiring tickets, go to buytickets.at/graffhamfestival2024 or use the QR code





Find out all about bees, with a chance to paint or draw bees and the flowers they love - for display in the Glory of the Garden celebration at St Giles Chuch. Complimentary honey sandwiches at the end! Suitable for children between the ages of 3 - 10 (children under five years must be accompanied by an adult).

Time 10 - 11.30am

Venue Recreation Ground Pavilion GU28 0QA Tickets Free from graffhamfestival@mail.com



CHORAL WORKSHOP WITH EMILY BARDEN

A fun, relaxed singing workshop with fantastic Emily Barden. Emily runs workshops and courses for singers/songwriters as well as training sessions for teachers, choral leaders and people working with young voices. Helping unlock the creativity of others and inspiring young people to find their own voice is one of Emily's greatest joys.

Time 3 - 4.30pm Venue Empire Hall GU28 0QB Tickets £5 B



CONCERT BY FUTURE TALENT WITH EMILY BARDEN AND PETWORTH VOICES

Featuring gifted young musicians that the Future Talent charity is helping to flourish, Includes solo and ensemble classical performances. The second half will feature our local a cappella choral group Petworth Voices - plus Emily Barden who will have led the afternoon's choral workshop in the Empire Hall.

Time 6.00pm Venue St Giles Church. Refreshments available during the interval. Donations to St Giles appreciated. B

SUNDAY 16

FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE

A celebratory service with the chance to join in some of the nation's favourite hymns. An arts and garden theme will run through as a blessing for the week's events.

Time 10.30am Venue St Giles Church Tickets Free. Donations to St Giles appreciated.



CABARET!

Cabaret by the Shane Hill and Jodie Elms Duo, with special guest performer Mike Hatchard. Expect toe tapping performances of the Great American Songbook as these accomplished and acclaimed musicians create a night to remember! Reigate based guitarist Shane Hill and Hampshire based vocalist Jodie Elms will be joined from East Sussex by vocalist / pianist and violinist Mike Hatchard for a wonderful evening of American songbook and more. Your chance to Get That Swing on a Sunday night!

Time 6.30pm Venue St Giles Church. Refreshments available.

Tickets £10 B

MONDAY 17

TUESDAY 18



THE ART OF BELLRINGING

A chance to experience and understand the art of bell ringing. See the bells being rung - perhaps even join in!

Time 6 – 7pm

Venue St Giles Church.

Tickets Free.



ORGAN RECITAL BY MALCOLM BRINSON

An accomplished organist, Malcolm has had a long musical career, much of it in the local area. The programme for the concert includes music by Bach, Böellman, Dubois, Easthope Martin, Karg-Elert, Liszt, Michell and Whitlock. Experience a wonderful performance in the atmosphere of St Giles Church.

Time 7pm Venue St Giles Church. Refreshments available. Tickets £10 B



GLORY OF THE GARDEN

Glory of the Garden will be offering Ploughman's lunches in exchange for a donation to the Church.

Between 12 and 2.30pm Venue St Giles Church.



PAINTING DAY

Hosted by artist Richard Davidson. Open to all abilities and mediums, with a choice of subject matter and location. Please bring easel and stool if possible.

Time 10am – 5pm You do not need to commit for the whole day.

Venue Brookdene Studio, Graffham GU28 ONL Tea and coffee available. Please bring your own lunch.

Tickets £5

Only in advance from richard.davidson@btinternet.com or 01798 867232



SHAKE IT UP SHAKESPEARE

Using the bard's language, audience suggestions and the imaginations of the troupe's professional actors, Shake It Up Shakespeare create a brand new Shakespeare play live on stage. With live music from the group's talented band, along with songs and laughs, they weave together the themes, characters and language of Shakespeare to create an unforgettable evening.

Time 7.30pm

Venue Graffham Empire Hall GU28 0QB

Bar offering a selection of beers, wines and soft drinks.

Tickets £12.50 B

WEDNESDAY 19



FIESTA AT THE FORESTERS!

This village pub has a reputation for delicious and authentic Spanish cuisine and will offer a selection of tapas and other dishes all day. With its regular flamenco guitarists providing live music interspersed through the day and in the evening.

Time From 12 noon. **Venue** The Foresters Arms GU28 0QA Regular bar and food prices.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Full details on all Graffham festival 2024 events and latest news go to Facebook bit.ly/graffhamfestival2024 or use the QR code

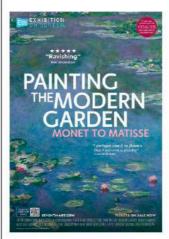


THURSDAY 20

GLORY OF THE GARDEN

Glory of the Garden will be offering Ploughman's lunches in exchange for a donation to the church.

