

2012 plans are beginning to take shape

It is freezing as we put this issue of the Community News together. Winter has arrived, the blossoming camellia has turned from bright pink to wrapping paper brown and toboggans have been unearthed from sheds and garages in anticipation of more snow.

The calendar is quieter this month but events are now being planned for 2012 and you are all invited to get involved with anything which interests you from the wide variety of activities that are advertised in this and future issues of the Community News.

If you find the Community News a useful way of keeping up-to-date with all that's going on in Grafton Parish each month and you're on Facebook or Twitter - why not follow some of these local organisations for more local news? Just a few of the local contributors are Grafton Parish is Great, Sunflowers at Grafton, Wilton Windmill and Farming Fred. Looking forward to connecting online soon!

Time has run out for the free web site facility used for our Parish site and so much work is required to move www.graftonparish.com onto a new cost effective solution for the Parish. We will let you know more as soon as we can.

QUIZ NIGHT
Thursday
23 February



7.30 pm
Coronation Hall
Prize for
winning team

Tickets £8 to include
a super ploughman's supper followed by apple pie and cream

Bar available with wine, beer and soft drinks for sale.

Tickets from Ronnie Pearson 01672 811997 or
ronnie.pearson1@btinternet.com

Proceeds towards Sunflowers at Grafton

A message from a Grafton First Responder

If you should need to call any of the emergency services please remember to draw attention to your property with lighting and your air horn. Quick identification of where you are does speed up critical response times.

Air Horns are still available - email defib@graftonparish.com to order

A time to remember

St Nicholas' Church has a long tradition of displaying lilies during the Easter period. Each lily is bought in memory of someone dear and departed.

The cost of a lily is £2.50. Easter is a fitting time to remember loved ones who have died and a lily is a fitting expression of remembrance.

St Nicholas' Church is open every day so why not go and admire the flowers over Easter?

To order lilies please contact Sally Butt on **01672 810743** as soon as possible

**CROFTON BEAM ENGINES 2012**

The café and site will open daily from 10 March 10.30am - 5pm

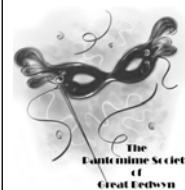
**2012 is the 200th anniversary of the
Boulton and Watt Engine at Crofton.**

Officially the **world's oldest Beam engine** still doing its original job.

To celebrate the bicentenary we have reduced the prices:

- Under 16's FREE admission when accompanied by a fee paying adult
- If you pay for a steam day ticket you will be entitled to visit the beam engines FREE as often as you like, including static days, for one calendar year.
- There is no charge to go into the café and grounds and we have sunk a new bore hole so we have wonderfully clear drinking water!

See the next issue for details of Spring and Easter events



**THE PANTOMIME SOCIETY
OF GREAT BEDWYN**
presents:

"Sinbad the Sailor"
By John Morley

In this colourful and exciting pantomime, Sinbad sets sail for the island of Nirvana in search of the Princess Pearl who was stolen on her wedding day by a wicked Sorcerer. Assisted by his crew, he meets his love and has to overcome evil magic, the cruelty of the Old Man of the Sea and the threat of man eating plants before his quest is over.

7.30pm on Wednesday 15 to Saturday 18 February

2.30pm Matinee on Saturday

at The Village Hall, Great Bedwyn

Tickets: Adults £7.50, Children and concessions £5.00

Available from Louise Heffernan on 01672 870195

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

The Parish Council is looking for as many volunteers as we can muster for the June Jubilee Celebrations in the Parish. Please email mail@graftonparish.com for information and to offer your help. There will be more news in the next issue of course.

MANNINGFORD CROFT

PROPERTY SALES
AND LETTINGS

MACLAINE

Tel: **01672 564555**

Website: **www.manningfordcroft.com**

Contact: Mark Chick/Simon Walker

Community Notice Board

A new notice board will soon be available outside the Coronation Hall for all notices and advertising. It is advisable to laminate any posters to keep them fresh.

The Hall foyer notice board will revert to Hall Committee use in future.

Parish Council Update

The Parish Council met on 12 January 2012 and were delighted to welcome David Lemon from Wilton and Jack Frost from West Grafton on to the team. David will be looking after the Jubilee celebrations and Jack will be responsible for roads, footpaths and the police. All 5 villages in the parish are now represented on the parish council, which means that everyone has a 'local' person to contact. Other highlights included:

- Mike Hyslop provided an update on the Localism Bill work which will progress through a parish residents' sub-committee of the Parish Council.
- The Pewsey Area Board had awarded a grant to the Wilton Windmill Society for the production of an education pack for schools.
- The playing field behind Sunflowers has now transferred to the ownership of the parish. A public meeting to discuss how we proceed will be held in the Spring. Full details of the meeting and contact information can all be found on all hamlet notice boards and on the parish website – **www.graftonparish.com**.

