

# GRAFFHAM PARISH NEWS

ISSUE 409

FREE

MARCH 2025



Woodcote serves up fresh look

Help our school get its speed limit cut!

All the key garden group dates for 2025



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**Contributions and contacts** The editors are always pleased to hear from you at [editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com)



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Member Editor 2024 Award Winner 2022  
Association for Church Editors

# A message from the editors as we change printers

*Graffham Parish News* has new printers – and a bit of a new look and feel. The moves come after village newcomer Paul Emberson, who owns a printing business, offered to print your monthly parish magazine as his family’s contribution to their new community. Paul, along with his wife Michelle and their children, recently moved into St Giles Place.

Parish Magazine Printing in Devon has looked after us wonderfully for the past seven years, so we are sad to part company with them – but the kind offer from our new neighbour was simply too generous not to accept. Thanks to them and to Paul.

The savings resulting from the switch will all go towards maintaining our historic St Giles Church – and some improvements under consideration to mark this year’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its rebuilding in honour of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, son of the anti-slavery campaigner and former Squire of what is today Lavington Stud and Estate and Westerlands. He died locally in 1873 after falling from his horse.

We are making a few changes to your monthly news magazine at the same time. Our front cover picture now takes up the entire page, giving more impact. We’ve also switched to a more eco-friendly form of paper.

We hope you like your new-style *Graffham Parish News*. Do let us know what you think of it – comments from our readers are always appreciated! And if you bump into Paul in one of the village pubs, buy him a pint on us all!



This stunning aerial photo of Graffham in the early spring sunshine was taken via a drone by © Pete Cartright, now of Lodsworth Mill and previously of Woodcote Farm.

# Writing from the Rectory: Resistance and rejoicing

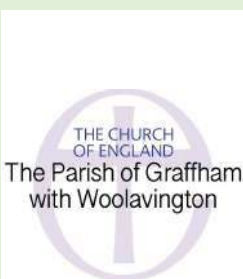
I'm delighted to have finished our TAR for 2024 at last! This 'Trustee Annual Report' is a yearly review of church activities here. Parochial Church Council of Graffham with Woolavington – the trustees for St Giles and our parish – is required to produce this every year to justify their charitable status and enable it to claim Gift Aid on donations. It takes quite a while to gather the evidence and list all our activities. Every year, therefore, I aim to approach this by writing what we have been doing at the end of each month. Every year, however, I become so immersed in church activities that I omit to remember to do this, leaving me with almost a whole year of recollections to record, just before the report is due. So, every year (so far), I give myself a good telling off and make a note to do better next time.

Because, as so often happens with a piece of work I could have started sooner, when it comes to it a mental barrier sets itself up, making me seek to do anything else rather than tackle it. Am I alone in this? Or in negotiating with myself, promising myself certain indulgent treats if I face the task and set to work? Maybe not.

Eventually, thankfully, resistance does break down and, on behalf of the PCC, I set to work revisiting the previous year's engagements concerning leadership, worship, community and fabric matters and searching out 'public benefit evidence' to show how we have fulfilled our core purpose, key aims and annual objectives. Evidence of public benefit can be found in all sorts of places – an email or thank you letter, a note in St Giles' visitors' book or a post on Facebook...

Once the TAR is completed, I read it all through and think, my goodness, did we do all that? And I'm glad, then, to have this record to demonstrate everything our

► *Continued on next page*



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

**Churchwardens:** Ginny Barrett 01798 867113  
Cindy Bradley 07787 516522

**Safeguarding Officer:** Howard Pescott  
01798 867029 safeguardinggraftam@gmail.com



stgilesgraftam.org



@stgilesgraftam

## Thank God for Mums!

We all need a bit of mothering now and again – and can offer it too!



## Everyone's welcome at our Mothering Sunday

service

St Giles Church

Sunday 30 March

10.30am

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church did to love God and neighbour in just one year in this place. I encourage you to read it as well – it will be available via our church website [www.stgilesgraffham.org.uk](http://www.stgilesgraffham.org.uk) once it has been signed off – because what has been achieved is due to the generosity of this whole neighbourhood, offering time, talents, goodwill or financial support to build community life and care for people we know and those we do not know, to make life better for everyone.

Please carry on this good work. And if you like something the church offers in 2025, a service, a community event or anything else, do let me know, because I'm quite happy, deep down, to have so much to say in the TAR each year. Even if the writing of it can become daunting, making the public benefit of an active, generous, worshipful community in Graffham evident speaks rejoicingly for itself.

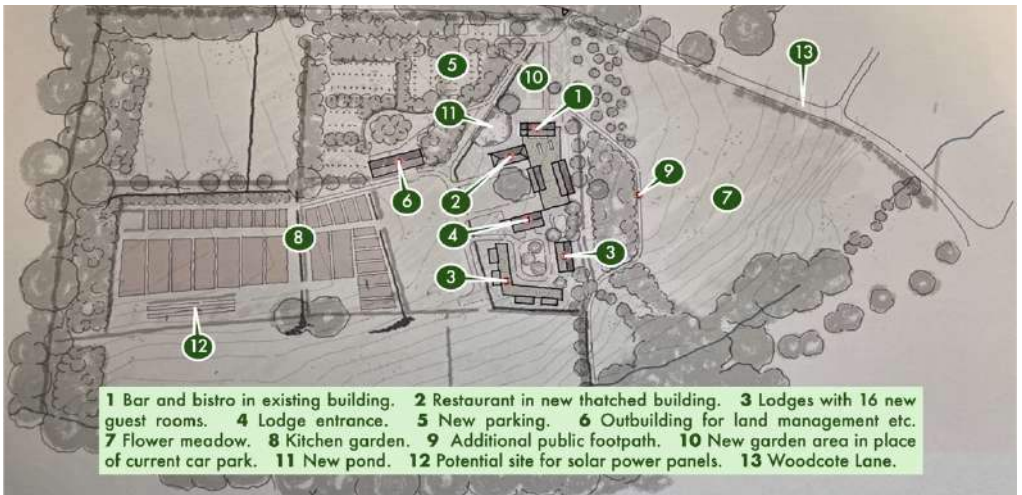
I should add that the TAR includes the full parish accounts for the year too – a magnum opus in itself. Thanks to Dinah Lamming, Phillip Turner and Ros Britton for compiling and auditing our financial statements.

**Lent** After Shrove Tuesday on 4 March, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection and self-examination designed to help us revisit our pasts and remake our futures, to bring greater fullness of life for everyone. Do make a personal commitment which supports this reimagining! Do begin the Lenten season by coming to our Ash Wednesday Service on 5 March at 7pm at St Giles Church! Do join our Pilgrim Lent Course on Tuesday mornings at 10am! Do come to hear our speaker at the Lent lunch on 12 March (see page 14)! And let us grow in faith and prayerfulness together as we approach Holy Week and Easter this year.

Every blessing

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Vivien'.

Reverend Vivien



A map showing the proposed future layout of The Woodcote.

## Woodcote unveils development proposals

Details of the proposed expansion of The Woodcote, the Graffham restaurant-with-rooms that used to be The White Horse pub, have been made public as it launched a pre-planning community consultation exercise before formally applying in the coming weeks for approval to proceed with the development.

They were revealed in a special webpage launched in early February and at an exhibition hosted by the owners' team in the Empire Hall on the afternoon of Valentine's Day 14 February with a tour of the site earlier that day.

Key elements include the demolition of the current six guest suites where former farm outbuildings once stood and the erection of 16 replacements in new lodges in the field further to the south. The current main building would become a bar and bistro. A new thatched structure on its south western side would form the replacement restaurant. With seating for around 35 guests, similar to the number of covers that can be accommodated today, this fine-dining eatery would be aiming for coveted Michelin Green Star credentials.

These two buildings and new private dining rooms would be linked by a single-storey block containing a new kitchen and other support facilities, topped by a flat, green roof, with a footprint of around five times that of the former pub. All would be highly eco-friendly.

The current car park, directly in front of the main building, would be turned into a new garden area. To replace it, spaces for some 65 vehicles would be created in



A sketch of the site from above, showing the arrangement of the buildings.

the field to the west, alongside Woodcote Lane. This would be landscaped with trees and plants to break it up visually and to provide cover to vehicles. At night, it and the pathways around the buildings would be lit by discreet dark-skies compliant lighting.

The rest of the field to the west of the buildings would be converted mainly into a market garden to supply the kitchen with field-to-fork produce, along with flower and shrub garden areas, including a new pond. The field to the east of the buildings, on the Graffham village side, would be turned into a new wildflower meadow, with an additional footpath through it opened to the public and an orchard and woodland strip planted between it and the Woodcote buildings.

Across these two fields, covering 18.5 acres between them, a total of 1.3km of hedgerows would be planted, in line with field boundaries indicated in the 1841 tithe map of the area. Scores of new trees would be put in place across the property, ranging from oaks to an orchard. The project would include extensive drainage of land once known locally as The Marsh. Cables currently overflying from pylons could be buried underground.

Landscape architect consultant to the project Luke Engleback of Royal Tunbridge Wells-based Studio Engleback, said these changes would provide habitats for wildlife, strengthen local landscape character, help manage water run-off and store carbon, contributing to a healthier and more biodiverse environment.

The pre-planning consultation materials define The Woodcote as “a quiet idyll...

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building on the heritage of The White Horse, which welcomed guests for over a century... with “a sustainable, destination restaurant to attract a broader range of visitors throughout the year while continuing to serve our valued local patrons”.

The architects who have drawn up the building plans, McLean Quinlan, of London and Winchester, say their design is aimed to look like traditional local farms, incorporating steeply pitched roofs, open-sided elements, and lean-to structures with a mix of single and double-storey buildings.