Between 12 and 2.30pm **Venue** St Giles Church.



FILM - PAINTING THE MODERN GARDEN FROM MONET TO MATISSE

A film for lovers of art and lovers of gardens – a magical, immersive journey from the gallery to the gardens that inspired some of the best loved paintings of all time by some of the most celebrated artists of all time. Enjoy Graffham Empire Hall's new state-of-the-art audio visual system. 93 minutes. Certificate U.

"A ravishing joy from start to finish." – The Guardian

Time 7pm

Venue Empire Hall. Bar offering a selection of beers, wines and soft drinks.

Tickets £10 B



FOLK: NOBLE JACKS DUO + GUESTS

A midsummer evening with one of the best folk duos on the circuit, plus guests. Noble Jacks take no prisoners with their high-energy foot stompin' rhythms, with a huge following across the UK and beyond.

Local groups will be performing from 5pm. Tickets will be required from 7.30pm.

Time 5pm
Venue The Three Moles,
Selham GU28 0PN
Food and drink at
regular prices.

Tickets £10 B



FRIDAY 21 TO SUNDAY 23

















OPEN STUDIOS

There will be more than 15 artists and crafts people showing their work at 9 venues in and around Graffham. A separate guide will show the studio sites as well as introducing the participants and their work.

Time 11am - 5pm

Venue Guide available at Graffham Village Shop from June the 1st. Also available from the Pavilion Saturday 22 and Sunday 23.

Tickets Free

SATURDAY 22 TO SUNDAY 23





OPEN GARDENS

An opportunity to visit some of the many beautiful gardens in Graffham. From the meticulously well tended and weeded with perfectly striped lawns to the more rambling and wild. All are peaceful, full of birdsong and you may hear live music too!

Time 1 - 5pm

Venue Over 15 gardens in and around Graffham. **Tickets** £5 a person, £10 a family. Available from the Recreation Ground Pavilion, adjacent to car park.

FRIDAY 21

OPEN STUDIOS

Time 11am – 5pm See box left, for details.



NOTES FROM A SCULPTOR'S STUDIO

A talk by one of Britain's foremost sculptors, local resident Philip Jackson CVO, who will share insights into how he has established a worldwide reputation for public and private commissions. He will look back at his 60 plus years of sculpting and how he has captured the essence of the icons who have been his subjects. These including Queen Elizabeth II, The Queen Mother, Mahatma Ghandi, Bobby Moore and the Bomber Command Memorial.

Time 7pm

Venue Graffham Empire Hall. Bar offering a selection of beers, wines and soft drinks.

Tickets £10 B

CAR PARKING A free festival car park will be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday (21 – 23rd) adjacent to the Recreation Ground. Please do not park at the Village Shop whilst attending the Festival.

SATURDAY 22

OPEN STUDIOS

Continues 11 – 5pm See box left, for details.

OPEN GARDENS

Time 1pm – 5pm See box left, for details.



TALK: GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE

Matthew Sennitt, a local conservationist, will describe the basics of developing a wildflower meadow area. He will demonstrate other ways to enhance biodiversity and wildlife habitats in your garden, such as creating a hibernaculum.

Time Saturday 22, Sunday 23 2pm Venue High View (Open Gardens N) Tickets Included in Open Gardens.

TEAS AND SNACKS

Available at the the Recreation Ground, Pavilion from 12 noon.

BRITHIN'S GOT

Local impresario Brian Lanaghan is proud to present living proof that Graffham's got talent. An evening revue featuring song, dance and comedy sketches, compered by Brian himself. Piano accompaniment for song and dance by Richard Bailey, former organist at St Giles Church and propper-upper of the Foresters Arms and White Horse bars.

With many prominent locals treading the boards, surely a great night of entertainment awaits! An eyeful and earful, guaranteed to make you cheerful.

Time 7.30pm

Venue Empire Hall. Refreshments available.

Tickets £10 B

SUNDAY 23

FESTIVAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE

A special Service of Thanksgiving and Holy Communion to mark the final day of the festival.

Time 10.30am

Venue St Giles Church. **Tickets** Free. Donations to St Giles Church appreciated.

OPEN STUDIOS

Continues 11 – 5pm See box left, for details.

OPEN GARDENS

Continues 1pm – 5pm See box left, for details.

