

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dates for your diary

All events take place in the Coronation Hall unless otherwise specified. *St N* refers to St Nicholas' Church.

JULY

04	11.00	Holy Communion <i>St N</i>
05	14.00	Alzheimer's Support Memory Cafe
06	12.30	Winter Warmers
12	19.15	Parish Council public meeting
14	09.00	Bag2School collection <i>Sunflowers at Grafton</i>
19	14.00	Alzheimer's Support Memory Cafe
28	11.40	Mobile Library visits

AUGUST

02	14.00	Alzheimer's Support Memory Cafe
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Following last month's bumper edition containing reports from organisations across the Parish and the Parish Council annual report we have shrunk back to our usual size this month. Those reports displayed just how much happens behind the scenes to keep the wheels turning, and how many people generously give their time to keep Grafton Parish a great place to live and work.

Our July edition has information about activities for all ages - from babies and toddlers at Grafton Goslings, summer activities for young people and the return of the monthly Winter Warmers lunch.

As always all comments are welcome at news@graftonparish.com so do please let us know what you think.



Like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/GraftonParishCommunityNews or follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/graftonparish.



Grafton Goslings - having a lovely time every Thursday morning ...

It has been so lovely to see the Coronation Hall abuzz with chatter and play at Grafton Goslings again. Very many of the little ones coming to play are just starting to realise that the world does contain other small people like them which has been wonderful to see.

We are very pleased to confirm that we are now back to our usual drop in arrangements. No need to prebook - everyone is welcome to come and join us for coffee, chat and fun for the little ones from 10am to 11.30am every Thursday during term time.

COVID guidelines remain in place of course so please bring a face covering and adhere to social distancing rules. If numbers attending creep up to the point that social distancing becomes difficult we may need to review the drop-in policy (fingers crossed this won't be necessary).

For further information have a look at our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Graftongoslings/

FREE FUNDAYS



**SUNDAY 25TH JULY -
SUNDAY 22ND AUGUST**
11^{AM} - 4^{PM}
BOUVERIE HALL CAR PARK
PEWSEY, WILTSHIRE



Calling young people from Grafton Parish

28 July @ 6.30pm Coronation Hall – Activity Planning BBQ

Come along and help plan future events for Grafton Youth Activities, Get involved and determine what you'd like to make happen, where and how often the group should meet and even create a new name for it.

Bring your local friends and find out more about it and tell us what activities you want to enjoy in the future with Grafton Youth Activities. At the same time help with a BBQ and enjoy consuming the results!

Parents who would like to know more and/or could volunteer help with the group are very welcome to come along too.

If you'd like more information contact Annie on 07802 923 344 or email youthactivities@graftonparish.com, otherwise we'll see you there.

Any relevant Covid 19 Guidance will be observed to keep everyone safe.

Grafton Youth Activities is an initiative started by Grafton Parish Council and is aimed at young people at secondary school or in further education.

AGES 11+
8 to 11s may attend with their parents
Bring your own scooters, bikes & skateboards
Staff supervising the safety for all events



Have you been hanging on to take items to a charity shop? Here is an alternative ...

Sunflowers at Grafton Bag2School collection

Take the opportunity for a clear out and help us raise funds. Bag up good quality used adult and child clothes, bags, paired shoes, belts, hats, scarves and ties and drop it off at Sunflowers on Wednesday 14 July, 9am.

We have chosen not to add to the mass of one-use plastic and have not included the usual blue bag. Please use existing plastic bags that you have at home to bundle your contribution. Spread the word to family and friends – encourage them to have a clear out too. **Drop off your Bag2School bags on Wednesday 14 July by 9am - thank you**

Gaps to fill in your garden? Look no further than the Green. Plants are being sold in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support at one of the cottages just off the A338 before the Coronation Hall.



CARRIAGE DRIVING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE

Anyone who watched the highly moving and beautifully arranged funeral of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, must have felt a deep sadness on seeing the empty driving seat of his carriage harnessed to two of his much-loved fell ponies.

Recreational Carriage Driving was given a major boost by Prince Philip in the 1970s and now provides open-air therapy and excitement, not just to those who can afford a pony and trap but also to less fortunate people suffering from mental or physical disabilities.