The planning consultants supporting the project, Midhurst’s Whaleback, said the development would preserve and enhance local property values by establishing a high-quality local amenity, which employs local staff and tradespeople and supports the region’s food suppliers. They emphasised that the “quiet, refined establishment” would ensure it honoured the South Downs’ ‘dark skies’ approach, and “stand as a model for sensitive, high-quality development”.

The Woodcote is owned by Selham House’s Glen and Asta Manchester, via their family holding group Ledmore Capital. The Manchesters last year made a generous donation in kind to the new Graffham Rec playpark, getting it off the ground.

Richard Dollamore, a partner at Whaleback, described the response from villagers



Artists’ impressions of how the proposed new-style The Woodcote would look from the site entrance (above left), its new thatched high-end restaurant beside the current building, with a pond at its side (above right), the new guest rooms around a courtyard “in a more private area further to the south” (below left), and the repositioned car park, surrounded by new planting (below right).





attending the Empire Hall exhibition as “varied but constructive”. While there was support for the quality of the specifications, the overall ecological focus and the planned bar and bistro, concerns centred in particular on the traffic it would generate, the scope for further expansion, the viability of an expanded hospitality offering of this type in this location and how it could be converted later into housing or for other uses.

He explained that views from the consultation would be used to revise the proposals, as appropriate, before a formal application is made to the South Downs National Park Authority for planning permission in the next few weeks.

Provided approval is granted, Woodcote General Manager Will Morley said the aim would be to keep the restaurant and rooms open with all staff retained throughout the development process, with minimal periods of closure.

## Have your say!

You can submit your own views as part of the consultation exercise at [bit.ly/woodcote-consultation](https://bit.ly/woodcote-consultation)

For further details on the proposals, go to webpage [whaleback.co.uk/thewoodcote](http://whaleback.co.uk/thewoodcote)



Villagers flocked to the project exhibition in the Empire Hall on Valentine’s Day.



Architects Fiona McLean and Kate Quinlan (left) show exhibition attendees a scale model of the proposed expanded Woodcote.



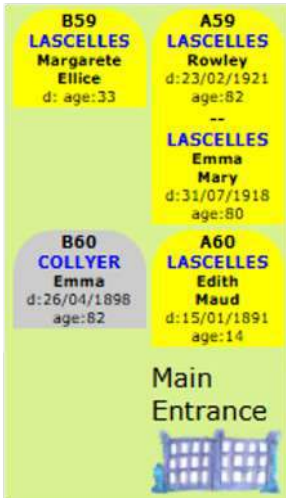
The owner’s Director of Estates Jim Dover (right) explains project details to villagers – including (centre) Steve and Gill Dover (no relation to him!)

# Online guide to St Giles' graveyard unveiled

A new guide to St Giles' churchyard extension is now available, with a map showing where each burial plot is located and a search function to find the grave of anyone you may be looking for there. It has been created by villager Jonathan Simons, as part of [graffhamarchive.co.uk](http://graffhamarchive.co.uk), of which he is webmaster. There's a link



Just part of the new online map of St Giles' churchyard extension, and a close up (below) showing the location of the first person buried there, Edith Maud Lascelles, in 1891.



to it from the home page of [stgilesgraffham.org](http://stgilesgraffham.org) too. It includes the names of all 550 people whose resting places in the churchyard have been identified from register entries or gravestone engravings. Sadly, the exact locations of many others remain unclear.

St Giles' registers, which record every soul laid to rest at the church dating back many centuries, are accessible only by request. The church also has maps on paper showing where graves can be found, but these only feature those with legible headstones and are now somewhat out of date.

Jonathan's online guide combines information from both these sources but the registers themselves may include more detail on each individual than the new database has been able to feature. For those whose grave has been found, the database shows the location, along with – if this information is available – family and given name, date of death and age. The search function lets you find them by surname or the decade of their death.

Jonathan aims to keep the guide updated as the churchyard receives new 'residents'. He'd love to hear from anyone interested in helping him with the task.

The churchyard extension was consecrated by the then Bishop of Chichester Richard Durnford on 17 February 1891. Before then all burials were around the church

To view the new guide to St Giles' 'new' graveyard go to [www.graffhamarchive.co.uk/GCgraves/GCgravelist.aspx](http://www.graffhamarchive.co.uk/GCgraves/GCgravelist.aspx) – or point your phone camera at this QR code.



The new	No. 478. Burial Ground was consecrated by Rich <sup>d</sup> Dunsford Bp. of Chichester. Feb. 17. 1891.	1891		Rector
This was the first funeral in new ground.	Edith Maud Lascelles Graffham.	Feb. 19	14.	Charles S Chilver. Vicar of Lodsworth.
No. 479.	Last funeral in old ground. Louisa Scott.	Graffham	March 73 12 <sup>th</sup>	Rowley Lascelles. Rector
No. 480.				

St Giles' registers record the churchyard extension's consecration and first burial there in 1891 – and the last regular burial in the old graveyard, around the church.

building itself. Since then, with just a few exceptions, all interments have been across the road, in this 'new' churchyard.

The first person laid to rest there was Edith Maud Lascelles, the 14-year-old daughter of the village rector, the Rev Rowley Lascelles, the fourth of his five children. While she died on 15 January 1891, her burial did not take place until two days after the bishop's visit, on 19 February 1891. Whereas her father had officiated at her baptism, in St Giles on 10 September 1876, the vicar of Lodsworth, the Rev Charles Chilver, was called upon to lead her funeral. Her grave is, appropriately, the first on the right immediately upon entering through the graveyard's main gate. Her parents joined her there later – mother Emma first, in 1918, aged 80, and then father Rowley in 1921, aged 82.

The next oldest grave identified is that of 82-year-old Emma Collyer, who was buried on 26 April 1898, aged 82. Yet St Giles' register records the funerals of almost 50 souls conducted between them – including the double burials of day-old twins John and Annie Goble and also mother and daughter Caroline (aged 31) and Ada (five days old) Cooper. The exact locations of these graves are unknown.

Jonathan said: "I'd surveyed the churchyard before to identify the flora and fauna there but then I became interested in the people buried there. I used the paper map on display there to locate some of them. Although that map is attractive and skilfully designed, it is much out of date. I thought that if I could get my hands on the data I could make a much more practical guide online – and it would be fun to do. Fortunately, the Rev Vivien agreed!"

She said: "Thanks to Jonathan for all the time and skill he put in to compiling this record, which will hopefully be a great help to those seeking out the exact location of their loved one's burial place."

# From Town Hall: Council changes on fast track

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



Underlining the pace at which these changes are being rolled out, within days of my article on this same subject going to press in last month's *Graffham Parish News* the Westminster government duly confirmed on 5 February that West and East Sussex County Councils along with Brighton and Hove City Council would be put on its fast track to be merged together to form one of the first nine new Strategic Authorities for England, each led by an elected mayor, by 2028.

It means that Chichester District Council too will have to combine with several of its neighbouring district or borough councils to create one of the new second tier Unitary Authorities, to a similar timescale.

Despite little coverage in the mainstream media, these will be the most fundamental changes to local government since the early 1970s, affecting us all considerably.

They also mean that the county council elections scheduled for here on 1 May have been postponed by at least a year and are likely to be further delayed next year and the year after. District council elections due in 2027 are also likely to be postponed, as district councils will become Unitary Authorities the following year. Needless to say, some have called the government's postponement of these council elections for potentially three years anti-democratic.

As I reported last month, it is not yet clear how responsibilities between the Strategic and Unitary Authorities will be shared out between them, let alone with the South Downs National Park Authority. Neither are the ramifications for parish councils clear at this stage.

Whether or not we like the government's devolution plans, the advantage of being in the first tranche of consolidation is that there is funding to help in the transition. Conversations are now underway between the district councils to work out which should merge with which to form the new Unitary Authorities, with a little over five weeks to conclude.

These discussions cannot be finalised until the government addresses many of the key outstanding questions. Hopefully, we will have sufficient clarity on this in the next week, and we can then proceed.

This time next month we should know what our new Unitary Authority will look like. I'll report back to you then.



**All change:** The current three top tiers of local government in Sussex – West and East Sussex County Councils and Brighton and Hove City Council – would combine under one Strategic Authority covering the entire county by 2028. The 13 District and Borough Councils within them would be consolidated into just three or four Unitary Authorities, potentially with Chichester District combined with several or all of the four others in West Sussex – Arun, Horsham, Crawley and Mid Sussex – and Worthing and Adur Boroughs (outlined in red) merged with Brighton and Hove.

## Find out more and have your say

As this edition went to press, the government published a consultation paper detailing its proposals for the new combined Sussex mayoral authority and inviting the public to provide its views. See [bit.ly/sussex-devolution](https://bit.ly/sussex-devolution)

## From County Hall: Let's await the detail

Our representative on West Sussex County Council, Tom Richardson, adds his perspective on the planned local government changes.



Those who know me will understand that I don't do 'politics'. I have mixed views on the new government's plans for restructuring our councils, but I await the detail before I reach a decision. At the end of the day, I stood for election to represent and stand up for our local area and everyone who lives, works and visits it, and that is what I will continue to do.

The government has mandated that all district and county councils need to merge to create larger authorities. It's not optional, it's just a case of when.

West Sussex, along with East Sussex plus Brighton and Hove, took the view that rather than wait and have to fit into a mould that had been created by others, they would like to be one of the first – and be the ones that create the mould, so that it works for our area and demographic.

It is still in the early stages, but the three top-tier councils in Sussex submitted a basic plan which the government decided was credible and achievable. It is

▶ *Continued on page 13*



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► *Continued from page 11*

important to note that this decision – and to delay the county council elections – has been made by the government and not the county or district councils.