TALK: GARDENS FOR WILDLIFE

See Saturday **Time** 2pm

TEAS AND SNACKS

Available at the Recreation Ground, Pavilion from 12 noon.



END OF FESTIVAL PARTY!

A chance for Graffham to celebrate the end of another Festival. Join us at the village recreation ground, enjoy a tasty BBQ, a bar serving local ales, Pimms, wine, soft drinks and more, to the tropical sounds of the Worthing Steel Band. All welcome. From 5pm at the Pavilion.

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Seaford College



Petworth Festival brings more music to St Giles

Petworth Festival will be returning to Graffham this summer with a concert in St Giles for the third year running.

This year's offering here will be the Solis Brass Trio, which will be performing at our village church on Friday 12 July at 5pm. Its hour-long programme will include works by Rimsky-Korsakov, Beethoven and Brahms. Solis comprises





Solis Brass Trio, which will be performing in St Giles on 12 July as part of Petworth Festival.

trombonist Meggie Murphy, trumpeter Eliza Talman and French horn player Hannah Williams, who met while students at Wells Cathedral School. In 2021, they won the prestigious Brass Ensemble Musicians Company prize at London's Royal Academy of

Music, where they are now based. Tickets – at £13 for adults and £5 for under 18s – are available from petworthfestival.org.uk from 9 May. The trio will be performing at Tillington earlier the same day, so make sure you book for the right session.

Petworth Festival runs from 10 to 27 July with more than 40 events, mainly in the town, covering classical, jazz and rock music, comedy, talks and more. Among those performing will be classical stars Simon Keenlyside, Boris Giltburg and Joanna MacGregor, entertainer Joe Stilgoe, Jay Rayner and tributes to Aretha Franklin, Fleetwood Mac, Cat Stevens and Stevie Wonder.



Graffham Chronicles: Our Manor in 1597

In her regular column, village historian Pauline Goodwin takes a look at the 1597 Three Manor Estate Map of East Dean, Graffham and East Lavington, until recently the oldest map in the West Sussex Records Office.

I confess to being fascinated by the 427-year-old Three Manor Estate Map of East Dean, Graffham and East Lavington since reading about its existence in the minutes of the Graffham Archive committee from June 1996.

In May of that year the map had been bought by West Sussex Record Office (WSR) – becoming the oldest map WSR had in its archives.

The artefact dates back to 1597. Good Queen Bess, Elizabeth I, had been on the throne for almost 40 years, and still had six more years to live. The Armada had been blown off course the previous decade but the Spanish still had eyes on England. Shakespeare was in his pomp. While Francis Drake had died the year before in Panama, Walter Raleigh was still sailing the seas.

Whereas today the term "manor" is more associated with Cockney slang, or the likes of Arthur Daley in *Minder*. In the Middle Ages "manor" was a unit of English rural territorial organisation in which the lord had supreme rights over land and tenants, including the right to hold court.

The three manors featured on the map had been part the Earl of Arundel's estate but it was sold to Giles Garton for £4,000 in 1578. When Giles died, his son Peter inherited the land, and it is assumed that Peter commissioned the map from Richard Allin of Robertsbridge. The ownership of the map from that time until WSR's

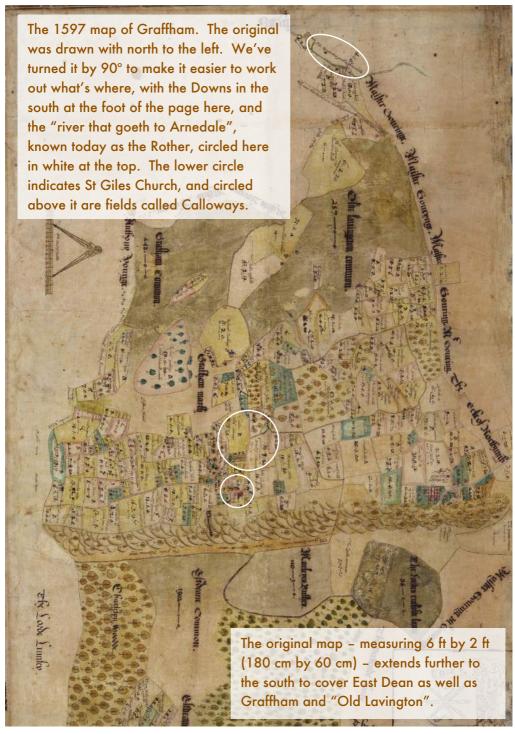


The Mansion House of Olde Lavington, now the site of Seaford College, as displayed in the map.

acquisition, its back story and provenance, is intriguing in itself.

