

What wonderful weather to enjoy our beautiful community!

The sun has certainly shone over the last few weeks and we hope you've had an opportunity to enjoy our beautiful surroundings. From BBQs in gardens to walks by the canal, to trips to the Swan Inn, many of us have been out and about.

Did you know that we've even had a visit from Wiltshire Life? The August edition (in shops now) has a 3 page feature on 'The not-so-famous five of Grafton' with amazing photographs of some of our local sights.

There aren't as many events in the community diary for the summer holiday weeks but plans are in place for activities and events at the Coronation Hall in the Autumn. In the meantime Friends of Grafton has its last fundraising event of the year, The Grand Draw, with some fantastic prizes donated by local businesses – please do buy tickets.

Celebrate the Great Outdoors at the Grafton Community Camp – Friday 6 August

We will be making the most of our amazing outdoor setting at the Community Camp on the school playing field on Friday 6 August from 4.30pm until noon on Saturday 7 August. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust will be showing us how to hunt for bugs, detect bats and set traps for small mammals. We'll also be camp cooking over a real fire and orienteering on the Green.

Everyone is welcome - children must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring a tent and bedding - loos and basic washing facilities will be available at School. There will be a BBQ supper & continental breakfast. The camp will close at 12 noon on Saturday 7 August. There will be a small charge of £25 per family to cover food and activities. For more information and to book please email camp@graftonparish.com

Securing the future of our parish school

Back in the first edition of the Community News the Governing Body of Grafton C of E Primary School confirmed its intent to develop some form of partnership with another local school.

Why? Because change is necessary for us to become first choice for parents in the parish. Our small school offers many benefits upon which we can build by a partnership with a local school whilst also addressing the concerns that parents have expressed through our recent parish wide parent survey. One concern is that Grafton is not a feeder school to the preferred secondary school of many parents, limited friendship groups because of small year group sizes, siblings being in the same class and concerns about mixed age classes.

We're aware that 'going public' with our intent to partner with another school may have created some uncertainty in the community but the Governing Body believes it is important for all members of the parish to know that we are managing our future positively. We want to be on the front foot and shaping change.

So how are we doing? Progress has been slower than we would have liked, however please be assured that we are doing everything we can to secure the future of a vital part of our community and we will keep everyone informed as plans develop further.

In the meantime we continue to develop the range of opportunities we offer our pupils through innovative and creative collaborative work with other local schools. If you have children starting school in September 2011 you may already be considering school choices. Your local school is a vital part of your community - come and see how Grafton Primary can provide your child with the best start to their school life with small class sizes, high levels of support and attention and tailored education plans for every child.

GRAFTON GAUMONT

at The Coronation Hall, East Grafton

Bar and refreshment interval with ice cream!

KEEPING MUM

Thursday 15 July at 7.30pm
Doors Open 7pm

TICKETS £3.50 in advance
or £4.00 on the door

TO BOOK TICKETS:

Leave your name and contact information
on **01672 810406**
or email hall@graftonparish.com
or put the money + your name in the Hall letterbox
or purchase from East Sands Store Burbage

A few reviews to wet your appetite!

This is an almost perfect "naughty" English comedy whose humour is too complicated to be described. Rowan Atkinson, Maggie Smith, and the rest of the cast are perfect. This is the most understated I have ever seen Atkinson, and marks an interesting evolution for him. Two young ladies in front of me were still giggling halfway through the closing credits, and the entire audience, judging from the laughter, had a great time.

You really must see this movie - it is a gem - if you know people who don't normally go to the movies urge them to see this one, or at least rent the DVD.

Kristin Scott Thomas started out as being being a bit of a female Hugh Grant in Four Weddings and a Funeral and showed that she can be quite funny.

Maggie Smith is as ever excellent. The rest of the cast play their archetypal characters or in the case of Patrick Swayze's caricature well.

