

Looking forward to a busy 2012

Happy New Year to you all!

2012 promises to be a year full of activity and so we hope that the new format Events Calendar on page 3 will be easier to follow for the regular classes and highlight better the less frequent or one-off events.

The Community News is run by volunteers for the parish in order to provide a way of updating the community on what is going on and to provide objective information on parish matters. Although we don't print letters in the Community News, we are always keen to receive feedback to help improve the newsletter. You can do this by dropping a note into the mailbox at the Coronation Hall or by emailing news@graftonparish.com

The round-up of parish events over the festive season is in the article below, but a highlight has to be the award of Grafton's first Freeman of the Parish to Peter Lemon. Presented to him at the Christmas Party by Stuart Wheeler, our Wiltshire Councillor, it was awarded in recognition of the enormous contribution Peter has made to the parish over the years and to mark his retirement from the Parish Council after more than 25 years of service. It was also one of the best kept secrets!

Christmas in Grafton Parish

People enjoyed a packed programme of festive events across the Parish - beginning with Stir-Up Sunday on 20 November, when the Family Service took place at the Coronation Hall and the congregation made Grafton's own Christmas Puddings, expertly led by local caterer, Sue Brady.

There were shopping opportunities galore at the Travelling Souk and at the St Nicholas Fair at the Coronation Hall. Revellers at The Wilton Lights Switch-On, courtesy of Dougie and Sylvia Willcock, got drenched in heavy rain but spirits were not dampened as families packed into The Swan Inn and enjoyed the first visit of the season by Santa who took letters written by children back to Lapland. The December Quiz at the Swan Inn was a particularly competitive affair and the 2011 quizzes raised significant sums for local charities.

St Nicholas was the venue for Sunflowers' Christmas Play which was enjoyed by many parents and grandparents. Following the performance the Sunflowers' Grand Draw was made, with some fantastic prizes kindly donated by local businesses. On Sunday 18 December, the Carol Service at St Nicholas saw the third Christingle candle lit and later that day the Parish Christmas Party was very well attended. The children loved the entertainment from Mad Pete, whilst adults enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies organised by the Hall Committee.

Carols at The Swan on Friday 23 December saw some passionate singing from young and old and on Christmas Eve Santa made his traditional trip around the Parish. The Christmas Day Service at St Nicholas was led by Alan Deboo and many parishioners and their visitors enjoyed the Christmas Day celebrations at The Swan together with another visit from Santa.

Thank you to everyone who organised or attended an event and special thanks to Santa and his Elf. It certainly was a festive season to remember!

NEW POP UP RESTAURANT**Jackamole**

Due to popular demand we will be 'popping up' again

Saturday 25th February 2012

Coronation Hall - East Grafton, Nr Marlborough, Wilts SN8 3DB

A delightful 3 course menu will showcase a selection of delicious fish, meat and vegetarian dishes.

We will also be offering some truly inspirational desserts!

A set price of £28 includes 3 courses, a choice of Jackamole house red or white wine and coffee

Please visit our website to view the menu and book

www.jackamole.co.uk

FUN AND VARIED CIRCUIT TRAINING FOR MIXED ABILITIES

Henrietta MacKinnon 

Mondays 0930, Wednesdays 0930, Fridays 1300 in the Coronation Hall

A FUN mixture of cardiovascular and resistance exercises in varied circuit formats

to help to invigorate, improve fitness and energy levels, tone, enhance self esteem and mood.

You may bring your child to the Monday class - you "work" and they "play" but under your own supervision.

Cost £5.50 per person per session. Sessions booked as a 6 week course.

Suitable for any age 18 years and over with clean bill of health.

Contact : Henrietta MacKinnon on 07977 511959 or henriettamackinnon@yahoo.co.uk

Grafton Parish Clerk vacancy

This is an ideal role for anyone who has an interest in administration and wants to work flexible hours. Minutes are required to be taken by the Clerk at the council meetings (which take place every other month plus an AGM) but otherwise the work can normally be accommodated to suit the person's availability. There is a nominal salary and expenses are paid.