Don't miss the AGM! Refreshments will be available!

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

News in Brief

Potholes a thing of the past!

Wiltshire Council has notified the Parish Council that the A338 will be closed every night from Monday 5 March 2012 for approximately 10 days, between the hours of 7pm and 6am from the Burbage roundabout to the Berkshire County border.

This undoubtedly will cause some inconvenience, but hopefully the improvements from the drainage and carriageway repairs, resurfacing, road marking and stud replacement work that they will be undertaking will be worth it!

Become a volunteer lock keeper

Waterway lovers are being offered the chance to volunteer as a lock keeper for the Canal & River Trust, the charity that takes over British Waterways' responsibility for 2,000 miles of waterways in England & Wales later this year.

Lock keepers have been a fixture on Britain's canals for hundreds of years and while some duties remain the same, today's lock keepers don't have as difficult a time as their early predecessors who had to haul heavy lock gates open by hand, defend themselves against river pirates and fight off toll thieves. The role of the modern-day lock keeper is to provide a polite and friendly welcome to waterway visitors, assist boaters through locks and help maintain the lock area.

Between March 2010 and April 2011 over 50 people took part in British Waterways' volunteer lock keeper trials on the Kennet & Avon Canal. The scheme was so successful that it has now been expanded to over 50 locations. For more information email **volunteer@britishwaterways.co.uk**.

Police Update

The Rural Crime Team in Wiltshire sends out a monthly bulletin providing information on rural crime in Wiltshire and giving advice on what to do to help prevent the crimes happening. See page 4 for the most recent top tips.

If you have subscribed to the Neighbourhood Watch email notifications, you will already have received the bulletin and you will also have received a notice about an attempted break-in in Manton. To ensure **you** are kept up to date with information and notices from the Police, just email **nwh@graftonparish.com** to request to be added to the email list.



Holidays Ahead!

We're heading full speed for the February school holiday and our first Holiday Club for primary school children.

We've put together a packed timetable full of great activities to keep children busy everyday including Scooter Skills, Mad Science and Back to Nature.

We still have places available at some of the sessions so for more information or to book a place call us on **01672 810478** or email **admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk**

We've got a number of events coming up over the next month and hope that one or more may appeal to you.

If running amok with a pan takes your fancy then perhaps we'll see you at the Pancake Races on Sunday 19 February?

Maybe a Quiz Night on Thursday 23 February is more your cup of tea?

Failing that - what about joining the Grafton Parish BIG Tidy up? We look forward to seeing you.

The Grafton Parish BIG Tidy Up — it's back!

Saturday 3 March, 10.30am

Join us to litter pick in and around each of our parish villages to help keep our corner of the county looking lovely!

You are all very welcome - please bring a sturdy pair of gloves – gardening gloves are ideal.

We'll provide everything else.

Meeting points:

East Grafton – Sunflowers at Grafton

West Grafton – parish notice board

Wilton – opposite the duck pond

Wexcombe – bus stop

Marten - parish notice board

Email **admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk** for more information



This is a community event organised by Sunflowers at Grafton

SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH

	Time	Service	Taken by
February			
19	11.00	Holy Communion	Alan Deboo
26	11.00	Family Service	TBA
March			
04	11.00	Family Service and Christening	Robert Gist
18	11.00	Mother's Day Service	Robert Gist
25	11.00	Family Service	Lay Led
April			
01	11.00	Palm Sunday	Chris Stock
08	11.00	Holy Communion	Alan Deboo
15	11.00	Holy Communion and Annual Parochial CC	Alan Deboo
22	11.00	Family Service	Lay Led

St Nicholas' Mother's Day Service will end with posies of spring flowers being given to children to hand to their Mothers, Grandmothers or Guardians.

Pancake Races

Races for all ages and delicious pancakes for tea!
An hour or so of fun

Sunday 19 February from 3pm onwards

The Green, East Grafton

We will provide pancakes, at a small cost, but please bring your own pan!