Grafton's 10km walk/run - Sunday 19 September

Have you started training for the 10km run/walk on Sunday 19 September across our beautiful Wiltshire downland? Funds raised will go to Wiltshire Air Ambulance and St. Nicholas Church, Grafton. Entry forms are now available from Gabby Walker gabsw@tiscali.co.uk

Henrietta Mackinnon, local personal trainer has compiled some training tips and we'll be publishing more as we countdown to the event. With just over 2 months to go, Hen suggests:

- Dig out your trainers. It is important to run in proper running/sport trainers that have enough cushioning and support. It is an off road event and you will need trainers with some grip.
- Start training gently. Walking/running intervals is a good way to start – eg. walking for 1 minute then running 1 minute, slowly increasing the running intervals.
- Always warm up and cool down, and stretch sufficiently afterwards to avoid injury. Pay special attention to hamstring, calf and thigh stretches.
- The run is a multi-terrain event with a hill or two so don't practice only on roads and do include some hill work - The Roman Road at Wilton is a perfect training location!
- Eat a sensible balanced diet with plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. Protein is important for muscle recovery as well as plenty of slow release energy carbohydrates. Eating a small snack after running such as a banana will help to aid recovery.
- Hydration – don't mistake thirst for hunger. The recommended non-running daily fluid consumption is 6-8 glasses of water so you will need additional fluid whilst running. Remember in hot weather you will sweat more and lose vital salts so it is important to replace them.

Remember – enjoy your training. Look around you as you train at the fabulous countryside. Breathe in fresh air. Running or walking improves your energy levels. It will help you feel invigorated, fitter and healthier.

Grafton Life meets Lyndsey Turner, Play Leader at Sunflowers Pre School

Jack, Cerys, Louise, Stacey and Liam, the senior pupils at Grafton School continue their interviews with local people. This month they meet Lyndsey Turner, Play Leader at Sunflowers Pre School.

What is your job?

I'm the Play Leader at Sunflowers and I work with the Play Assistants Trish Highnett and Nicole Fox. We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum which covers a whole range of skills for little ones designed to equip them for when they move on to school. The children learn through play and each activity is linked to specific part of the EYFS. The best part of my job is playing with the children and seeing them develop.

What is Sunflowers?

Sunflowers is our local Pre School for children from age 2 to rising 5. We're 'Committee Run' which means that whilst we're attached to Grafton School, we're run by a team of volunteers rather than the Local Authority. We're based in a purpose built extension at Grafton School and we have our own garden where lots of our play takes place. We also regularly explore the School playing field and the Green. We're open from 9am until 3pm on Mondays and Wednesdays and 9am until 12.30pm on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Where do you live?

I live in Lynden Close, East Grafton with my husband Kevin and our son Luke. Luke is in Year 3 at Grafton School. We've lived in East Grafton for 7 years

What do you do in your spare time?

I wish I had more! I enjoy days out with Luke and Kevin, particularly to the beach and country fairs. I also help at Grafton School when needed and I'm involved with fundraising and community activities with Friends of Grafton.

Bargains Galore!

The Coronation Hall was inundated with bargain hunters on Saturday 12 June for the Grafton Grand Garage Sale. A huge team of volunteers helped to sort out the car loads of jumble that were delivered from all corners of the parish. The helpers all worked tirelessly from Friday afternoon right up to the start time on Saturday afternoon. People were queuing from 1pm waiting for the doors to open at 2pm and then the rush began!

We hope that you all managed to grab a bargain or enjoy a cup of tea and a cake. All that jumble was turned into over £1000 which was split between Friends of Grafton, Coronation Hall and the Defibrillator Scheme. Left over items were donated to Cossar's Shop in Pewsey, with the clothes being bagged up for the Bags2School collection. Thank you to everyone who helped, donated and bought – we hope you enjoyed it!

Funds raised for the Hall are put to immediate use....

Visitors will already see the freezer in the kitchen and a wall cupboard for the smaller items will be put up soon.

All the proceeds from 12 June have been used to provide these necessary facilities. Thank you to all those who helped and supported us.

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A selection of scarves, handbags & jewels
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West Grafton

It all adds up to a great start...



Every pre school or nursery has qualities and traits that make it individual. Sunflowers is your local pre school - what makes us special?

There are the obvious points – high levels of individual attention for children, great relationships with parents, a fabulous team, easy access to a secure stimulating garden and the beautiful outside space at school and the Green plus lots of activities and resources to stimulate children’s development. But what really sets Sunflowers apart is our imaginative approach – making learning through play really great fun.