The map was most likely lodged at Lavington Park for 300 years. This included the period during the 1800s when the estate was home to the Rectors of Lavington with Graffham, as the parish was then called, among them the legendary John Sargent, Henry Manning and Samuel Wilberforce. Manning married Sargent's daughter Caroline in 1833 in a ceremony performed

Continued overleaf



Continued from previous page

by Wilberforce, who had married Caroline's sister Emily five years earlier. Manning later converted to Roman Catholicism (despite having been married), going on to become its most senior clergyman in England as Archbishop of Westminster. Wilberforce, who was the son of anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce, himself went on to become a Church of England bishop, initially of Oxford and then of Winchester. Our St Giles Church was rebuilt in his memory 150 years ago next year.

When Samuel Wilberforce's son Reginald sold Lavington Park in 1903 to James Buchanan, the 1597 map was inherited by Reginald's daughter Octavia Wilberforce.

Born in 1888, Octavia was determined to become a doctor, much against her father's wishes and conventions of the time. She secured funding from a women's rights activist, Elizabeth Robins, to attend London School of Medicine for Women and became head physician at the New Sussex Hospital for Women in Brighton. Elizabeth Robins' background was very surprising. She was an American actress whose actor husband had committed suicide by jumping into a lake wearing a full suit of armour!

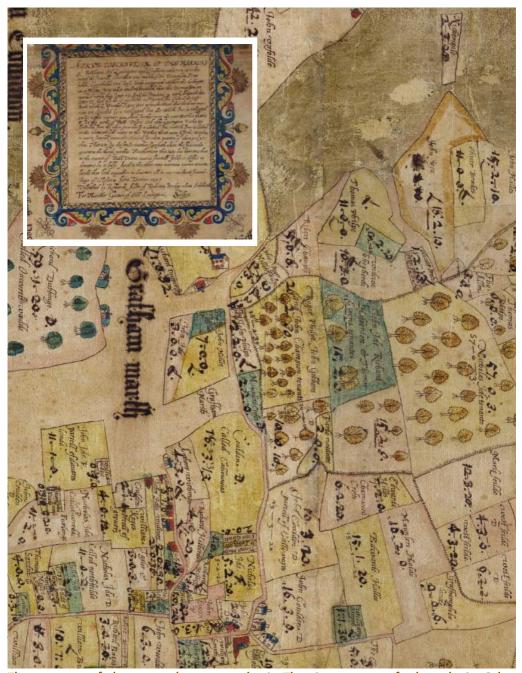
In 1927, Octavia and Elizabeth Robins founded the Backsettown Rest Home for suffragettes, or "overworked professional women", where Octavia herself lived until her death in 1963.

Whereas most of her inherited documents for Lavington Park had been lodged with WSR, the Three Manor Map had been placed with the Backsettown Trust. In 1989 the map was placed on temporary deposit with WSR when the Backsettown Trust was absorbed into the Royal United Kingdom Beneficent Association (RUKBA). RUKBA sold the map to WSR in May 1996, as noted above, for £5,000, with the V&A Purchase Grant Committee contributing 75% towards the price tag.

The map itself is a beautiful – and large – construct, approximately 6 ft (180 cm) long and 2 ft (60 cm) wide. It was drawn on ordinary paper which makes former WSR archivist Richard Childs believe that this was a draft and that the original has been lost. The scale is 10 miles to the inch.

It reveals a wide variety of subjects not found in our modern-day maps. Aesthetically, it is a very handsome piece, truly a work of art which employs an interesting use of creativity rather than mathematical style. Woodland is represented by single trees which look like leaves stuck in the ground. WSR

Continued overleaf



The portion of the map showing today's The Street magnified, with St Giles Church in red, shown upside down here at the bottom, with, inset, the map legend, written by Richard Allin of Roberts Bridge, who drew the map.

Continued from previous page

archivists suggest that the portrayal of the Downs follows this same basic, naïve approach, describing them as a "woolly caterpillar style" or "crude humps!". The soft muted palette of yellow, green and brown forms a pleasing subtle image. Even the labels are written use stylish calligraphy.