In theory, a larger unitary authority has the potential to save a lot of money which can be invested into other services such as highways, schools and healthcare. Every council has a chief executive, head of this and head of that and staff, along with each district having teams that deal with council tax, bin collections, licensing, housing and so on. A single authority would mean there would be less senior management costs and a consistent approach to everything. Does it make sense that, as at present, the county councils deal with everything waste related except for bin collections that are dealt with by district and borough councils? Or that the county council deal with everything highways related, except street sweeping and parking which is dealt with by districts? Surely it would be more efficient for all aspects of these services to be dealt with by one organisation?

There will still be councillors for each area – I expect it will stay roughly the same in terms of numbers but for now, we need to wait and see the more detailed plans. Besides councillors, each Strategic Authority will be led by an elected mayor.

There will be full public consultation on the plans when everyone will have the chance to give their views. For now, we all just need to wait for the details to become available.

As for postponing the elections for a year, personally I think it makes sense for no other reason than cost – elections cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to run, so why do them now when we could have to do them all again next year if these new authorities are formed? The printing and postage of poll cards, the staff and the hire of halls across the county quickly adds up. I'd rather that money be spent on local services for the sake of 12 months delay.

### **From Westminster: Our MP, for Arundel and South Downs, Andrew Griffith gives his views on the changes**



Top-down imposed reforms – just like housing numbers – are completely wrong and lack democratic consent. Sussex needs a mayor like a fish needs a bicycle. A new elected Sussex mayor will have to represent 1.5 million residents living in wildly different communities dominated by urban Brighton and Crawley. It will starve many residents in rural West Sussex of the representation at local government which they deserve and ultimately lead to a focus on those urban areas of the county.



## St Giles Church's Lent Lunch

*Please join us for soup, bread, cheese and conversation*

Wednesday 12 March 12.45pm

Empire Hall, Graffham

**Guest speaker: Wes Wright**

*Wes represents Frontline, the Christian-based debt advice charity which has been helping anyone in need for the past 35 years.*

**Everyone welcome!** *If you would like to attend, please sign up on the form in Graffham Village Shop by 8 March to enable us to cater for you*

*All donations to Frontline Debt Advice*

*[frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk](http://frontlinedebtadvice.org.uk)*

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## Help our school get its speed limit reduction

Graffham Infant School is to try again to have the 30mph speed limit on the roads either side of its entrance reduced to 20mph after its initial application was rejected by West Sussex County Council – but it needs your help if it is to succeed.

The highways authority turned down its initial application on the grounds of insufficient evidence that the current speed restriction endangered the safety of children and other road users. County councillor for our ward Tom Richardson said: “If sufficient evidence can be gathered, it would make a resubmitted application likely to be approved.”

So, if you have experienced near misses or have concerns about walking, cycling or horseriding on the roads around the village school or church, please submit them to the school’s Business Manager Jenny Godfrey by email to [traffic@graffhaminfant.org.uk](mailto:traffic@graffhaminfant.org.uk) or by letter marked for her attention at the school.

## Cut back your hedges before nesting season!

Residents are being reminded that hedges and undergrowth on the sides of the village’s roads should be cut back before the imminent start of the nesting season. Trees, bushes and other vegetation should be cut back a minimum of half a meter from the edge of the carriageway – and this is the neighbouring landowner’s responsibility by law, not the highways authority.

West Sussex county councillor for our ward Tom Richardson said: “So many of our local lanes not only look a mess but are also becoming increasingly unsafe as the highway is being narrowed by those not cutting vegetation back as they are legally required to do. While nesting season does not prevent anything being cut back from the road, as road safety takes priority, it is far easier to get it done before it starts. Those who are not doing this are making the roads unsafe for not just themselves, but their neighbours, and everyone else who lives, works and visits our villages.”

## More road closures planned for this month

Several roads in and around Graffham and Selham will be closed for a few days this month to allow various works to be carried out. They include:

- 3-10 March – New Road, Selham, between Selham Road and Topleigh Road, for gully cleansing.
- 13-17 March – Topleigh Road for carriageway surface repairs.

# Maintenance on Empire Hall roof completed

Maintenance work on the Empire Hall's roof was completed in late January. Roofing specialists had replaced broken and slipped tiles and cleared gulleys on its south, east and west facings late last year but the northern elevation was delayed until early this year. It then took just a couple of days to carry out this final work. It is the first maintenance of this scope on the roof of the village's 'Grand Old Lady' for decades, funded from reserves accrued over the years.

Empire Hall Chairman Sally Blunt said: "This lovely building, which has been at the centre of village life for almost 120 years, should now be watertight for a good while longer – although the entire roof is likely to need replacing in a decade or so. Thanks to everyone involved for their support during this process."

# Reelers could rehearse earlier next year

Fifty five people reeled the night away at the Burns Night Celebration on Saturday 18 January at the Empire Hall – one of the hall's main annual fund-raisers. This year's event raised more than £1,000 for its maintenance fund.

As ever, music was provided by the popular Sussex Pistols band, with many of those attending brushing up their reeling skills at practices held in the Empire Hall the preceding Sundays in January.

David Garrard addressed the haggis before the dancers and band tucked into Scotland's most famous pudding, served with traditional neeps and tatties, with the organising team led by Clive and Harriet Rowntree.

Plans are under consideration to add more dance rehearsals in the months leading up to next year's Burns Celebration.

# Thursday Club to hear from our Jonathan

Thursday Club's talk this month will be by local amateur botanist and *Graffham Parish News* columnist Jonathan Simons on the flora found around the village. It will be a week later than usual this month – on Thursday 20 March at 2.30pm in the Empire Hall. All welcome! Read Jonathan's latest feature on page 42.

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

Save the date!

# Graffham Easter Market

Saturday 12th April

10AM- 2.30PM

The Empire Hall, Graffham GU28 0QB

## How you can help make Easter Market egg-cellent

Graffham Easter Market – the biggest annual fundraiser for the village’s Empire Hall – is now just a matter of weeks away. As usual, it takes place the Saturday before Easter, so this year it will be held on 12 April. Doors at the Empire Hall open at 10am, closing at around 2.30.

While the organisers are working at full speed to make it the usual community spring time jamboree, help is needed in particular in four areas:

- Donations of additional raffle prizes.
- Cakes and other bakes, preserves and other goodies for the home produce stall.
- Offers to help on the day, setting things up before and clearing away afterwards.
- Encouraging others to come - and your presence at the market itself!

Contact Sally Blunt at [sallyblunt@btinternet.com](mailto:sallyblunt@btinternet.com) or on 01798 867346.

Stallholders from near and far will be offering a wonderful array of artisan goodies to tempt you, including items for the garden, hand painted tiles and paintings, beautiful babywear, handbags and scarves, delicious locally produced food and more. There will also be teas, coffees, quiche lunches and other nibbles, and an Easter egg hunt for the kids.

Tickets for the raffle will be distributed with next month’s *Graffham Parish News*.



# Our Future Energy Landscapes

**How might Graffham power its community using locally produced renewable energy?**

**Tuesday 29th April 6.30 - 9.00pm**

**The Empire Hall, Graffham, Petworth, GU28 0QB**

**Book your free space and get more information at**

**<https://esd.energy/events/future-energy-landscape>**



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# Defibrillator installed at Rec Pavilion

A new defibrillator has been installed at the Rec – which means the parish now has five of the life-saving devices. The latest one is housed on the outside of the southern side of the Pavilion.

It follows the installation in November of another defibrillator in the old telephone box by Pescods, in The Street. The established equipment is on the south outside wall of the Empire Hall, at Graffham Infant School and in the former phone box opposite the Three Moles.

The installation of the new Pavilion defibrillator has been funded by the Katherine Maud Guillod Fund, which has supported village good causes for more than a century.

Defibrillators are devices that apply an electric charge to the heart to restore a normal heartbeat. The ones installed in Graffham provide easy-to-follow instructions as they are used – but the advice is always to call 999 first.

The codes to access all the local defibrillators are given in the inside back pages of each edition of *Graffham Parish News*. They are:

- The Empire Hall C240Z.
- For both Pescods and the Rec Pavilion C159X.
- The Three Moles phone box defibrillator does not need a code.
- Plans are in hand to reposition the one at Graffham Infant School to make it more easily accessible outside school hours.

# Three Moles shortlisted for award again

The Three Moles has been shortlisted as the PubAid UK Sustainability Champion in the Community Pub Hero Awards for the second year running. The winner will be announced at a ceremony at the House of Commons on 4 March.

GRAFFHAM  
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ASSOCIATION

## Annual General Meeting

Open to all Graffham residents

Tuesday 8 April, 3pm

Empire Hall

# A busy year caring for Lavington Stud and Estate

*Lavington Estate's Sissy Thobald reports on the key projects carried out on the village's 650-acre Lavington Stud and Estate in the past 12 months.*

It's been another busy and rewarding year at Lavington Stud and Estate with lots going on, both with our land and properties.

Restoration of our historic parkland fencing has begun, with the original old iron fencing receiving its traditional 'black and white' make over. The distinctive two-tone colouring originates from previous owners of the stud, who were also the last private owners of Lavington House (now Seaford College's Mansion House). Their patriarch, village squire James Buchanan, later Lord Woolavington, made his fortune from the Black and White Whisky brand – hence the colour scheme.



**Colin Barker and Dominique Kenway catch rays of sun outside the pop-up studios they used during June's Graffham Festival at Calloways' former stables.**

repaired and fitted with a new kitchen and carpets, while 4 Calloways has benefitted from a new heating system, bathroom, kitchen, carpets, doors and decoration. We've also ensured that the other buildings in this area do not fall into any further disrepair.