Someone with experience of minute taking combined with good communication and computer skills would be ideal, but training can be provided if necessary. There will also be a handover period to help you become acquainted with the responsibilities and role. If you are interested in applying or finding out more about the position, please contact chairman@graftonparish.com.

Don't miss the AGM!

Grafton Parish Council's AGM will be held on Thursday 29 March at 7.30pm at the Coronation Hall.

Please save the date and come along as this is a good opportunity to find out what is happening in the parish.

Updates will include the Localism Bill and how people can get involved in developing the Grafton Parish plan.

Recycling raises money

Around 60 Christmas Trees were collected from points around the Parish and taken to Burbage for recycling.

Over £160 was raised for Sunflowers and those with IOU's are asked to drop their contribution into Sunflowers as soon as possible.

Thank you to the helpers and those who used the service!



Junipers Creative and Sensory Play "Everything Creative in One Class"

CLASSES AT CORONATION HALL, EAST GRAFTON FROM JANUARY

A 45 minute structured music and sensory class
where babies and toddlers enjoy
singing, sensory discovery, messy play, art and dance



Bubble Berries
4 - 11 months



Rainbow Berries
11 - 22 months



Dazzle Berries
22 months - preschool

BOOK A FREE TRIAL

01672 890 829

www.juniperscreativeplay.com

info@juniperscreativeplay.com

Spaces available
now

Wind of change blows at Wilton Windmill

In spring this year, Wilton Windmill will take delivery of a new shepherd hut. Being hand-built in Somerset, the new accommodation will provide updated catering facilities, much needed storage and a seating area for visitors.

The money to fund the new hut has come from fundraising events over past years as well as a grant from the Leader Fund administered by the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, in which the windmill is situated.

The seating area in the new hut will mean that visitors, in particular school groups, will have somewhere to shelter if the weather is inclement. As a result, an education pack is being created for schools to use in conjunction with their visit. The pack focuses on the different educational aspects of the mill, including engineering, history, art and food production, enabling the schools to target the focus of their visit.

The cost of producing the education pack, as well as other teaching aids and equipment, has been part funded by the Pewsey Area Board through their grant scheme.

There will be an official opening of the new hut, so keep an eye out for the date in the Community News.

Help needed!

If you can spare a couple of hours on Thursday mornings, then Grafton Goslings are interested! We are always looking for volunteers to help with the tea and coffee and the children's refreshments (and the associated clearing up!). You'll be part of a very friendly and jolly team and it's a great opportunity to meet up with people. You can do as many or as few sessions as you want to.

Please call Caroline Pearson on **07974 400228** or email graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested in helping.

Classes coming soon! Coronation Hall Wednesday Afternoon/Evenings



C.A.P Dance & Fitness

Training as a RAD Ballet teacher, ISTD Modern & Tap teacher, and qualified as a NATD Freestyle teacher, C.A.P can offer a variety of dance classes for ages 3+

Offering classes from Pre-Primary to Advanced 2, students can work towards their graded examinations, or just come to enjoy a class with others their own age in a safe environment.

Classes for Children and adults include Ballet, Jazz, Latin, Freestyle, Tap and modern.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Olympic torch route in Wiltshire

The Olympic Torch will be in Wiltshire and close to our parish on Tuesday 22 May and Wednesday 23 May when it passes through Marlborough and again on Wednesday 11 July and Thursday 12 July when it passes through Ludgershall. You can find out more on the Wiltshire Council website - www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Libraries go electronic!

From early 2012 you will be able to borrow e-books for free using your library card. More information and guidance will be available soon, but in the meantime, why not apply for your library card via the Wiltshire Council website?

Police staffing news

Wiltshire Police have confirmed that the replacement team for the Pewsey East area will soon be in place. PCSO Joe Sadd is currently training for his role and the Beat Manager will be joining in the spring.

Horsewatch

A website has been launched for horse owners and equestrian enthusiasts to help tackle equine and rural crime (see also page 3).