The two legends are boxed components of the map. The first, containing comments on the map's labelling, is richly decorated (see inset on previous page). The second



The coat of arms of Giles Garton, owner of the three manors at the time they were mapped in 1597, as displayed on the map.

box was described in 1968, by former WSR county archivist Frances W. Steer, as displaying the coat of arms as a "cartouche containing the title and inscription decorated with a design incorporating flowers and acorns in yellow, blue, red and murrey." The use of the word murrey is found in heraldry. The Oxford English Dictionary states that the word was first recorded in 1537, 60 years before the map's creation.

It is likened to the colour of mulberries, a dark red purple colour. The Garton coat of arms comprises three palmer's staves and a horned leopard's head, erased on the map. A palmer's, or pilgrim's staff, is a walking stick used by Christian pilgrims during their pilgrimages to such places as the shrine of Santiago de Compostela via the Way of St James or the Via Francigena to Rome.

Furthermore, the map shows the close link between land measurements and taxation which had been a feature since the Domesday Book. The legend contains information about the three-letter code given to every single plot of land. It tells us that the first is "akers" or acres, the second is quarters (quarter akers) and the third is perches. The word akre, or acre, means open field.

Modern maps are solely concerned with geographical location and are drawn from a bird's eye view looking down directly from above. The Three Manor map assumes a 70% overhead view. This allows buildings to be drawn more realistically in perspective with the architecture of the building revealed. This can be seen clearly with the representation of the Mansione House of Olde Lavington, St Peter's and St Giles. The Mansione House is depicted as a red building. Indeed, most buildings are shown as red which indicates the reliance on the locally made Sussex brick.

The map speaks to us across the centuries about many things. We all learned at school that in 1588 King Philip's Spanish Armada was caught up in a horrendous storm and blown right around the British Isles with many ships lost. On studying the very comprehensive weather records that still exist for the 1500s, it seems that extremes of weather were experienced during this time, such as the storms of



October and November 1570 which caused tidal surges deep inland. One particular label on the map reads "The boound Storme" (left), which seems to suggest that this

was the boundary of storm flooding and tidal surge. (Who said emojis were a 21st Century invention?!) This label is found on a hill near to Gallows Hill. At the foot of this hill with this label is an extensive area of marshland – The Graffham Marsh.

Despite being more than 425 years old, the map still displays some parallels with today. If you compare a modern Google map with the 1597 forerunner you can see





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that many field boundaries follow the same course. This is certainly the case with the fields at the back of Ladywell Cottage towards Haylands. Modern technology and ancient map making skills show us that change through time can be minimal.

It seems fitting that this 1597 map should come home with a full-size reproduction lodged with the Graffham Archive. I am working to WSR has granted its secure this. permission for this, and I have arranged for the original to be Perhaps we can find scanned. somewhere to display publicly from time to time this life-size copy of what is an amazing record of our village and a work of art in its own right!

Quiz answers (from page 22) 1 The Brothers. 2 Charles I. 3 Woolbeding Gardens. 4 John Nash. 5 [c]55,000. 6 Inspector Morse, Lewis and Endeavour. 7 Eric Morecombe. 8 Tennis. 9 Nottingham Forest. 10 Clyde.

Bill's bygones: Paparazzo, 26p, Ricardo

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

10 years ago - May 2014: Graffham Rustics present *The Ladykillers*. *Philomena* is on at Graffham Empire Movies. Paparazzo photographer (and Rev Michael Barter's father-in-law) Graham Franks is the speaker at the parish breakfast at the Foresters. The cricket club lose their first match of the season by nine wickets away to Singleton. Whilst in Canada, Prince Charles allegedly compares Vladimir Putin's actions in the Crimea to those of Hitler in Poland. In European Parliamentary elections UKIP win more seats than the Conservatives and Labour. Jonny Wilkinson plays his last first-class rugby match in the UK, helping Toulon defeat Saracens 23-6 to win the Heineken Cup.

25 years ago - May 1999: At the Graffham Village Shop Association's AGM it is announced that the past year's takings at the village shop's Post Office increased by 26% (with only a 26p discrepancy), and that new solicitors (Paterson's having wound up) and a new chairman (due to Stuart LeFevre's imminent departure from Graffham) would be required. The inaugural Alan Tupper Challenge Cup, held at the Rec, raises £400 for the Youth Sports Trust. At Graffham Sports Club's AGM Gina Tupper is thanked for her work on the redeveloped play area. Andrew Motion is appointed Poet Laureate. With two injury time goals, Manchester United defeat Bayern Munich to win the UEFA Champions League final. Deaths of *Animal Magic* presenter Johnny Morris (82), 1950s England wicketkeeper Godfrey Evans (78), actors Dirk Bogarde (78) and Oliver Reed (61).