As part of our outreach and education programme, Graffham Infant School's forest school has helped us plant a new hedgerow, and Seaford College's Countryside Management students have carried out various tasks on the estate with us. We've also established links with Petworth's Sylvia Beaufoy Youth and Community Hub to deliver Duke of Edinburgh Gold activities here. Our environmental stewardship,

Calloways, the collection of residential and ex-working agricultural buildings close to Graffham village, has also been given a spruce up during the past year. All the buildings' external timberwork has been repainted. The old stables there were reroofed, enabling them to be used as a pop-up gallery during last summer's Graffham Festival. The pair of Grade 2 listed cottages, 1 and 2 Calloways, have been sensitively restored and redecorated, with new bathrooms installed. Calloways

House has also been completely repainted and fitted with a new kitchen and carpets, while 4 Calloways has benefitted from a new heating system, bathroom, kitchen, carpets, doors and decoration. We've also ensured that the other buildings in this area do not fall into any further disrepair.



Lavington Stud and Estate covers 650 acres of the village's fields and woods.

supported by Natural England and the Forestry Commission, has had a particularly busy year. In the woodlands on Graffham Down, we've continued to improve safety and access of rights of way in the face of ash die back. We have also improved drainage and surfacing on many tracks and rights of way to reduce the amount of rain running off the steep inclines towards the village, although the heavy rain of the past year has been challenging. Management of the deer has continued to improve woodland health. Importantly, we have partnered with Ben Marks of the Deer Project which is providing sustainable venison to the local market. Check them out on Instagram at [the.deer.project](https://www.instagram.com/the.deer.project).

Lots of work has been undertaken across the estate's farmland. Some 250 parkland trees have been planted to create wood pasture habitat. So too have orchard trees, disease-resistant elms and more hedges, while existing hedges have been cared for. The Soil Association has accepted our approach for organic status, which should be formally granted soon.

All this has provided more for our insects and birds to feed on, increasing the abundance and diversity of the wildlife we are seeing here.



Stills from a short film capturing in all its glory the flora and fauna returning to the estate which you can view at [bit.ly/lavington-video-2024](https://bit.ly/lavington-video-2024)

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# School report: Wraparound care time



*Graffham Infant School Business Manager Jenny Godfrey reports on its latest news.*

**Breakfast and tea clubs could be served up soon** Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools are considering offering daily pre-school clubs, including breakfast, and provision after school closes, including tea. The breakfast clubs would open from 7.45am and the after-school activity extend until 6pm – ideal for Mums and Dads whose jobs require early or late commutes.

New Headteacher Charles Beckerson, just weeks into his new role at the schools, has met with potential ‘wraparound care providers’ and was scheduled to update the schools’ governors with options as this edition went to press. That would have included the results of a survey in which parents were asked to indicate the likely demand on the provision.

**Assemblies in church** Graffham Infant School is now every other week holding its assemblies led by the Rev Vivien across the road in St Giles Church, strengthening its links as a Church of England school.

**Time travel** Children at both Graffham and Duncton schools have been travelling back in time, finding out about fossils and dinosaurs. Children in Kestrel Class (Years 3 and 4) have been learning about Mary Annings, who became the first palaeontologist. In their science lessons, the children had the opportunity to examine lots of different fossils, comparing examples from animals and plants.

Pupils in Wren Class (Reception and Year 1) have been working with our talented Art specialist, Dominique Kenway, creating incredible clay sculptures of fossils and dinosaurs. We love working with clay because it has so many great benefits – it helps develop motor skills, improving dexterity and hand-eye coordination – not to mention the brilliant creativity it fosters. We are lucky to have our own kiln so the sculptures will soon be heading there for firing.



Graffham pupils learning about fossils – and making dinosaur sculptures.



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# The Addams Family

A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

**19th - 22nd March 2025**

Seaford College, Johnson Centre - 7.30pm

TICKETS:

**Adults £10\* - Children £5\***

\*Plus booking fee

**[www.seaford.org/bookings](http://www.seaford.org/bookings)**

"THE ADDAMS FAMILY" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), [www.theatricalrights.co.uk](http://www.theatricalrights.co.uk)

# Bill's bygones: Blencowe, BBC, Bishops

*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 – March 2015:** Michael Blencowe hosts Graffham Down Trust's quiz night for the first time. Singer/songwriter Richard Navarro performs at the Empire Hall. Graffham Empire Movies screens *What We Did On Our Holiday*. The Cricket Club hold a dinner at the White Horse. The order of succession to the British throne is changed to absolute primogeniture. The BBC opts not to renew the contract of *Top Gear* presenter Jeremy Clarkson after a "fracas" with the show's producer. Germanwings Flight 9525 is deliberately crashed in the French Alps by co-pilot Andreas Lubitz, killing 150. In Melbourne, Australia win the Cricket World Cup for the fifth time. Deaths of TV presenter Shaw Taylor (aged 90), author Sir Terry Pratchett (66) and singer/songwriter Jackie Trent (*Neighbours* theme, 74).

**25 years ago – March 2000:** Five Graffham children are filmed with Michaela Strachan for the BBC's *Countryfile*, searching for Lesser Celandine at the bottom of Church Hill. Chairman of Graffham Shop Association Marion Wilder warns that the Post Office's plans to introduce automatic credit transfer to pay pensions will make the village's branch non-viable – and that "if the post office goes, so does the shop". David Trimble becomes leader of the Ulster Unionist Party. Myra Hindley's third appeal against a Home Office ruling that she spend her entire life in prison is rejected. The UK deports former dictator Augusto Pinochet to his native Chile to face trial for human rights violations. Vladimir Putin is elected President of Russia. Deaths of physician/author Alex Comfort (*The Joy of Sex*, 80), actor Charles Gray (Bond villain Blofeld in *Diamonds Are Forever*, 71) and iconic New Wave singer/songwriter Ian Dury (57).

**50 years ago – March 1975:** Graffham rector Rev David Grant asks the questions at an inter-youth club quiz held at the Empire Hall and contested by teams from Petworth (the winners), Heyshott, Lodsworth and Graffham (represented by Roger Stickley, Jill Tupper, Mark Wiseman and Michael Claydon). Duncton post office closes. At the Chichester Diocesan Synod, the Bishops of Chichester, Horsham and Lewes vote against the removal of "legal and other barriers" to the ordination of women priests. Filming for *Dr Who* serial *Terror of the Zygons* takes place at South Ambersham, Storrington and Climping beach. At the age of 85, Charlie Chaplin is knighted by the Queen. Release of David Bowie's *Young Americans* album. The Bay City Rollers reach number one with *Bye Bye Baby*. Second division Aston Villa defeat Norwich City in the League Cup final at Wembley. Death of shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis (69).

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# Planning applications and decisions

*Details for Graffham and East Lavington filed with the South Downs National Park since our previous edition (for details, see [bit.ly/sdnp-planning](http://bit.ly/sdnp-planning))*

## Planning decisions

**The Pines, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NS:** Demolish existing garage/shed outbuilding and replace with new double garage/workshop outbuilding with installation of roof mounted solar PV panels. *Approved. 21 Jan. SDNP/24/04518/HOUS*

## Planning applications

**3 Homes of Rest, The Street, Graffham GU28 0NW:** Relocation of one door and removal of one window on east elevation. Renovation of existing windows and installation of secondary glazing throughout. Removal of internal partition walls and relocation of rear door to allow suitably sized kitchen and bathroom. Renovation of existing windows and installation of secondary double glazing and loft insulation. Removal of one metal window and softwood shed door to facilitate bathroom layout. *SDNP/25/00021/LIS and SDNP/25/00020/HOUS. Received 6 Jan 2025.*

**Little Bury, Norwood Lane, East Lavington GU28 0QG:** Change of use of agricultural building to Class C1 (aparthotel). *SDNP/25/00362/PA3R. Received 29 Jan 2025.*

## Property watch

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

**Little Gulls, The Street, Lodsworth GU28 9BZ:** Detached character cottage, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting and dining room, study, kitchen, utility. 132 sq m (1,420sq ft). Garden with store and workshop. Guide price £1,095,000. *Savills, Petworth 01798 217950. Listed 12 Feb.*



**Austens, Heyshott GU29 0DW:** Ground floor apartment, one bedroom, one bathroom, open plan kitchen/living/dining room, study. Garden with patio. Guide price £220,000. *Southdown Properties, Midhurst 01730 771322. Listed 17 Feb.*

# DAN BUDD AS ROBBIE WILLIAMS

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**SATURDAY**  
**22ND MARCH**  
**EMPIRE HALL**  
**GRAFFHAM**  
**GU28 0QB**

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# Graffham Garden Group 2025 diary

*For the full programme, see the following pages.*



Graffham Garden Group is one of the most active clubs in the village, with a busy programme of activities throughout the year – and new members are always assured the warmest of welcome.



Starting with its well attended New Year lunch, in the Empire Hall on 30 January, it moves on to its AGM this month, back in the Empire Hall on Friday 21 March, complete with a brilliant guest speaker and your chance to vote for the best spring flowers grown locally (page 32)



In early May, there's a chance to pick up some Graffham-grown vegetable and flower plants – then you can return in July to show off how well they have done at the flower and produce show.



To give you even more inspiration, there are also five trips scheduled to some of the most stunning gardens a short drive away. These outings are open to all, not just members. To book your place, contact Nicky West at [nicolamwest@btinternet.com](mailto:nicolamwest@btinternet.com) or on 07796 144647. Car sharing is encouraged so please always ask if you would like a lift!

**Thursday 10 April 11am**

**Visit to Vann Garden**

Vann Lane, Hambledon, near Godalming GU8 4EF

An internationally renowned five-acre garden formed by a series of 'rooms' which surround and complement a family home dating from the 16th century, including an old cottage garden, a Gertrude Jekyll water garden from 1911, and the newly designed and planted Centenary Garden.



£10. Pay in cash on arrival. No teas available so if you'd like a coffee first, meet at The Crown Inn, Chiddingfold, at 10am.

**Saturday 10 May 10am**

**Spring plant sale**

Empire Hall, Graffham



A wide range of vegetable plants – including tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes and beans – and also some flowers, such as sweet peas, ammi and cosmos. No pre-orders or deliveries. First come, first served!

