

COMMUNITY NEWS

Welcome to the May edition of the Community News. It was great to see so many residents at the SOS Sausage Evening – we are now on our way towards our target of providing a defibrillator for each of the five villages in the Parish. Over 20 air horns (our local emergency alarm) were purchased too, so if you hear one of these being sounded it will mean that there is an emergency nearby.

If the warmer weather has made you think about getting more involved in the local community then you may be interested to read Lorraine Trainer's account of volunteering for the first time. There are many organisations in the Parish who would like your support – helping with fundraising events, serving refreshments at Grafton Goslings or listening to children reading at Grafton School, to name a few. If you have an hour or two each month and you'd like to help please email news@graftonparish.com or call **01672 810406** and we'll put you in touch.

We're keen to support businesses in the community too – why make journeys to other areas, when there may be someone in our Parish who can provide you with what you need? From wellbeing and beauty treatments to ironing, hat hire and painting & decorating, we've built up a directory of local businesses (see the full list on page 4) but there's always room for more! If you'd like your business included, please email news@graftonparish.com.

Snorkers to the Rescue!

What a brilliant Parish you are! On Saturday 17 April, 93 people gathered in the Coronation Hall for the Defibrillator SOS Launch and raised a mammoth **£802.14**, including generous donations from those who couldn't be there.

There was a terrific atmosphere as everyone tasted the platters of sausages (perhaps the chilli ones were a bit hot!) and tried to complete the quiz. We hope you all enjoyed it.

So where are we in terms of getting our first defibrillator of the five that are needed? Well, the good news is that both the cabinet and the defibrillator are coming down in cost from the 2009 prices. The complete package is currently about £2,200 which includes installation costs and a subsidy towards training – after all, we need to know what to do with them once we've got them!

We have more activities planned throughout the year, with the next one being the Grafton Grand Garage Sale on 12 June. So, get your loft cleared and bring the contents to the Hall – further details can be found in this edition of the Community News (below).

Police Update

Spring is well and truly with us and I hope everyone is looking forward to the light evenings and long hot sunny days. Offenders are back in the area and are targeting isolated properties and farms both during the day and in the evenings with the intention of stealing metal.

Please:

- Look out for anyone (male or female) acting suspiciously, with transit vans, pickup trucks and large cars.
- Ensure your property is secure and that you leave no opportunities for them.
- Ensure gates and sheds are shut and locked.
- Ensure that any metals are out of sight from roads.
- Undertake regular checks of your property.
- Confront trespassers on your land and obtain as much detail as possible, ensuring your safety at all times.

Obtain visual details of strangers in the area and record these together with vehicle details – especially the registration number.

Please remember that I am happy to receive any information. I would rather you send it to me and it be nothing, than miss out on something vital. If we work together we can ensure Grafton Parish is crime free.

Derrick Foord

PC1008 Community Beat Manager, Pewsey East
derrick.foord@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Grafton Plant Sale and Family Fun Afternoon
Sunday 16 May from 2.30pm
At the Coronation Hall

On sale will be bedding plants, perennials, tomatoes and herbaceous plants.

Donations of plants for the sale will be gratefully received. Please drop them off at the Coronation Hall on the morning of Sunday 16 or to Sally Butt, Kintore, The Green, East Grafton.

As well as plants, there will be Cream Teas, a raffle and lots of other exciting stalls.

The Friends of Grafton School are organising family friendly activities during the afternoon to keep little ones (and bigger ones) amused.

Come and join us for an hour or so after Sunday lunch for activities and games (including the much loved Tug of War) on The Green, have your face painted or enjoy an ice cream in the sun!

In aid of St Nicholas Church
and
Friends of Grafton School

Grafton's Grand Garage Sale

The Grand Garage Sale in aid of the Coronation Hall and Parish Defibrillators will be held at the Hall on Saturday 12 June from 2pm.

Volunteers are needed to sort goods, man stalls, make cakes and serve refreshments – please let us know on **01672 810406** if you are able to help or email news@graftonparish.com.

We're looking for good quality clothing, soft furnishings, toys, books, bric-a-brac, household goods and furniture – so please tidy out those garages, lofts, sheds and cupboards to help fundraise for these important community causes.

Goods can be dropped off at the Hall from 4pm to 7pm on Friday 11 June and on the day itself from 10am.

Air horns for the Grafton Parish Community Scheme will also be on sale at the event – see page 3 for more information.

The Goslings Take Off!