50 years ago – May 1974: Graffham Rustics perform *Iolanthe*, their 15th Gilbert & Sullivan production. Dr Roger Wilson retires as Bishop of Chichester, to be replaced by the Very Rev Eric Kemp. Due to a "cash shortage", West Sussex County Council is unable to repair a backlog of 600 potholes. Industrial action by 170 nurses at Chichester's Graylingwell Hospital causes five wards to close. Helmut Schmidt is elected Chancellor of West Germany, and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing President of France. Donald Coggan is appointed Archbishop of Canterbury. Sir Alf Ramsey is fired as England football manager after the team fail to qualify for the World Cup. At White City, 800 girls are injured, one fatally, at a David Cassidy concert. Release of Bowie's *Diamond Dogs* album. Death of Sir Harry Ricardo, of Woodside, Graffham (89).

Graffham Gourmet: The White Horse

An occasional feature in which our food and drink critic checks out a local eatery. This month, we return to The White Horse on its reopening after a kitchen upgrade.

or Graffham

The White Horse reopened just in time for Easter after closing for a few weeks for an upgrade to its kitchen following the refurb

of its public areas ahead of last summer. The restaurant is pitching its sights high and the refit behind the scenes is part of its strategy to get there.

Besides the usual faces on the night we visited – Will Morley (in jacket and tie), Callum and Alex serving – were new front of house general manager Soodesh and his wife Sweety, both originally from Mauritius but more recently from the top Mayfair restaurant Le Gavroche where chef de cuisine Grant Jones earned his spurs.

From the new spring menu, the four of us chose different starters – wild garlic soup with egg tartine (£11), seared scallops, cauliflower purée with crispy nettle and shaved asparagus (£16), wild crustacean cocktail and Sussex gem lettuce (£15) and

Traditional heavy horses will be ploughing the fields either side of The White Horse on Bank Holiday Monday 6 May, provided the weather is kind!

crispy hen egg with braised chicken oyster, roasted shallot and crispy chicken skin (£13). For mains, two of us went for the new season lamb cutlets, wild garlic purée and garlic crisps, Jersey Royal potatoes and purple

sprouting (£32), one opted for roasted cod, with a light coconut veloute, grilled asparagus, confit cherry tomatoes and black beans purée (£30) with the fourth staying virtuous with open Sussex leek ravioli with sautéed morels mushrooms, lightly truffled pomme purée, black truffle and light cream sauce (£26).

Three of us followed up with desserts – caramelised apple crêpe with apple sorbet and toffee sauce, classic crème brûlée, almond tuile and coconut sorbet and lemon tart with candied lemon and clotted cream (£9.50-£10) – while one sampled the cheese board (£16).

To drink, we forwent the choice of Langham's ales on draught, quaffing instead a delightful bottle of rose, a big glass of Merlot, a couple of G&Ts and several bottles of fizzy water (sourced, like most ingredients, locally), adding £120ish to the bill.

Verdict: Delicious five-star food, beautifully presented with excellent service to match. A fine choice for a special occasion or treat – or just a pleasant drink.

Nature Notes: Forever blowing bubbles

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

Ah! A walk in the countryside in May! Sussex erupts in a blooming, buzzing, singing, slithering celebration of life. Glorious! But bend to sniff the flowers and you'll notice something horrid – it appears that someone has been spitting all over them. It drools from the dandelions and dribbles down the dropwort. But who is this phantom froth flinger?

Once upon a time, English naturalists believed that the culprit was the cuckoo. The spit appeared at the same time as the first cuckoo's call and, as no-one had ever found a cuckoo's nest, some folk believed that cuckoos were spitting their young out from above. Utter twaddle of course, but the name 'cuckoo spit' still survives today.

To get to the bottom of this mystery, you need to do some poking around. In the middle of every bubbly blob you'll find a tiny, cowering larvae – a spittlebug. Whereas other insect larvae use clever camouflage or distasteful chemicals to avoid getting eaten, the spittlebug has an altogether more flatulent approach to protection. It blows bubbles out of its bum. A mixture of plant sap and air are used to get itself into a lather. I'd imagine a similar thing would happen if you ate five tins of baked



Meet outside St Giles Church (GU28 0NJ) at the south end of Graffham Village, at the foot of the South Downs.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

If you would like to attend, or for more information, please email Jude Sennitt at sennitt2@gmail.com





Cuckoo spit (left), picture courtesy of Sussex Wildlife Trust, and a meadow froghopper, picture courtesy of SWT and Sharp Photography.

beans and washed it down with a bottle of Radox. This frothy flatulence creates a foamy fortress and the blob of bitter bubbles protects the spittlebug from predators and the hot sun while it sucks on sap. The spittlebug feeds, grows, moults and triumphantly emerges from its bubble as one of the most powerful animals on the planet – an adult froghopper.