**Tuesday 13 May 2pm**

**Visit to Bignor Park**

Bignor, RH20 1HG

11 peaceful acres, with magnificent views of the South Downs. Interesting trees, shrubs, roses, pond, unusual sculptures, wildflower areas, and a walled garden with herbaceous borders.



£5. Pay on arrival. Teas available.  
Our visit will be on an NGS open day.

**Monday 16 June 1pm**

**Visit to Stansted Park**

Rowlands Castle, PO9 6DX



Walled garden, maze, arboretum with Pavilion Tea Room and Farmshop – all at what was previously the seat of the Earl of Bessborough. Optional tour of Stansted House's renowned state rooms and fascinating servants' quarters.

£10 for optional house tour – but free to Historic Houses members and 50% discount with National Art Pass.



**Saturday 12 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 –

- 📷 All creatures great and small
- 📷 Portrait
- 📷 Nature at its best
- 📷 Landscape/seascape

Don't be shy – it's the taking part that's important!

**Thursday 21 August**

**Visit to Woolbeding Gardens**

**Woolbeding, Midhurst**

A horticultural haven, now run by the National Trust, bursting with colourful planting – 26 acres of garden 'rooms', vegetable garden, 'The Long Walk', fountain, contemporary glasshouse and countryside views.



Details of costs and where and when to meet will be finalised nearer the date.

**Sunday 21 September 1pm**

**Visit to Meadow Farm**

**Pulborough RH20 1DF**



Two acres plus wildflower meadows. Colour themed beds, formal pond, avenue to the Sussex countryside. Walled garden for fruit, cut flowers and vegetables. Orchard with hazelnut walk. Wildlife swimming pond with bog garden.

£7. Pay on arrival. Teas available. We will be visiting on an NGS open day.

**Last Saturday of each month 10am**

**War memorial, Graffham GU29 0QB**

Community garden work parties to keep the lawns, borders, shrubs and pots around the village's war memorial tidy and wonderful. Only one hour each month. No gardening experience necessary – all welcome!





# Graffham Garden Group AGM

Friday 21 March 2025, 7pm  
Empire Hall

Including the village's  
spring flower competition

Vase of seven daffodils

Vase of spring flowers

Saucer with three hellebore flowers in water

Bring your entries at 6.45pm

Complimentary wine and beer while  
voting for your favourite entries



Talk by Alex New

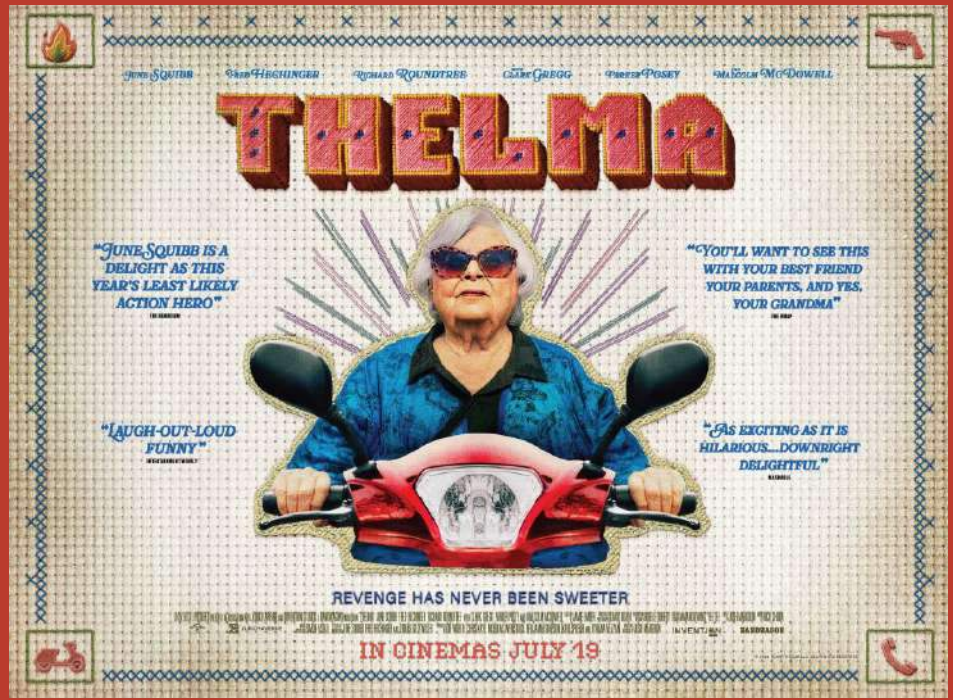
*Alex is head gardener/curator  
of Highdown Gardens, near  
Worthing, and will be talking  
about its history, plant  
collection, current work and  
future plans.*

New members welcome  
- come and meet  
fellow Graffham gardeners!



# Graffham Empire Movies

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



A tender, laugh-out-loud, well-observed story of a granny refusing to accept the limitations of age, as feisty 93-year-old Thelma sets out on a treacherous quest across Los Angeles, accompanied by an aging friend and his mobility scooter, to reclaim what was conned from her by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson.

Certificate 12

98 minutes

## Saturday 29 March

## Empire Hall

Doors and bar open 7pm for 7.30pm start

Interval ice creams

Tickets from [ticketsource.co.uk/GEM](https://ticketsource.co.uk/GEM) or at the door on the night  
£10 adults, £5 under 18s


Final few  
tickets  
available

# CONCORDE makes return 'flight' to Graffham

Fasten your seatbelts as 'Captain Concorde' Mike Bannister touches down at the Empire Hall to share his unrivalled insight into the only supersonic airliner – on a return 'flight' by popular demand.



Mike knows Concorde better than anyone – as its youngest first officer soon after it started flying in 1977 to commanding its final scheduled flight as British Airways' Concorde Chief Pilot 26 years later. Since then, he's become the best-selling author of the definitive Concorde book. At this fund-raising event, he'll give his unique perspective on a flying icon that



enabled Royalty, celebs, moguls and everyman to sip Champagne while travelling at almost 25 miles a minute. He'll share videos and photos from his personal library, swap anecdotes with *Graffham Parish News* editor and former British Airways Chief Press Officer Michael Blunt and take questions from the audience. The first of these events, in October, was sold out twice over, receiving rave reviews:

**'A tour de force in every respect' 'A triumph' 'Excellent, fascinating, amusing'**

**EMPIRE HALL, GRAFFHAM GU28 0QB**  
**FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2025 7 FOR 7.30PM**

Tickets £15 each from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/GEM](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/GEM)  
Bar offering drinks and Concorde-inspired snacks.

*All profits towards the maintenance of Graffham Empire Hall.*

# Graffham Parish News' mad March quiz

Ten quick fire questions from Bill Barrett to test your local, topical and wider general knowledge. Answers on page 59 (no cheating!)

- 1 The South Downs was designated a National Park on 31 March of which year: [a] 2003, [b], 2007, [c] 2010?
- 2 Who was styled Lord Settrington (1955-89) and the Earl of March and Kinrara (1989-2017) before inheriting his current title?
- 3 Who was assassinated on the Ides of March, 44 BC?
- 4 The Welsh Marches contains Britain's densest concentration of motte-and-bailey-type what?
- 5 March is a market town situated on the banks of the River Nene in which county?
- 6 Which Highland ghillie of Queen Victoria's died on 27 March 1883?
- 7 Which other animal is present with the March Hare at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party in *Alice in Wonderland*: [a] the Cheshire Cat, [b] the Dormouse, [c] the White Rabbit?
- 8 Fredric March won the Oscar for Best Actor for playing which character and his alter ego in a 1931 film based on Robert Louis Stevenson's novella?
- 9 Who starred as Jo March in the 2019 film version of *Little Women* (recently shown at Graffham Empire Movies), and how is her first name spelt?
- 10 *The March of the Black Queen* is the ninth track (*Seven Seas of Rhye* being the eleventh) on the second studio album of which group?



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# Graffham Chronicles: South Downs shepherds

*In her column this month, as lambing season reaches its peak, local historian Pauline Goodwin focusses on how sheep have shaped our landscape, thanks to the folk who tended them.*

The humble sheep plays a significant role in the history of our region. As historian Peter Brandon states in *The South Downs*: “The peculiar smoothness results from centuries of shaving by sheep and plough.” Whereas swathes of these rolling hills in West Sussex now host trees, vast areas are still given over to chalk grassland which is “very much the creation of sheep”.

This grassland has been produced by “the centuries-old nibbling and trampling by sheep on the chalk greensward”, resulting in a firm, short, springy turf made up of fescue grasses, with up to 40 different species of wild plants in one square yard. I can personally attest to this huge number and variety of plants, as I studied plant ecological diversity on the Downs as part of my Biology A level. I marked up metre quadrants and counted each and every one of the multitude of plants inside them.

Today, the sheep’s role is equally important. Chris Major, who has reared sheep in Graffham for 25 years, explains: “Mixed farming, including sheep, will become an increasingly important component of regenerative farming for soil health and fertility reasons.”

Sheep played a huge role in providing sustenance for early peoples. Peter Brandon, again, writes that in c5-4000BC the life of those early families “appears to have been centred on sheep on account of numerous sheep bones found at most prehistoric sites”. From this time, sheep keepers – or shepherds – were needed to safeguard the precious flocks with their prized coats and meat. Indeed, according to *South East Farmer*, predators such as wolves roamed around here, and it was not



Medieval shepherds, with their sheep and their crooks.

until “the year 1290 the last wolf was killed in England... They were around a bit longer in Scotland”. However, wolf bounties were still maintained in the East Riding until the early 19th Century.

The word shepherd comes from the Old English sceaphierde, or sheepherder. Such a person protects sheep from animals that would attack them, keeps them from wandering and otherwise takes care of the flock. The word is also a verb that describes care of a group of sheep, other animals and or even people.