Wiltshire Horsewatch - www.wiltshirehorsewatch.co.uk - contains information on how to prevent crime as well as providing access to free tack marking and any latest news. You can also request to be alerted to crimes or suspicious activities in your area via sms and email. The service is free and open to any individual or professional horse owners.

SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH

	Time	Service	Taken by
January			
15	11.00	Holy Communion	Mary Edwards
22	11.00	Family Service	Lay led
February			
05	11.00	Holy Communion	Mary Edwards
19	11.00	Holy Communion	Alan Deboo
26	11.00	Family Service	TBA

Services at St Nicholas' Church were well attended over the Christmas period as was the Christmas Fair in the Coronation Hall.

The "Stir up Sunday" Christmas puddings were very special indeed and were completely sold out - superb flavour, very light and something to look forward to next year perhaps!

Onwards and upwards ...

Into 2012 we go with no let up in momentum. We have welcomed eleven new families to Sunflowers in January which is fantastic news. The majority are under 5's who come to play and learn during the day, the remainder are primary school pupils attending our new Breakfast Club.

We're delighted to have set up our Breakfast Club in conjunction with Great Bedwyn Primary School - providing parents who need an earlier start to drop off children with us from 7.50am. After a healthy breakfast we take them over to Great Bedwyn and accompany them directly to their classrooms for the start of the school day.

This marks the beginning of our provision for primary school pupils, which will continue with a Holiday Club during the February school holiday (week commencing 13 February). The club will offer an exciting and wide ranging programme of activities and will be promoted through our local schools very shortly.

If you like the sound of what we are doing at Sunflowers and would like to be involved please do contact us. We'd love to hear from you - whether you'd like to come and help for an hour or so, can offer DIY skills we can utilise (we always have lots of jobs to do!) or would like to get involved with the management team.



Crime update

Wiltshire Police have reported that most crime categories have reduced over the last twelve months, giving an overall reduction of 7%.

However, non-dwelling burglaries have risen sharply. These types of burglaries are from farm buildings, garages, workshops and sheds and mainly involve theft of scrap metal, plant, fuel or vehicles, in particular quad bikes.

To help prevent the thefts taking place, Police advise using 'property dna' products to mark items of value and to ensure that valuable items are secure.

The Police are also running spot checking procedures on quads, trailers and vans and have a number of leads currently underway.

Reminders!

Remember that you can subscribe to the local Neighbourhood Watch notification scheme by emailing nhw@graftonparish.com and putting Subscribe in the subject field. Once you are on the list, you will automatically receive alerts whenever the Police send them out. If you move out of the area or want to come off the list, then just email the same address but with Unsubscribe in the heading.

There are still a few airhorns available for anyone who requires one. At just £10 each they are excellent value and proceeds go to the Defibrillator fund. The airhorns can be used to alert neighbours to come and help you if you are in trouble and can be ordered by emailing defib@graftonparish.com.

Events, clubs and other dates for your diary

All events take place in the Coronation Hall unless otherwise specified.

JANUARY

16	19.00	Horticultural Society
23	19.00	Bingo

FEBRUARY

06	19.00	Bingo
20	19.00	Bingo
25	12.00	Pop-up Restaurant

Regular weekly dates for your diary

TUESDAY



10.00 to 11.00 Tuesday

TUESDAY & THURSDAY



09.15 to 10.00 Tuesday

13.30 to 14.30 Thursday

Pilates Classes

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

CIRCUIT & FITNESS TRAINING	09.30 TO 10.30 Monday
	09.30 to 10.30 Wednesday
Henrietta MacKinnon	13.00 to 14.00 Friday

TUESDAY

YOGA



19.30 to 21.00 Tuesday

THURSDAY



Baby and toddler group
10.00 to 11.30 Thursday

WEDNESDAY



Junipers
Creative and Sensory Play
"Everything Creative in One Class"

11 months to preschool	11.15 to 12.00 Wednesday
4-11 months	12.30 to 13.15 Wednesday