Encased in a tough re-enforced suit equipped with some fantastic features the froghopper is the Iron Man of the insect world. Its super power is its ability to jump – and, boy, can it jump!

Fleas always get the credit as the natural world's high jumpers. Famously, if you had the same power as a flea, you could jump to the top of St Paul's Cathedral. But froghoppers, although heavier than fleas, can proportionally jump even higher (so imagine, while you're on the top of St Paul's, seeing an elephant leaping high over you). Scientists have recorded froghoppers jumping 70 cm (28 ins) vertically, experiencing over 400 gravities of acceleration (by comparison, an astronaut blasting into orbit may experience about 5 gravities).

Spittlebugs don't do any harm to plants, and a simple splash of water will evict the spittlebug and demolish his home. But before you spray the cuckoo spit, hold back on that hose. Don't forget there's a soapy superhero hiding in each and every one.

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



Who's doing what at St Giles in May

Here's the rota for 10.30am services this month. If you cannot do your slot, please arrange a swap and advise Diane Bellis at zudr.bellis@gmail.com and the Rev Vivien at reverendvivien@gmail.com

	Welcomers	Reader	Reading	Refreshments	
5	Bridget and Stuart L	ewis Stuart Lewis	Acts 10 v44-end	To be confirmed	
12	Holly and Rich Sa	bin A bellringer	Acts 1 v15-17, 21-end	Holly and Rich Sabin	
19	Ann Brown	Baptism family	Acts 2 v1-21	To be confirmed	
26	Celia Lilly	To be confirmed	Isiah 6 v1-8	Ann Brown	
	100	Flowe	Flowers		
3		5	Jill Knight	Short Sales	
4	16	12 and 19	Bridget Lewis		
	26		Ginny Barrett		
		Clean	ing		
		Diane Bellis and J	Diane Bellis and Janet Wakeford		

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	1110	12noon	Midhurst Convent
	11am	Petworth	Fri	6.30pm	Petworth
Tue	10.30am	Petworth	Sat	9.30am	Midhurst
Wed	9.30am	Midhurst	Sui	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.



TAIZÉ PRAYER

song, prayer and silence

Sunday 26 May 6.30pm All Saints Chapel, Graffham (opposite shop)

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

What's on at our village 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.
- Teddy Time is at the Rec Pavilion every Wednesday 10.15 to 11.30am.

	Мау					
1	Wed	2.30pm	PCC Worship Group meeting			
4	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing!	St Giles Church		
5	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 6	St Giles Church		
7	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel		
Ĺ	106	1.30pm	Funeral of Diana Kingsmill	St Giles Church		
8	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory		
Ľ	Weu	7pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory		
9	Thu	9am	Ascension Day Eucharist	St Giles Churchyard		
11	Sat	10am-12noon	Bellringing practice	St Giles Church		
12	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist Easter 7 celebrating Bell Sunday	St Giles Church		
		брт	BCP Evensong	All Saints Chapel		
13	Mon		Service marking 30 th anniversary of ordination of women priests	Chichester Cathedral		
19	Sun	10.30am	Third Sunday Parish Eucharist for Pentecost with Baptism of Winnie Godman-Dorington	St Giles Church		
21	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel		
26	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist for Trinity Sunday	St Giles Church		
20	3011	6.30pm	Taize Song, Prayer and Silence	All Saints Chapel		
28	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel		
²⁸	Tue	Зрт	PCC Community Group meeting			
29	Wed	12.30pm	Food with Friends	The Rectory		

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 it serves – 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 full details, see www.bit.ly/stggive1

What's on in and around the village

For all St Giles and All Saints events, see page 43. For all sports dates, see pages 18-21.