Early shepherds on the Downs above Graffham and Lavington were so concerned that their lives were spent constantly close to their flocks that they asked for a tuft of wool to be secured to their coffin so it would be known that they had not attended church services during their life because of their on-going shepherding duties.

Peter Brandon recalls: “The wild sheep domesticated by Neolithic man was probably very much akin to the Moufflon whose rough coat, a mixture of hair and kemp, was shed naturally and made into felt, the earliest form of cloth.” Today one our local sheep keepers, Steph Kewell, uses a felting technique to produce sheepskin rugs, dog beds, throws and baubles. The breeds she runs include a couple of Southdowns, but mainly Herdwick, Hampshire, Poll Dorset and Dorset Down crosses. Steph started seven years ago and now runs more than 200 sheep in and around Graffham, Heyshott and Duncton. A major difference between shepherdess Steph and those



Sheep kept by local shepherdess Steph Kewell (pictured below), on the Downs high above Heyshott and Graffham.



► *Continued on next page*

► *Continued from previous page*

from past times is that she be on site with the flocks thanks to fenced enclosures, lack of predators and motorised transport.

Chris Major recalls that in the early days he had 30-40 ewes but has now reduced the number to 10-15. He has two rams which he refers to as his “heir and a spare”. He prefers to run crossbred ewes with a Southdown ram but does have a number of Southdown ewes. The equipment he uses today includes a tractor and livestock trailer, foot clippers, Terramycin spray for scald and foot rot, and fly spray to deal with maggots when required.

Both Chris and Steph also use shepherds’ crooks. Long, straight rods were used in biblical times but in ancient Greece there had been a move to a more curved crook.



Local shepherdess Steph Kewell sells felted fleeces from her sheep at several nearby markets.



One of Chris Major’s ewes with her lamb triplets (left) and his two shepherd’s crooks.



This continued until in medieval England when a hockey stick type was in use. Steph uses a Supercrook, patented in New Zealand in the 1990s, and Chris has a number of crooks, including one given to him on the occasion of the wedding of his son Sam to Charlotte, as a thank you present. This wooden crook is the traditional form, often used as a “tally stick,” which allowed shepherds to cut notches in the shaft to keep a record of the number of sheep.

Barclay Wills, in his work *The Downland Shepherd*, recounts a method used in Sussex for “telling” the sheep: “The sheep were allowed to run through a hurdle two at a time ‘One-erum, Two-erum, Cock-erum, Shu-erum, Shitherum, Shatherum, Wine-berry, Wagtail, Tarydiddle, Den.’ Thus, den was a score.”

Sometimes we forget the significant role that shepherds and sheep play throughout the Bible, for as Mary Beth Gladwell



reminds us in her paper about the shepherd: “The motif of the shepherd is found throughout the scripture. In the Old Testament, there are words of strong rebuke and warning for bad shepherds and prophecies of a good shepherd that is to come in the New Testament. Jesus identifies himself as the Good Shepherd, and we find in the epistles the notion of good shepherding extended to those who would lead in the church.”

Peter Brandon states that on downland farms the shepherd’s job was the most skilful. It was he who advised his master in the 18th Century what sowings were needed to provide ‘the bite’ for the sheep in rotation at exactly the right time. Shepherds needed keen observational powers and intelligence to provide the best grazing for their flocks.

One of the most remarkable of South Downs shepherds was John Dudeney (1792-1852). He was descended from several generations of South Downs shepherds and took up the vocation at eight years old. He taught himself Greek and Hebrew and studied geometry and mathematics and eventually became a schoolmaster.

In summary, the good shepherd showed great concern for his flock. He provided for them in terms of nourishment and rest. He guided them, leading the way. He was intimately involved with the flock and concerned for the safety of each individual. He was willing to sacrifice his own comfort, even his own life, for the sake of his sheep. These are leadership and pastoral qualities which we admire in our lives today. As is written in the New Testament’s John, chapter 10 verse 14: “I am the good shepherd: I know my flock and my flock know me.”



A flock enjoying spring sunshine in Graffham’s School Field.

# Nature Notes: First spark to ignite spring's blaze

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

It's around about now that I start getting a bit bored of winter. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy a bit of bleak beauty – bare trees, frosted landscapes and all that. But now I need something to get my heart racing. Send me a sign – some life in the graveyard of winter, a promise of those dynamic spring months ahead, a flash of colour. In March, my light at the end of the tunnel is an oncoming butterfly.

On sculpted, vibrant yellow wings, the Brimstone makes his elegant entrance into the New Year on those bright February days when you feel the warmth of the sun on your face. His distinctive yellow wings have given birth to a legend – that this 'butter-coloured fly' inspired the word butterfly. This claim may be a myth. Also untrue is the notion that these March Brimstones are the first signs of the year's new life. By the time Brimstones appear in March, they are already on their last (six) legs.

Fresh Brimstone butterflies emerged from their chrysalises in late summer, so by March they could be eight months old – and in butterfly years that's ancient. Admittedly, almost all of that time they've been asleep in a hedge, sheltered from

## Final work party of the season

What is expected to be the final work party of Graffham Down Trust's 2024-25 season is scheduled for **Saturday 15 March**.

Join us for some outdoor fun and exercise after which you can feel virtuous for having done something positive for your environment! Did we mention that coffee, tea and cakes are provided?

Meet at **Graffham's St Giles Church at 9.30am**. You'll need a pair of gloves, strong shoes or boots and warm clothing. Please email [jimkirke@hotmail.com](mailto:jimkirke@hotmail.com) if you plan to come along and say if you would like a ride up so that he can arrange transport.





With the vibrant yellow wings, Brimstones are actually on their last legs by March. Pictures © Sussex Wildlife Trust.

the storms under holly and ivy. Yet, despite the worst winter weather, they always emerge immaculate in the spring. They must be made of Teflon.

When they awake, the (bright yellow) males search for a mate. They mate. The (pale yellow) females lay eggs. Then they both die. Still, an adult life of more than ten months earns them the title of our longest-lived butterfly – an insect OAP.

The Brimstone's caterpillars feed on the leaves of buckthorn and alder buckthorn, unobtrusive shrubs which, like the butterfly, are widespread across Sussex. When I first became the proud owner of a garden, it was only a matter of days before I evicted the gnomes and planted an alder buckthorn. The following spring I was excited to watch a Brimstone laying her tiny skittle-shaped eggs, and I studied the caterpillars as they hungrily defoliated my tree. It's funny, people often complain to me about caterpillars eating their plants – especially cabbages (the food of Small and Large White caterpillars). Why people are concerned is beyond me. Cabbages are horrible. The only reason I would ever plant a cabbage is for the pleasure of watching something else eat it.

A Brimstone sighting in February or March doesn't exactly mean that spring is starting but it's certainly a sign that winter is starting to end. And, right now, that's good enough for me. Either way, this yellow butterfly is a welcome messenger of what's to come – the first sulphurous spark to ignite the blaze of spring.

- 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:



# Out and about: Hazel, teeth marks and fungi

An occasional column by Jonathan Simons, amateur botanist and font of useless knowledge on so many things other people do not want to know.

The hazel is a well-loved little tree. Coppiced stands under oak standards are among the most glorious habitats for wildlife in this country, and we have good examples in the Graffham area.

They are also home to fungi – easy to spot when passing through outside of the bluebell season and after you have cracked the nuts. But the most obvious sign of a hazel is its hazelnuts. Unfortunately, they are usually spotted first by squirrels, voles, wood mice or dormice – so you can seldom gather a good crop for yourself in the wild. However, it is interesting to look at the discarded shells – by studying the teeth marks you can often tell what creature stole the nut. They are the principal



food of the dormouse. It makes slanty teeth marks around a hole in the side the nut. Caring for God's Acre, the website for the conservation charity for UK burial grounds, has a good description of teeth marks made by other mammals.

Toothmarks on hazelnuts – the one on the left has a smooth rim to the hole but angled around it, which means it could have been made by a dormouse, while the one on the right has continuous grooves around, perpendicular to the rim, likely to have been made by a woodmouse. A completely cracked nut is the work of grey squirrel.

A good place to start looking for hazels, hazelnuts and the mammals that eat them is up on the Grafham Down Trust reserves.

The first fungus to mention that's associated with hazel is the hazel glue, *Hymenochaete corrugate*. It sticks one branch to another, sometimes joining neighbouring trees, allowing the fungal mycelium to spread without having to go down the trunk and up another branch. I was shown it on a fungus group foray and thought: "Yes! I can find that for myself." After a slow start I eventually was spotting it in almost any substantial collection of aging and abandoned trees, although it hasn't reached my own Millburgh Hall yet. The connecting glue starts off white but is usually found as black. Parasitic on this glue is the exotically sounding hazel gloves, but this is sadly not present in our area.

More elusive than hazel glue is the spring hazel cup, *Encoelia furfuracea*. I scoured



The spring hazel cup can be spotted in spring – particularly at Hoyle Hanger.

locally in early spring in 2021 and 2023 and was rewarded with several finds. I recommend Hoyle Hanger on Ambersham Common as a good place to look. The cups are light brown and grow in clusters only a centimetre or two in diameter.

Much easier to find at any time of year is the hazel woodwart, *Hypoxylon fuscum*. It grows from old trunks as a rash of small black pimples. You need a magnifying glass or microscope to grasp its true beauty.

In the autumn you could come across the hazel milkcap, *Lactacrius pyrogalus*, growing on the ground beneath the hazels. As a ‘milkcap’ its gills exude a white liquid when damaged and, as the ‘pyrogalus’, implies this is ‘fiery’ to the taste but not injurious provided you spit it out. I’ve only seen it around



Hazel glue (above), woodwart (below) and milkcap (bottom).



here twice. I saw it easily from the footpath through Hoe Copse and from the roadside on Graffham Common between Millburgh Hall and Selham End. This little spot has a good mixture of trees and a surprising number of associated species, native and introduced. It is on what is probably my most walked route – to the Three Moles and back. (Other public houses are available.)