A Sunflowers at Grafton event

Our Doctor Writes

When I was a medical student I had the privilege of setting up a debating society at our new medical school. We had many interesting speakers and discussions with lecture theatres packed with medics and non medics alike. A key feature was that, unlike most debating societies, we decided that we would never have a vote. The intention was that the discussions would run on well after the close of the formal business and indeed this is what happened in our student bar late into the evening. I remember one heated discussion vividly. It was centred on the issue of health care professionals withdrawing their labour and going on strike. I found myself thinking about all of this again when I saw the headlines in the newspapers declaring:

DOCTORS TO GO ON STRIKE

This had been precipitated by the release of the British Medical Association survey about the planned changes to doctor's pension arrangements. The results of the survey showed a lot of discontent and the potential support for industrial action. It was not a strike ballot.

I am acutely aware that the pay and conditions in which I work are very good to say the least and the pension that I have contributed towards will be more generous than most others.

Casting my mind back to the debate over 30 years ago I came to the same conclusion that I have now. Firstly that it can never be right for a doctor to take action which would put patient safety at increased risk. Secondly other forms of industrial action that may be considered should only be taken to try to protect the integrity of the health care system itself and not for personal financial gain. For me the biggest concern about the planned pension changes is the impact that it may have on the recruitment of future doctors from amongst the brightest students in each year and the movement of the retirement age to 68. The latter is my major concern. It may well be that some doctors do feel that they are able to maintain their performance and deliver a safe service in the modern NHS to the age of 68. I would certainly not count myself among them.

So what is likely to happen? I suspect when it comes to it not a lot and I for one will not be withdrawing my labour in Great Bedwyn.

Best wishes,
Dr Tim Ballard

Events, clubs and other dates for your diary

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

FEBRUARY

19	15.00	Pancake races
20	19.00	Bingo
23	19.30	Quiz night in aid of Sunflowers at Grafton
25	12.00	Jackamole
26	10.00	Annual pre-season clean <i>Wilton Windmill</i>

MARCH

01	19.15	Parish Council open meeting
03	10.30	BIG Tidy up
05	19.00	Bingo
16	19.00	Horticultural Society

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
4-11 months

11.15 to 12.00 Wednesday
12.30 to 13.15 Wednesday



C.A.P. Dance & Fitness

3-4yrs Baby ballet	15.30 to 16.00 Wednesday
4-5yrs RAD Pre primary ballet	16.00 to 16.30 Wednesday
5-6yrs RAD Primary ballet	16.30 to 17.00 Wednesday
5-6yrs ISTD Primary Modern	17.00 to 17.30 Wednesday
7-8yrs RAD Grade 2 ballet	17.30 to 18.00 Wednesday
12-14yrs ISTD 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

Mobile library dates 15, 29 February and 14, 28 March
Marten 11.30 Coronation Hall 13.00

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
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 March. Editorial rights reserved.

Wiltshire
GOOD NEIGHBOURS

For information or to sign up for "A winter's Journey"

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

Stay Warm, Stay Healthy with Wiltshire Good Neighbours

A Winter's Journey is a new service from the Wiltshire Good Neighbour Scheme that is designed to help you to keep your home comfortably warm during in the colder winter months. Your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator will work with you over the coming weeks to support you to stay warm and healthy during this difficult time of year.

The Journey starts with a quick look at how you might pay & save money on your energy bills including giving you plenty of energy saving tips for around the house.

Regular visits from your co-ordinator will ensure you have the security & support you need to stay healthy & warm. This on-going support can range from something as simple as picking up shopping during a particularly icy period to something as complex as arranging transport a medical appointment after a heavy snowfall. Your local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator is here to help you through it all.

Police tips to help safeguard your possessions.

Record the serial numbers of power tools into the national Immobilise database which Police check when they come across stolen property – www.immobilise.com.

When quad bikes or Landrovers are stolen, a suspicious event (such as a cut fence, strange vehicles) has normally occurred in the days prior to the theft – so look out for this and report anything out of the ordinary. Interestingly, all the quad bikes that the Police have recovered have been fitted with a tracker device so this is a worthwhile investment. You should also consider how and where you are going to secure equipment when not in use and strengthen the location, locks, lights, alarms etc. Make it difficult for them!

If you own a quad bike or ATV, you can also consider protective marking this will greatly improve the chances of stolen items being recovered and identified - see www.cesarscheme.org.

If you come across hare coursing or poaching, dial 999 as it is a 'crime in progress' and the Police will send a vehicle.

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

Carpet Clean - Ricky Flint

Friendly local service based at Great Bedwyn

Professional work at sensible prices

Call for no obligation quote

07799 215837 or 01672 871414