Take the past couple of terms as an example – lots of visitors and visit activity to support our learning topics. There has been some hugely enjoyable messy play in the garden. We’ve made glasses in preparation for a visit from the optician, road signs to support a road safety visit, talked about teeth before a visit from the dentist and chatted about our pets and animals in advance of the vet’s visit. We’ve had a special Saturday event for Fathers’ Day and an exciting trip to Cobb’s Farm to taste and pick a range of fruits - a great deal of tasting in fact!

The Sunflowers environment is friendly and warm, enabling children to develop confidence and form friendships with other children they will see at other times when out and about during the week or at community events. It is a fabulous early experience – helping children to develop a love of learning which provides a great foundation for school.

If you are considering options for your little one as they turn 2 years old then call us on 0774 834 9856 or pop in and see us. We are open until 3pm Monday and Wednesday and 12.30pm on Tuesday and Friday.

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MOBILE LIBRARY TIMINGS: *Devizes Route H* **21 July, 4 and 18 August**
Marten post box 11.30-11.50am Severalls E Grafton 1.00-1.15pm
Grafton Primary School 1.20-2.00pm

Dates for your diary

Notice boards and **www.graftonparish.com** will have the latest updates. All events take place in the Coronation Hall unless otherwise specified.

JULY

- 12 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 14 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 15 19.30 Grafton Gaumont on the Green
- 16 09.30 Dinky Dancers
- 16 10.30 Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group
- 18 11.00 Parish Communion *St Nicholas*
- 19 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 19 19.00 Bingo
- 21 19.00 Horticultural Society

AUGUST

- 02 19.00 Bingo
- 06 16.30 Community camp begins *Grafton School*
- 15 11.00 Parish Communion *St Nicholas*
- 16 19.00 Bingo
- 19 19.30 Grafton Gaumont on the Green

Don't forget to sign up for Circuit Training and Yoga in time for the new term in September. These classes are very popular and a great place to meet up, feel great and then face the rest of the week!
Contact details on page 4.

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Back in balance PILATES in East Grafton!

Mondays 5.30-6.30pm from Monday 6 September
Thursdays 1.30-2.30pm from Thursday 9 September
All levels welcome. Highly experienced teacher.
8 week course @ £60

Further details and to make a reservation contact Caroline McCord on **07817 503546** or **caroline@backinbalancepilates.com** or **01672 511360** or **www.backinbalancepilates.com**
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Crofton Vegetable and Flower show

A small show for local gardeners and children will be open for viewing on August Bank Holiday Sunday and Monday.

If you live/work/play within 15 miles of Crofton you can enter (forms in local shops, the Pumping Station or **01672 870300**.)

Adult and children's classes available, including the family scarecrow competition which will be judged by the public!

This promises to be an entertaining event following on from the success last year. The show will be set up on the Saturday and we look forward to receiving your entry forms! You are welcome to the show to support local talent whether you enter or not!

Coronation Hall bookings 01672 810406

Avoid disappointment! Book early to use the Coronation Hall. Private bookings are not shown in the calendar here so please make sure that you telephone or email **hall@graftonparish.com** in good time.

To contact us:- **news@graftonparish.com** or a note into the letterbox by the hall.
You are invited to contribute to the next issue by Friday August 6 and the earlier the better of course!
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Useful contacts

Societies/Clubs/Organisations: 1 line free entry
Email news@graftonparish.com to be listed below.

Friendship of Grafton	01672 810349 Libby Gilbert
Cricket Club	pack.andy@googlemail.com
Bingo	hall@graftonparish.com
Windmill Society	susie.brew@hotmail.co.uk
Link Scheme	01672 870120
Church flowers/clean	01672 810743 Sally Butt
Parish Council	mail@graftonparish.com
PCC Secretary	01672 870266 Millie Lemon
Horticultural Soc	01672 810364 Marijke Craig
Art Club	libby_gilbert80@hotmail.com
Yoga	01672 841553 Lizzy Hawnt
Adult exercise	01672 810266 Hen Mackinnon
Grafton CofE School	01672 810478 Jill Parr
Sunflowers preschool	07748 349856 Lyndsey Turner

Commercial Advertising

Business based in the Parish: 1 line listing – Free
Business based outside the Parish: 1 line – £1/issue. £10/pa.
Rates per issue for larger listing
1/12 page £5 1/6 page £10 1/4 page £15
Discounts for 6 months and 12 months

Disco and Karaoke	Pete Vallis	01672 811326
Wellbeing Centre	Amanda Toon	01672 811677
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Seasoned Hardwood Logs	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Kindling	Jo Harman	01672 810673
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Hat hire	Victoria Frost	01672 810386
KACIS Ironing Service	Karen Evans	07920 755372
Babysitting	Gemma Appleford	01672 871016
Furniture	Holgate & Pack	01672 870887
House Sitting	Maxine Wallis	07879 993150

Excitement in the kitchen. A culinary treat in the Coronation Hall!