Grafton Goslings, the new baby & toddler group which takes place at the Coronation Hall on Fridays (term time) 10.30am – 12 noon has got off to a fantastic start. In the first two weeks, over 70 children and their carers (including a Dad!) came for coffee, cake, children's activities and play. For more information email graftongoslings@btinternet.com.

Thank you to everyone who has donated toys – we now have so many that we have outgrown our allocated storage space and we are hoping to get a shed that could be sited at the rear of the hall. If you can help please let us know. We are also looking for people to help with refreshments, so that carers can keep an eye on their children. If you would like to join our rota and help with refreshments once a term or so, please email Sue England on scwinstanley@waitrose.com or call **01672 870253**.

A date for diaries! On Sunday 4 July at 3pm we are holding a fundraising family afternoon on The Green. There will be a treasure hunt for little ones, and a hot dog tea. And as it's Wimbledon - there will be strawberries and cream, Pimms and other refreshments for grown ups.

Taking the plunge and getting involved.... by Lorraine Trainer, volunteering novice

There are always so many reasons why not to stick your hand up and get involved. I won't bore everyone with why I worried about whether I would have enough time to help raise money for the parish defibrillators, but we all have our own long lists of 'why not'. Mostly, I suspect, it is the fear of letting others down rather than laziness that causes people to hang back and sometimes other commitments just have to take priority.

Susie Brew persuaded me to come along to the planning of the recent SOS Sausage Tasting event. As I suspected, I couldn't make every meeting but no one seemed to be fazed by this. I was allocated the task of getting images of rare breed pigs. This was an incredible contrast to my normal professional activities! My first reaction was to get poster-sized mounted images but soon learned this was way over the top – lesson one!

On the day of the event I set about trying to find the most practical way of hanging them and found myself doing craft task activities - not my main strength by any means but fun problem solving. I met people I had never met before, was given a friendly welcome by all, even made to feel useful (people are very kind!). Finally I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and sharing jokes as we cleared and washed up. A small part played but a first step in getting involved and a new interest in rare breed pigs!

Grafton Parish Community Fundraising

The Friends of Grafton have organised a Bag2School collection from Grafton C of E Primary School on Thursday June 24. Now you have two reasons for good clear out – the Grand Garage Sale on June 12 and Bag2School on June 24. The blue bags will be delivered with the June Community News. In the meantime fill black bags and spread the word to family and friends.

Don't forget that you can drop off Tesco and Sainsbury's vouchers sport and other equipment at the school office or Coronation Hall post box in East Grafton or at Pond Cottage, Wilton. Use the same drop off points for your used mobile phones, printer and toner cartridges – for more information including a list of the phones and cartridges accepted please refer to www.recyclingappeal.com.

If you need oil, then Wessex Petroleum give ½p for each litre of oil bought back to the village. Call **0800 980 6172** and quote charity reference **D19** (Coronation Hall and Friends of Grafton).

And finally, it's really easy to help raise money for the Coronation Hall and Friends of Grafton when you shop online. Go to www.thegivingmachine.co.uk and select either Grafton Coronation Hall or Grafton CofE School then click through to your chosen store and start shopping. Most of the major online retailers are there including Tesco, Next, Amazon and Ebay – we receive a percentage of the order value each time you buy at no extra cost to you.

Wilton Phone Box

You will have seen in last month's edition of Community News that we were in the throes of adopting the Wilton telephone box. We have made progress! The £1 cheque has been banked by BT so the kiosk has now been formally adopted by Grafton Parish Council. The Wilton Heritage Society, who will look after the kiosk, is being set up and membership details will be circulated to the Parish later this month to provide people with the opportunity of joining.

The next formal stage is notification from BT of their planned date to remove the telephone equipment after which we will be able to start work on the transformation to a Tourist Information kiosk. Look out for more details!



Wilton Windmill

VICTORIAN FOOD FAYRE

Saturday 15th May

12 noon to 4.30pm

Wild Game Preparation, Cooking & Tasting with

TV Chef Mike Robinson

Guided Tours ~ Farm Animals ~ Punch & Judy
~ Get dressed up for The Best Dressed Victorian! ~
Beer Tent ~ Traditional Children's Games ~ Stalls
~ Windmill Bread ~

Teas, Cakes & Refreshments & Lots More!