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# Graffham Tennis Club



Key dates for 2025 have been fixed – so make a note of them in your diaries now! They include:

- AGM on Monday 10 March at 7pm.
- First club night on Friday 4 April, then every Friday throughout the season.
- Mixed Doubles tournament on Sunday 22 June.
- Tennis week starts on Friday 18 July and runs to Friday 25 July, including the Generation Mixed Doubles on Saturday 19 July and Men’s B Doubles on Sunday 20 July.
- Awards evening on Saturday 15 November.

**League matches** Club teams’ matches in the East Hampshire League have suffered more weather postponements, although our Mixed Doubles team managed two outings in February, against Steep A and Medstead A, losing both 1-7 and 3-5 respectively. The backlog of fixtures runs through March and we will hopefully have some brighter news to report next month! Home fixtures this month:

## Graffham Tennis Club East Hants League home fixtures: March

All spectators welcome!

2	Sun	10.30am	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Haslemere A
9	Sun	1.15pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 3	v Medstead A
23	Sun	1pm	Mixed Doubles	Div 1	v Swanmore

# Graffham Badminton Club

Subs for the club will be due at the end of March. If you think that you would like to sign up, come along for a free try-out at one of the March sessions on Wednesdays in the Empire Hall from 6.30pm (apart from 5 March when a session does not take place).



## TEDDY TIME in the Pavilion TODDLER GROUP

Wednesdays 10.15-11.30am  
Pavilion, Graffham Rec

No charge. All welcome. Just come along!



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## Electoral roll of Graffham with Woolavington

Every church parish is obliged to keep a list of people entitled to be included on an Electoral Roll in the parish.

**Purpose** People named on the roll are entitled to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting when Parochial Church Council members and Deanery Synod members are elected and other matters of business of the parish considered. It is also used to provide an informal indication of how many people are active members of the Church of England in the parish.

**Roll management** Each year the roll is updated and every sixth year the existing roll is closed down and a new roll drawn up. As 2025 is a sixth year, we are asking people to consider now if they wish to apply or reapply for enrolment. You can do so if you are a baptised lay person aged 16 or over or will be 16 in the next 12 months and fulfil one of three categories. In the first category a person declares themselves to be a member of the Church of England (or Church in communion with the Church of England) and a resident in the parish. Two other categories allow for people who do not live in the parish, though regularly attend church within it, to also have their names included on the roll (details are on the form).

**Applying for enrolment** Application forms for current roll members have been delivered to their homes. Forms for any other prospective members can be found on the table inside St Giles Church. Please deliver completed forms to Parish Electoral Roll Officer Fiona Mackie at Chelsea Cottage, which is near the Homes of Rest, on The Street, Graffham. The deadline for delivering forms is 9 March 2025 and the new Roll takes effect on 23 March 2025.



## TAIZÉ PRAYER

*song, prayer and silence*

Sunday 23 March 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*



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FOOD 5.30PM

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are welcome to cover expenses



St Giles Church, Graffham

# PACT: News from Petworth Area Churches Together



## Help needed to save former church as community hub

Petworth Town Council is seeking ideas on how the town's former United Reformed Church (URC) building – which used to be a main base for Petworth Area Churches Together and many other community organisations – can be preserved as a community hub, rather than being sold on the open market. It has been registered by Chichester District Council as a 'community asset' which means the town council has six months to raise funding to acquire it.

**30 households locally rely on foodbank** While demand on Chichester Foodbank in its Petworth area, which includes Graffham and East Lavington, was down 40 per cent year-on-year in 2024, there are still 30 households in this district relying on it for support. You can donate to the foodbank via the baskets inside All Saints Chapel, directly opposite Graffham Village Shop, or inside St Giles Church. To check which items are currently most needed, go to <https://chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>



## Other denominations locally

**Methodist:** Midhurst. *Minister:* David Muskett *Tel:* 01730 233436. *email:* [superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk](mailto:superintendent@esanddcircuit.org.uk). *Web:* [midhurstmethodist.com](http://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](http://petworth.abdiocese.org.uk). *Tel:* 01798 342169. *Web:* [www.petworthcatholic.org](http://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](http://sussexwestquakers.org.uk) *Meetings:* 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays 10.30am.

## Who's doing what at St Giles in March

**Cleaning:** Diane Bellis and Barbara Edge.

**Flowers:** Barbara Edge (2 March) then no flowers during Lent.

# What's on at our village church and chapel

- All residents and visitors are welcome to all services.
- St Giles Church is at the far south end of Graffham Street, near the Downs.
- All Saints' Chapel is opposite Graffham Village Shop.
- Both St Giles Church and All Saints' Chapel are open daily.
- See [stgilesgraffham.org](http://stgilesgraffham.org) or Facebook's @stgilesgraffham for any changes.

## March

1	Sat	9.30am	Come and Sing!	St Giles Church
2	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist <i>Reading: Exodus 34 v 29-end</i>	St Giles Church
4	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
5	Wed	7pm	Ash Wednesday Eucharist with imposition of ashes <i>Reading: Joel 2 v 1-2,12-17</i>	St Giles Church
6	Thu	10am	Graffham Infant School assembly in church	St Giles Church
		3.30-6.30pm	Messy Church Theme: <i>Forgiveness (See p 47)</i>	Rec Pavilion
8	Sat	10am-12noon	Bellringing Practice	St Giles Church
9	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist <i>Reading: Romans 10 v 8b-13</i>	St Giles Church
		6pm	BCP Evensong	All Saints Chapel
11	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
		7.30pm	Bellringers' AGM	TBC
12	Wed	12.30pm	Lent lunch with speaker ( <i>see page 14</i> )	Empire Hall
		6.30pm	PCC meeting	The Rectory
13	Thu	11am	Messy Church Goes Wild meeting	Lavington Stud
16	Sun	9am	Holy Communion <i>Reading: Phil 3 v17 – 4 v 1</i>	St Giles Church
		10.30am	Third Sunday Service	St Giles Church
18	Tue	9.30am	Morning Prayer then Pilgrims at 10am	All Saints Chapel
19	Wed	2.30pm	Knit & Natter	Occam Cottage
20	Thu	10am	Graffham Infant School assembly in church	St Giles Church
23	Sun	10.30am	Parish Eucharist <i>Read'g: 1 Corinthians 10 v 1-13</i>	St Giles Church
		6.30pm	Taizé Prayer ( <i>see page 46</i> )	All Saints Chapel
25	Tue		No Morning Prayer or Pilgrims	
30	Sun	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Parish Eucharist. <i>Reading: 2 Corinthians v 5-end</i>	St Giles Church

## April

6	Sun	11.30am	Annual Vestry and Parochial Church Meetings	St Giles Church
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Full details of **Holy Week and Easter Services** in next month's edition

# What's on in and around the village

For all St Giles and All Saints events, see page 49. For sports dates, see page 45.

March				
4	Tue		<i>Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day</i>	
		10.45am	Arts Society of Midhurst talk <i>Nazi Art Looting During World War II</i>	Midhurst Methodist Hall
		2pm	Arts Society of West Sussex talk <i>Antoni Gaudí I Cornet, Barcelona master builder</i>	Fittleworth Village Hall
5	Wed		<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
		7pm	Graffham Parish Council meeting	Empire Hall
6	Thu	3.30-6.30pm	Messy Church (see page 47)	Pavilion
8	Sat	9am-2pm	Midhurst Farmers Market	Midhurst
9	Sun	7pm	Folk music night	Three Moles
10	Mon	7pm	Graffham Tennis Club AGM	Pavilion
11	Tue	9-11am	Great Feet foot health professional <sup>1</sup>	Empire Hall
12	Wed	12.45pm	Lent lunch (see page 14)	Empire Hall
15	Sat	9.30am	Graffham Down Trust work party (page 40)	Meet at St Giles
17	Mon		Graffham Infant and Duncton Junior Schools INSET day	
		6.15pm	East Lavington Parish Council meeting	Seaford College
19	Wed	7.30pm	Seaford College presents <i>The Addams Family</i> (till 22 Mar) (see page 24)	Seaford College
20	Thu	2.30pm	Thursday Club talk by local amateur botanist Jonathan Simons (see page 16)	Empire Hall
21	Fri	6.45 for 7pm	Graffham Garden Group AGM with guest speaker and spring flower show (page 32)	Empire Hall
22	Sat	9am-1pm	Petworth Farmers Market	Petworth
		7.30pm	Dan Budd as Robbie Williams plus band (see page 28)	Empire Hall
26	Wed	12.30pm	Lunch Club <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
28	Fri		Seaford College term ends	
29	Sat	10-11am	Community garden work party	War Memorial
		7 for 7.30pm	Graffham Empire Movies presents <i>Thelma</i> (see page 33)	Empire Hall
30	Sun		British Summer Time starts – clocks spring forward one hour	
			Mothering Sunday	
		10.30am	Mothering Sunday service	St Giles Church

For notes see top of next page

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

**<sup>2</sup>Graffham Lunch Club** meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm for 12.45pm for a home cooked two-course meal and coffee, at £10 a head. Please book via Sarah on 01798 867567.