Professional cooks in our Parish are planning a one off cookery demonstration in September (date to be announced later). They would like ideas from those who are interested. Would you prefer lunch/dinner party menus or some basic cookery techniques?

Send your ideas to news@graftonparish.com or **01672 810406**

News in Brief

Community Speedwatch

The Speedwatch volunteers carried out four traffic surveys in East Grafton during one week in June. Each survey lasted about 45 minutes a total of 790 vehicles passed. Of those, some 44 vehicles were driving in excess of the speed at which notification to Wiltshire Police is required and all of the drivers will receive advisory letters from the Police in due course.

One driver was recorded twice during the week and one lady driver managed to pass through at 53mph. It is expected that these people will receive more than advisory letters! Several drivers stopped to talk with us and were very supportive of what we were doing.

The data shows that 5.5% of vehicles were driven too fast. We will repeat the surveys in a few weeks, with the sole aim of slowing down the minority of traffic which passes through without regard for the 30mph speed limit.

Parish Council Update

The Parish Council met on Thursday 1 July at the Coronation Hall. Chris Garman, the new Parish Council Chairman, led the meeting, which covered Speedwatch (see above), Hall Committee progress, Planning update and initiatives from the Area Board.

The next meeting is on Thursday 9 September at 7.15 pm at the hall and everyone is welcome.

Pewsey Area Board Visits Grafton

On 5 July, it was the turn of Grafton to host the bi-monthly meeting which was very well attended.

The main topics covered were:

- Waste & Recycling – As part of the review for waste collection and recycling in the county, it is proposed that there will be a fortnightly doorstep collection of plastic bottles and cardboard and that the annual charge for garden waste wheelie bins will be scrapped. Leaflets outlining the proposals in detail together with a feedback form can be found in the lobby of the Coronation Hall or obtained from Wiltshire Council.
- Health – Results from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment were presented.
- Street Lighting – A survey on street lights will be undertaken to identify any that can be switched off between midnight and 5am.
- Grants – The Grafton Goslings won a grant of £989 for equipment and providing a secure outdoor play area.

The next Area Board meeting is Monday 6 September at 7pm at Burbage Village Hall. Any grant applications to be considered at this meeting need to be submitted by 23 July. Full details on the application process, Area Boards and any consultations can be found on the Wiltshire Council website

www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

New Website for Wiltshire Police

Wiltshire Police has a new website which is packed full of information. Register with your postcode and you'll see neighbourhood policing information and updates relevant to this area. www.wiltshire.police.uk There's also a feature which enables you to vote for the issue that you think should be the main priority for PC Derrick Foord and our Neighbourhood policing team.

Grafton Goslings Treasure Hunt and Family Fun afternoon raises over £300

Children across the Parish had great fun at the Treasure Hunt and Family Fun Afternoon on Sunday 4 July. With the rain holding off, children dressed as a host of nursery rhyme characters enjoyed a nursery rhyme themed treasure hunt all over the Green. Humpty Dumpty sat on the Old Rectory Wall, Miss Muffet was on her tuffet on a large tree stump, whilst the Teddy Bears were having a picnic under the tall trees and Dingle Dangle Scarecrow was a real hit.

Congratulations to the fancy dress competition winners Holly Clemence dressed as Little Bo Peep and Edward Pearson as Little Boy Blue. Other activities at the hall included children's races, the Wimbledon Men's Final on the large screen, hot dogs, cream teas, a bran tub, face painting and Pimms.

The monies raised will be used to purchase additional toys and resources for Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group who meet at the Coronation Hall on Fridays 10.30am until 12.30pm. The last session this term is on Friday 16 July when there will be an end of term party. Goslings will meet again in September – more information in next month's Community News.