*Wilton Windmill is off the A338 between Butbage & Hungerford SN8 3SW
www.wiltonwindmill.co.uk*

Showing at the **Grafton Gaumont on the Green!**

Sherlock Holmes (Certificate 12)

AN ACTION ADVENTURE COMEDY

with Robert Downey Jr & Jude Law



Thursday 13 May at 7.30pm

A fast paced, entertaining and action-packed adventure film, suitable for all the family.

Refreshments available before the film.

No interval. Doors open at 7pm.

Introductory offer – one free drink per ticket!

Tickets £3.50 booked in advance or £4 on the door

To book:

Complete the voucher on page 3 of this edition of the Community News or call **01672 810406** or email hall@graftonparish.com.

Next Grafton Gaumont dates – 17 June, 15 July, 19 August, and 16 September. Get involved with selecting future films by completing the questionnaire available on film night.

VOUCHER OFFER!

Grafton Gaumont on the Green!

Thursday May 13 at 7.30pm

Sherlock Holmes (Certificate 12)

with Robert Downey Jr & Jude Law



TICKET REQUEST (please complete overleaf)

Please cut out this request and place the completed form with payment in the Coronation Hall postbox to reserve your seats or, to order tickets call **01672 810406** or email **hall@graftonparish.com**

You can also buy in advance from East Sands Stores, Burbage

Advertisement

Intelligent, Imaginative & Individual solutions



A specialist residential property agency handling the sale & rental of quality property in and around the Vale of Pewsey & Marlborough Downs offering expert advice on bespoke marketing for property of all shapes and sizes from country houses and small estates, family houses of all sizes, to retirement flats & houses for residents over 55.

Working hard & taking time to produce outstanding results for clients.

www.petermacaine.co.uk

1 High Street, Pewsey, SN9 5AF

Mark Chick & Simon Walker

Tel: **01672 564555**

It's All Go in Marten

Two Metro speed loops have been installed at Marten to record vehicle activity to provide data for speed control. The outcome will be reported in a few weeks.

Meanwhile the issue of the missing Marten village sign at the east of the village is now with Wiltshire Council and should be replaced soon, which will also help with speed reduction by providing a visible entry point into the village.

Our Own Emergency Service

At the recent Defibrillator SOS event, a simple emergency alarm scheme was also launched.

The scheme was initiated by residents' concerns that in the event of an emergency of any sort, it could be really difficult to raise the alarm to get help quickly. In such circumstances, one would of course call 999, but it takes time for the emergency services to reach us. What we needed was a loud alarm system that everyone knew to be a cry for help.

And so the Air Horn scheme came into being! Air horns are used on boats to alert other craft to an emergency – well if it can work on water, then it can work in Grafton! By having one or more air horns in your home, they can be used in an emergency to raise the alarm with your neighbours. The local Police team has given their full support to the scheme and believe it will make a real difference to our security and safety.

The quality and cost of air horns vary enormously and after much testing, we have purchased high quality air horns at a very competitive rate with a range of over 1 mile! We are selling them at £10 each, with any profit going to the defibrillator scheme.

If you would like to buy one (or more!), then please contact **susie.brew@hotmail.co.uk**, call **01672 810406** or post a cheque with your request and details in the Coronation Hall letterbox (please make cheques payable to Coronation Hall).

For a scheme such as this, it is really important that the whole community knows about it, is part of it and that it isn't abused. Please let your neighbours know about this scheme and how they can help to help themselves.

We are currently looking at ways of funding air horns for those who need financial help – please use the contact details above if you think you would use this funding if it were available.

Remember – if you hear a horn, someone's in trouble – follow the sound and help your neighbour!

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.

MAY

- 10 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 10 19.00 Bingo
- 11 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 12 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 12 Mobile Library *See route below*
- 13 19.30 Grafton Gaumont on the Green
- 14 09.30 Dinky Dancers
- 14 10.30 Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group
- 15 12.00 Victorian Food Fayre *Wilton Windmill*
- 16 10.00 Rogation Sunday *Chisbury Lane Farm*
- 16 14.30 Annual Plant Sale & Family Fun Afternoon
- 17 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 18 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 19 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 19 15.00 Computing Made Easy
- 20 19.15 Parish Council Meeting
- 21 09.30 Dinky Dancers
- 21 10.30 Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group
- 24 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 24 19.00 Bingo
- 25 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 26 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 26 Mobile Library *See route below*
- 27 19.00 Art Club
- 28 09.30 Dinky Dancers
- 28 10.30 Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group
- 30 09.30 United Service *St Nicholas*