			May	pages 10 21.
2	Thu	All day Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner election		Empire Hall
3	Fri		Racecourse season opener (also on 4 May)	Goodwood
,	1.4		Early May bank holiday	
6	Mon		Traditional heavy horse ploughing	White Horse
		10.45	Arts Society of Midhurst talk on Medieval	Midhurst
	Tue	10.45am	England with Music, Masonry & Manuscripts	Methodist Hall
7		1.30pm	Funeral of Diana Kingsmill – see page 12	St Giles Church
7		2pm	Arts Society West Sussex illustrated talk on Sorolla – Master of Light	Fittleworth Village Hall
8	Wed		Graffham Parish Council AGM	Empire Hall
9	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club – see page 4	Empire Hall
		10am	Graffham Garden Group spring plant sale	Empire Hall
		11am-4pm	National Mills Day events (also on 12 May)	Burton Mill and Coultershaw
11	Sat	11am-5pm	Sussex Art Fair (also 12 May)	Goodwood Racecourse
		7 for 7.30pm	Graffham Empire Movies presents Summerland – see page 5	Empire Hall
		7pm	Leconfield Singers presents Faure's Requiem	Arundel Cathedral
	Sun	10am	Bells Sunday ringing	St Giles Church
12		10.30am	Graffham Down Trust butterfly walk (page 40)	Meet by St Giles
		7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
14	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional ¹	Empire Hall
15	Wed	7.30pm	Midhurst Rother College presents School of Rock (till Fri 17 May)	Midhurst Rother College
18	Sat	брт	Goodwoof dog event (also 19 May)	Goodwood Estate
	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club ²	Empire Hall
22		6.30 for 7pm	Graffham Parish Council annual village meeting – see page 3	Empire Hall
24	Fri		May festival horse racing (also on 25 May)	Goodwood
			Seaford College half-term (to 2 June)	
25	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
26	Mon		Spring bank holiday	
26	Mon		WSCC schools half-term (to 30 May)	

28	Wed	1 U 3Uam	Graffham Garden Group outing to Gilbert White's House – see page 16)	Selbourne	
30	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial	

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

²Lunch 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 via Sarah on 01798 867567.

Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)					
M I	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness ²	Empire Hall		
Mondays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ³	Empire Hall		
	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall		
Tuesdays	9am	Strength and mobility with Abi Martin ¹	Westerlands		
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ³	Empire Hall		
	9-10am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall		
	10.1 <i>5</i> -11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group ⁵	Pavilion		
	11.15am-12noon	Pilates ⁶	Empire Hall		
Wednesdays	1.45-2,45pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching ⁷	Rec		
	6pm	Boot camp with Nina ¹	Westerlands		
	7-8.30pm	Badminton ⁸	Empire Hall		
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ³	Empire Hall		
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath ³	Empire Hall		
The state of	9am	Boot camp with Abi Martin	Westerlands		
Thursdays	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise ⁹	Empire Hall		
	6-7.15pm	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall		
	9-10.15am	Yoga ⁴	Empire Hall		
Ental acces	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic ¹⁰	Empire Hall		
Fridays	4pm	Functional circuit training ¹	Westerlands		
	evening	Tennis Club social evening	Rec		
Carturalance	8am	Hard core exercise with Nina ¹	Westerlands		
Saturdays	10am	In motion with Gareth ¹⁰	Westerlands		
Sundaya	5pm	Pickleball ¹¹	Empire Hall		
Sundays	5pm	Casual football ¹²	Rec		

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

¹For all Westerlands events: Book online at www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit

²Fifflows Fitness: Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

³Osteopath: Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 867523 or see www.annashawcross.co.uk

Yoga: Deborah Albon on 07790 867009.

⁵Teddy Time: No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

⁶Pilates: Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

⁷Rusty Racquets: Contact Richard Hopp at richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk, on 07904 069457.

⁸Badminton: Contact Louisa Thomas, at louisa9000@hotmail.co.uk. All welcome.

⁹Ease Into Exercise: Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

¹⁰Physiotherapy: Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com.

¹¹Pickleball: Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417.

¹²Casual Football: Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.



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All Saints Chapel Trust	Chairman	Clive Rowntree	01798 867536
Badminton		Louisa Thomas	louisa9000@hotmail.co.uk
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	01243 534734
		Emergency	01243 785339
Citizens Advice Bureau			03448 487969
East Lavington Parish Counci	l Chairman	Charles Britton	charles.britton@eastlavington-pc.uk
	Clerk	Amy Harte	07889 979820
			eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com
Empire Hall		empirehall.org.uk	empirehall@gmail.com
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	Transport		07391 802541
	scription collection	Ann Rowney	ann.rowney@icloud.com
ı	oan of equipment	Karin Skanberg	07920 091014

Graffham Lunch Club		Sarah Lydiard-Wilson	01798 867567
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