Regular weekly activities (for notes, how to book, etc, see below)			
Mondays	9-10am	Fitflows Fitness <sup>1</sup>	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
Tuesdays	8.30am-12noon	Post Office	Empire Hall
	8am	Strength and mobility with Gemma <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	9.30am	Circuits with Gemma <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
	7.30pm	Bell ringing practice - newcomers welcome	St Giles
Wednesdays	9-10am	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
	10.15-11.30am	Teddy Time toddler group <sup>5</sup>	Pavilion
	11.15am-12noon	Pilates <sup>6</sup>	Empire Hall
	1.45-2.45pm	Rusty Racquets adults tennis coaching <sup>7</sup>	Rec
	5.30pm	Hard core exercise with Nina <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	7-8.30pm	Badminton <sup>8</sup> - all welcome	Empire Hall
	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
Thursdays	Daytime-evening	Osteopath <sup>2</sup>	Empire Hall
	10.45-11.45am	Ease Into Exercise <sup>9</sup>	Empire Hall
	5.30pm	Kettleball Class with Gareth <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	6-7.15pm	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
Fridays	9-10.15am	Yoga <sup>4</sup>	Empire Hall
	9am-3pm	Physiotherapy clinic <sup>10</sup>	Empire Hall
Saturdays	8am	Boxercise with Nina <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
	10am	Wildstrong with Gareth <sup>3</sup>	Westerlands
Sundays	5pm	Pickleball <sup>11</sup>	Empire Hall
	5pm	Casual football <sup>12</sup>	Rec

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

**<sup>1</sup>Fitflows Fitness:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

**<sup>2</sup>Osteopath:** Bookings required. To make an appointment, for daytime or early evening, contact Anna Shawcross on 01798 867523 or see [www.annashawcross.co.uk](http://www.annashawcross.co.uk)

**<sup>3</sup>For all Westerlands events:** Book online at [www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit](http://www.westerlands.com/experiences/wild-fit)

**<sup>4</sup>Yoga:** Deborah Albon on 07790 367009.

**<sup>5</sup>Teddy Time:** No charge. All welcome. Just come along.

**<sup>6</sup>Pilates:** Contact Nicky Capes on 07990 517858 or 01730 812297.

**<sup>7</sup>Rusty Racquets:** Contact Richard Hopp at [richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk](mailto:richard@hoppcoaching.co.uk), on 07904 069457.

**<sup>8</sup>Badminton:** Contact Louisa Thomas, at [louisa9000@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:louisa9000@hotmail.co.uk). All welcome.

**<sup>9</sup>Ease Into Exercise:** Contact Susie Bush 07870 219956.

**<sup>10</sup>Physiotherapy:** Contact Serena Cooper on 07884 445983 or at [serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com](mailto:serenacooper.physiotherapy@outlook.com).

**<sup>11</sup>Pickleball:** Contact Beanie Bradley on 07500 080417.

**<sup>12</sup>Casual Football:** Contact Lucas Thornley on 07767 721997.



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**Quiz answers (from page 35)** 1 [c] 2010. 2 The current (10th) Duke of Richmond, Lennox and Gordon. 3 Julius Caesar. 4 Castles. 5 Cambridgeshire. 6 John Brown. 7 [b] the Dormouse. 8 Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde. 9 Saoirse Ronan. 10 Queen.

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# Directory: Useful local contact info

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<b>DEFIBRILLATORS</b>	<p>On outside wall of <b>Empire Hall</b> Code is <b>C240Z</b></p> <p>On outside wall of <b>Pavilion</b> Code is <b>C159X</b></p> <p>In phone box outside <b>Pescods</b> Code is also <b>C159X</b></p> <p>In phone box opposite <b>The Three Moles</b> No code needed</p>
<b>FLOOD ALERT for Lods Bridge</b>	To check river level <a href="http://bit.ly/lodsbridge">bit.ly/lodsbridge</a>
<b>POLICE</b>	<p>In emergency 999</p> <p>Non-emergency 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk 101</p>
<b>BURST WATER MAINS</b>	Southern Water 0800 820 999
<b>POWER CUTS</b>	Scottish & Southern Electric 105 or 0800 0727 282
<b>99 FLEX BUS</b>	Linking Graffham with Chichester, Petworth etc <a href="http://bit.ly/99flexbus">bit.ly/99flexbus</a> 01243 858854
<b>All Saints Chapel Trust</b>	Chairman Clive Rowntree 01798 867536
<b>Badminton</b>	Christina Federowicz 07900 055574
<b>Bees / Swarms</b>	
Wisboro' Green B'keepers	Tom Moore 07984 606214/01798 343470
Local beekeeper	Murray West evenings 01798 867048
<b>Chichester District Council</b>	01243 534734
District Councillor	John Cross <a href="mailto:jcross@chichester.gov.uk">jcross@chichester.gov.uk</a>
	07592 307027
Dog Warden	Office hours 01243 534734
	Emergency 01243 785339
<b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>	03448 487969
<b>East Lavington Parish Council</b>	<p>Chairman Charles Britton <a href="mailto:charles.britton@eastlavington-pc.uk">charles.britton@eastlavington-pc.uk</a></p> <p>Clerk Amy Harte 07889 979820</p> <p><a href="mailto:eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com">eastlavingtonpc@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Empire Hall</b>	<a href="http://empirehall.org.uk">empirehall.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:empirehall@gmail.com">empirehall@gmail.com</a>
Chairman and Bookings	Sally Blunt <a href="mailto:bookings.empirehall@gmail.com">bookings.empirehall@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Carole Sargent 01798 344790
Maintenance	Gillian Charlesworth <a href="mailto:empirehall@gmail.com">empirehall@gmail.com</a>
<b>Foodbank</b>	<a href="mailto:info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk">info@chichester.foodbank.org.uk</a> 01243 773687
<b>Foresters Arms</b>	<a href="http://forestersarms-pub.co.uk">forestersarms-pub.co.uk</a> 01798 867386
<b>Graffham Archive</b>	Robin Brind <a href="mailto:graffhamarchive@outlook.com">graffhamarchive@outlook.com</a> 01798 867619
<b>Graffham Bellringers</b>	Tower Captain Howard Pescott 01798 867029
<b>Graffham Bowls Club</b>	Chairman Sheila Allen 01798 342869
	Secretary Liz Pegram 01798 867770
<b>Graffham Down Trust</b>	Chairman Jim Kirke 01798 867026
<b>Graffham Garden Group</b>	Carole Kirke 01798 867026
<b>Graff'm Health Support Assc</b>	Chairman Sarah Lydiard-Wilson 01798 867567
	Membership Tracy Rowe 07881 698993
	Transport 07391 802541
	Prescription collection Ann Rowney <a href="mailto:ann.rowney@icloud.com">ann.rowney@icloud.com</a>
	Loan of equipment Karin Skanberg 07920 091014

<b>Graffham Lunch Club</b>		Sarah Lydiard-Wilson	01798 867567
<b>Graffham Nursery</b>		School Office	01798 867324
<b>Graffham Parish Council</b>	Chairman	Gillian Charlesworth	gillian.charlesworth@graffham-pc.uk
	Clerk	Caroline Davison	clerk@graffham-pc.uk
<b>Graffham Parish News</b>	Editorial and circulation:	editor.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com	
	Advertising:	ads.graffhamparishnews@gmail.com	
			See also inside front cover
<b>Graffham with Woolavington Parochial Church Council</b>		stgilesgraffham.org	
	Priest-in-Charge	Rev Vivien Turner	01798 867199
			hallo@stgilesgraffham.org
	Churchwardens	Ginny Barrett	01798 867113
		Cindy Bradley	07787 516522
	Treasurer	Dinah Lamming	graффhampctreasurer@gmail.com
<b>Graffham Rec Committee</b>	Chairman	John Bracey	01798 867760
	Treasurer	Bernard Bayly	01798 867042
	Bookings Sec	Sonya Gillespie	graффhamrecpavilion@gmail.com
<b>Graffham Tennis Club</b>	Chairman	Simon Longman	01798 867317
	Membership	David Sanders	07590 117595
	Coaching	Emma Amin	01798 867063
<b>Graffham Village Shop</b>		Jeeva and Vasu	01798 867700
			graффhamvillageshop.co.uk
<b>Graffham Village Shop Assoc</b>	Chairman	Steve Dover	07770 499223
	Treasurer	Andy Jones	andy.jones@graффham.net
	Secretary	Ros Britton	rosalind.britton@btinternet.com
<b>Katherine Maud Guillod Fund</b>	c/o Graffham PC Clerk		graффhampc@gmx.co.uk
<b>Lavington Estate</b>	info@lavingtonstud.co.uk		01798 867275
<b>Lavington Park Federation</b>		graффhamanddunton.w-sussex.sch.uk	
	Graffham CE Infant School		01798 867324
	Dunton CE Junior School		01798 342402
	Friends of Graffham & Dunton Schools		01798 867324
<b>Long Bostle Downland Soc</b>		Gillian Brandt	01798 867276
<b>MP Arundel &amp; South Downs</b>		Andrew Griffith	andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk
<b>Midhurst &amp; Petworth Observer</b>		Nikki Jeffery	01243 534163
<b>National Trust (Lavington Common)</b>			01730 816638
<b>Neighbourhood Watch</b>		Michael Crickmay	01798 867486
<b>Osteopath</b>		Anna Shawcross	01798 867523
<b>Oil Buying Syndicate</b>		Derek Bradnum	derekbradnum@gmail.com
<b>Petworth Food Bank</b>			07501 921617
<b>Pilates at Empire Hall</b>		Nicky Capes	07990 517858
<b>Potholes To report a pothole or other road problem online</b>			bit.ly/report-potholes-west-sussex
<b>Seaford College</b>			01798 867392
<b>Three Moles</b>		Ollie and Tom	thethreemoles.com 01798 861303
<b>Thursday Club</b>	Secretary	Diane Bellis	01798 867444
<b>West Sussex County Council</b>		General enquiries	01243 777100
	County Councillor	Tom Richardson	07463 785039
<b>The Woodcote (formerly White Horse)</b>		thewoodcote.com	01798 867331
<b>Yoga at Empire Hall</b>		Deborah Albon	07790 367009