JUNE

- 1 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 2 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 2 14.30 Friendship of the Parish
- 6 11.00 Holy Communion *St Nicholas*
- 7 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 7 19.00 Bingo
- 8 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 9 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 9 Mobile Library *See route below*
- 11 10.30 Grafton Goslings Baby & Toddler Group
- 12 14.00 Grafton's Grand Garage Sale
- 13 18.00 United Songs of Praise *Crofton Beam Engines*
- 14 09.30 Adult Exercise Class
- 15 Yoga Class (09.30 and 19.30)
- 16 11.00 Adult Exercise Class
- 17 19.30 Grafton Gaumont on the Green

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 June 4 and the earlier the better of course!

Editorial rights reserved.

Just a reminder: Email **news@graftonparish.com** if your News does not arrive by the middle of the month. Additional copies are available at the Coronation Hall, at The Swan and on **www.graftonparish.com**.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMINGS: *Devises Route H*

Marten post box 11.30-11.50am Severalls E Grafton 1.00-1.15pm Grafton Primary School 1.20-2.00pm

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

Advertisement

Holgate and Pack

Furniture Makers

Brail Farm, Great Bedwyn

01672 870887

www.holgateandpack.co.uk

Design and Manufacture of Good
Innovative and Traditional Furniture

Tables
Individual Kitchens
Garden Furniture
Repairs and Restoration

Name.....
Tel no.....
Email address.....
Address.....
Number of tickets required @ £3.50 each
Please include payment with this voucher.
Collect tickets at the door on the night.
1 introductory free drink with each ticket!
Please make cheques payable to "Coronation Hall"

News in Brief

Friendship of the Parish

The group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm at the Coronation Hall and provides support to Parish initiatives and local fundraising events. Everyone is invited to come along and join the group for a cup of tea and a catch up. If you would like to get involved, please call Libby Gilbert on **01672 810349**.

Grafton Parish Council Meetings

To keep up to date on activities in the parish, see the notice boards or go to www.graftonparish.com. Parish Council meetings throughout the year are open meetings for the public to attend – you are very welcome to come along. Next meetings: 20 May, 1 July, 9 September, 4 November, starting at 19.15 at the Coronation Hall

Wilton Windmill Victorian Food Fayre - Saturday 16 May

Mike Robinson from The Pot Kiln in Yattendon, author and TV chef, will be the star attraction at this year's event. Mike will be demonstrating the preparation and cooking of wild game and we hope that you will be there to do the tasting! An exciting family afternoon will include a beer tent, tea and cakes, children's games, Windmill bread, farm animals and Punch & Judy – and lots more!

Computing made easy! – Wednesday 19 May

The next session takes place on 19 May at 3pm at the Coronation Hall. Backing up your precious data, file organisation, shortcuts and improving the look of your documents are the topics. Do join us – call **01672 810406** for more information.

Art Club Update

On 22 April Rob Howe, renowned watercolourist and patron of the club, took the group through basic composition techniques. The next Art Club meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday 27 May at the Coronation Hall. For more information call Libby Gilbert on **01672 810495**

Wilton Cricket Club

We now have fixtures on 9 May against Ramsbury, 16 May against Aldbourne, 23 May against Kennet Valley and 6 June against Bishops Cannings. The team has already had two net practice sessions which have been very enjoyable, especially the pint in the pub afterwards! Anyone is welcome to turn up on Friday evenings at about 6pm behind Batts Farm in Wilton or contact Andy Pack on **01672 870058** for more information.

Yoga Classes

At the Coronation Hall – Tuesday mornings 9.30am to 10.45am and Tuesday evenings 7.30pm to 9pm. The class is suitable for all levels and age groups – and always enjoyable and full of fun.

If you would like to come along to try please ring Lizzy Hawnt on **01672 841553** or **07821 396430** or email hawntedhouse@btinternet.com. Look forward to seeing you!

Grafton Gaumont—Future Films

The film showing on Thursday 17 June will be The Kiterunner, certificate 12A. This is a moving tale of friendship, devastating mistakes and redeeming love. Not to be missed!

Grafton & District Horticultural Society

On 21 April the Society had a full house for Sally Gregson, who owns a nursery in Wookey, Somerset. Sally gave the most wonderful lecture on "Cottage Gardens for a New Century".

On 19 May there is a visit to Snape Cottage in Bourton with lunch beforehand in The Bull Inn. Please contact Marijke Craig on **01672 810364** if you are interested.