Based near Marlborough, the Wansdyke Carriage Driving Group provides this kind of service to ambulant and wheelchair-using people on Tuesday and Thursday mornings throughout the year (Covid restrictions allowing). Under the control of Riding for the Disabled, carriage driving has evolved as a very safety-aware recreational opportunity for disabled people and the Wansdyke Group enjoys the use of two fine driving horses and the privilege of incomparable driving in the local countryside.

Needless to say, for every disabled person, the Group needs able helpers. At least three are required to attend an ambulant person, one of whom has to be a fully-assessed RDA Coach (formerly known as a Whip). The other two helpers, or four to load an occupied wheelchair onto the carriage, need not be experienced in carriage-driving or riding but need to be prepared to help disabled people once a week for about three hours.

The Group has been very recently assessed by the RDA as meeting their high standards for safety and competency and is a happy and enthusiastic team. We are looking for more helpers and offer our services to any disabled person who might like to benefit from this wonderful therapy and opportunity to engage in this absorbing activity.

Anyone interested, either as a helper or as a disabled person, should contact the Group Secretary, wcdg18@gmail.com or 07930 341524 (please leave contact details if no reply).

Wansdyke Carriage Driving Group
Charity No 1180584

News in brief

Grafton Parish Council The Parish website has been updated with the names of all new Parish Councillors and their specific responsibilities - www.graftonparish.com/grafton-parish-council/

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) election A new date has been set for the re-run of Swindon and Wiltshire's PCC election. The new ballot will be held later this summer, on August 19.

Wiltshire household recycling centres Wiltshire Council is ending its online booking system for visits to its household recycling centres, so we will soon be able to return to visiting a site during normal opening hours on an ad hoc basis. These changes will come into effect from the date that the Government confirms social distancing requirements will be ended, currently proposed to be 19 July.

Walkers are Welcome status for the Vale of Pewsey Achieving the accreditation to recognise the quality of walking in the Pewsey Community Area is getting ever closer, but we still need some more signatures to show local support! This scheme ensures that rights of way in scope are maintained for use by everyone and encourages people to visit the area, supporting our local economy. For more information and to register your support, go to www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/waw.

Timmy B Yoga

Coronation Hall East Grafton

Wednesdays

Yoga 9.30 – 10.30am

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Calendar of regular dates at the Coronation Hall

Shaded entries are not held every week

Monday (first & third in month)	Alzheimer's Cafe	13.15
Monday (every week)	Dance	16.45
Monday (1 a month, alternate months starting February)	PC Planning meeting	13.00
Monday (1 a month, alternate)	PC public meeting	19.15
Tuesday (every week)	Zumba	09.30
Tuesday (first in month)	Winter Warmers	12.30
Tuesday (every week)	Dance	16.15
Wednesday (every week)	Timmy B yoga	09.30
Wednesday (every week)	Dance	15.30
Thursday (weekly in term time)	Goslings toddler club	10.00
Thursday (every week)	Pilates	13.30
Thursday (every week)	Timmy B yoga	15.00
Thursday (every week)	Dance	16.45
Friday (every week)	Pilates	09.30

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and Saturday 10:00 to 4:00.

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Grafton Parish Rounders Challenge 2021

This popular community event is back and planned for **Friday 10 September**. Similar format to previous years with intervillage knock-out matches, BBQ, drinks, and lots to keep little ones occupied. It's always those who come along to enjoy the fun who "make the day".

Start practicing your bat and ball skills and mustering a team! If you can help on the day contact Annie on 07802923344 or youthactivities@graftonparish.com. More details will follow in next month's edition.

Our Vicar writes

In my last letter I spoke about the need to be able to see a vision beyond the here and now. My thoughts are already going forward to September and planning for the future.

In this busy, screen orientated, activity-based world, being together for a short time in church or even online in prayer will change your life. We battled over the last few months to allow people to celebrate life events together. We turned churchyards into churches. We lived with disappointment. We learnt to do things in new and unexpected ways. I am genuinely concerned for the future.

There is a myth, based on Matthew 6:6 that it is sufficient to pray alone to be a Christian. St Paul talks in 1 Corinthians about how we are the body of Christ on earth. The early disciples recognised the risen Lord through the breaking of bread, an act performed together. Eating three times a year and when we have a party, or a wake will not keep us alive. Using churches only on 'special' occasions reduces our rural parishes to private chapels with all that entails politically.