C.A.P Dance & Fitness

3-4yrs Baby ballet	15.30 to 16.00 Wednesday
4-5yrs Pre primary ballet	16.00 to 16.30 Wednesday
5-6yrs Primary ballet	16.30 to 17.00 Wednesday
5-6yrs Primary Modern	17.00 to 17.30 Wednesday
7-8yrs Grade 2 ballet	17.30 to 18.00 Wednesday
12-14yrs Grade 3 Modern	18.00 to 18.30 Wednesday
13yrs to Adult Latin and ballroom	18.30 to 19.00 Wednesday

Please note that most classes do not run during school holidays. Please check directly with the relevant organiser

Bookings 01672 810406 or hall@graftonparish.com
Please leave landline contact numbers wherever possible

Useful contacts

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

Art Club	libby_gilbert80@hotmail.com
Bingo	hall@graftonparish.com
Church flowers/clean	01672 810743 Sally Butt
Circuit/fitness Training	01672 810266 Hen Mackinnon
Community News	news@graftonparish.com
Coronation Hall	01672 810406 hall@graftonparish.com
Cricket Club	pack.andy@googlemail.com
Dance and fitness	07746 479345 Charlotte Price
Grafton Goslings	graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk
Horticultural Soc	01672 810364 Marijke Craig
Juniper's sensory play	01672 890829
Link Scheme	01672 870120
Parish Council	clerk@graftonparish.com
PCC Secretary	01672 870266 Millie Lemon
Pilates	07788 970976 Beth Knight
Police emergency	999 or 112
Police non emergency	101
Sunflowers at Grafton	01672 810478 Lyndsey Turner
Wednesday Club	01672 810349 Libby Gilbert
Windmill Society	susie.brew@hotmail.co.uk
Yoga	01672 841553 Lizzy Hawnt
Zumba	07747 617199 Lau Vergara

Local commercial listing

B&B West Grafton	Angie Orsich	01672 810339
Baby sitting/odd jobs	Tom Nield	01672 870196
Baby sitting	Florence Butt	01672 810743
Beauty & wellbeing	Amanda Toon	01672 811677
Builder	Sam Sanchez	07887 991249
Disco and Karaoke	Pete Vallis	01672 811326
Disco and Party	Steve	01672 811109
Furniture	Holgate & Pack	01672 870887
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Hair and Beauty	Katherine Le Bon	07770 945307
Hat Hire	Victoria Frost	01672 810386
Holiday Cottages (local)	Mary Rhodes	01672 870659
House Sitting	Maxine Wallis	07879 993150
Ironing Service	Karen Evans	07920 755372
Kindling	Jo Harman	01672 810673
Logs	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Odd jobs/gardening	Dan Oakey	07810 381783
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Pest Control	Julie Wilson	01672 811479
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Usborne Books	Trish Highnett	07775 941646

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

To contact us:- news@graftonparish.com or a note into the letterbox on the hall. Deadline for the next issue is Friday 3 February. Editorial rights reserved.

Lost property

A coat went missing at the Christmas Party at the Hall—if you picked it up by mistake we would love to be able to reunite it with its owner! It's a man's overcoat (short length) and has a torch in one of the pockets. Contact news@graftonparish.com or call **01672 810406** if you can help.

Doctor's update

Unfortunately Dr Tim Ballard was unable to provide an update this month due to personal reasons but his regular article will be back next month.

Home safety checks

Home Fire Safety Checks and information packs are available from Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service. To obtain a pack or book a visit, go to www.wiltshire.gov.uk or call **0800 389 7849**.



Helping older people to live at home for longer

The Bedwyns, Burbage, Grafton, Tidcombe and Fosbury
Contact Mary Soellner 07557 110418

Jason Lewis

Carpenter

Carpentry & Maintenance

All building work undertaken, painting, Tiling, all types of locks, kitchens, home improvements, plastic doors & windows, general maintenance.

References available on request.

01488 686293 07990512342 Jasonlewis08@aol.com

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