As a church, the body of Christ on earth, we need arms, legs, ears, mouths, heads, and bodies. We do not work alone, but as part of the community of faith. Our body has become emaciated lacking the flesh to make it effective. Some has come about from natural loss, but much from fatigue because too few care for the church for the benefit of the many. It is an unjust situation linked to 'festival or private chapel' mentality.

As 'the body of Christ on earth,' the church is also a human institution. It has costs and is asset rich and income poor. The paper value of the Church of England's assets are not income. Most of the generosity that we see is towards maintaining the assets (roofs, walls, organs, bells) not covering running costs. We are grateful for that generosity. The central church subsidises our team by £50K a year, a subsidy not warranted by our attendance. As a charity, the Church of England, has a duty to use its resources effectively.

I want to talk about the confirmation classes happening in September, the services we are looking forward to, the growth of an internet church, the hope that I hear in the parishes as we return to our buildings. Christianity is a belief based on hope and hope cannot grow in isolation.

Christ does not have a body here on earth unless it is you collectively. I look forward to seeing you as we open out, Michael



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CONTACT LIST TO CUT OUT AND KEEP

Local commercial listing

Bicycle repairs	Peter	07366 418484
B&B Grafton	Victoria Frost	07557 791604
Builder	Sam Sanchez	07887 991249
Celebration Cakes	cakes@nattiesbakesandbites.co.uk	
Computer issues	Stuart	07881 912477
Disco and Karaoke	Pete Vallis	01672 811326
Dog Grooming	Victoria	07786 868192
Dog training/walking	Carrie Holborow	07546 941709
Double glazing	David Willcocks	01672 811979
Flowers	Gill Campbell	07833 670693
Gardening	Sue Upham	01672 810526
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Homeopathy	Emma H-Byass	07540 773531
Logs/tree surgeon	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Personal trainer	Hen Mackinnon	07977 511959
Pest Control	Julie Wilson	01672 811479
Printing	Jane Goldstein	01672 515444
Storage/lock up	David Lemon	01672 870266
Sunflowers at Grafton	Julie McLernon	01672 810478
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Pinckneys Farm	Wendy	07989 228864

Young entrepreneurs

Baby sitting	Sophie	07557 915052
Dog walking	Sebastian Horne	07548 719030

Grafton Parish Council response teams

Parish food bank	Kevin Burke	07713 067113
East Grafton	Kevin Burke	07713 067113
Marten	Richard Pash	07795 636767
West Grafton	Annie Whitcher	07802 923344
Wexcombe	George Hosier	07786 332950
Wilton	David Lemon	07974 400224

For help and information

Link Scheme	0771 7006787	
Police emergency	999 or 112 - information 101	
Member of Parliament	Danny Kruger	01380 729358
County Councillor	Stuart Wheeler	01672 810285

Community Contacts

Church flowers/cleaning	Liz Hosier	01264 731242
Vicar, M. McHugh	01672 870779	
Community News	news@graftonparish.com	
Coronation Hall	07479 281809	hall@graftonparish.com
Junior Cricket	pdewinton@savills.com	
Parish Council	clerk@graftonparish.com	
PCC Secretary	Millie Lemon 01672 870266	
St Nicholas' services	www.savernaketeam.org.uk	
Winter Warmers	01264 731242	liz@wexcombefarm.co.uk
Youth Activities	Text Annie 07802923344	

Local Clubs

Windmill Society	secretary@wiltonwindmill.co.uk	
Horticultural Society	01672 810364 Marijke Craig	
Crofton Beam Engines	crofton@katrust.org.uk	
Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group	graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk	
Dance classes	07746 479345 Charlotte Price	
Pilates	07769 580148 Tracey Rich	
Yoga for All	07747 780898 Tim Brew	
Yoga	01672 841553 Lizzy Hawnt	
Zumba	07710 115324 Joanna Bury	

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References available on request.

07990 512342 Jasonlewis08@aol.com

Village WhatsApp groups - Text or WhatsApp to join: East Grafton (Tamara 07711 824864), West Grafton (Annie 07802 923344), Marten (Richard Pash 07795 636767), Wexcombe (George 07786 332950), Wilton (Tara 07833 320951). New to What's App? We can help - just get in touch.

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