

Farewells

After the excitement of the Royal Wedding, Grafton Game Fair and Wilton Windmill Food Open Day things are a little quieter as we head into the head into Summer. Sadly it is now confirmed that our School will close at the end of the Summer term. Plans are underway to mark the role that the school has played in the community for 165 years with an evening event on Friday 15 July and all past and present pupils, members of staff, governors and local community volunteers are invited. The end of July also sees Rodney Harrison retire after 9 years of being team vicar and his last service at St Nicholas' Church will be on Sunday 17 July.

Following the success of last year's Community Camp this year's event will take place on Friday 1 July, there is also an opportunity to meet Claire Perry, our MP at a coffee morning at the Coronation Hall on the same day.

We hope you are finding the Community News a useful way of keeping up-to-date. Please do get in touch by emailing news@graftonparish.com if you have any comments or suggestions.

Grafton Primary School – summer closure

The six week statutory notice period regarding the closure of Grafton Primary School came to an end on 2 June. One appeal from a potential Grafton Parish resident was received by Wiltshire Council and this was discussed at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 14 June, but the outcome of the meeting was to confirm that the school will close with effect 31 August 2011. All current pupils have places confirmed at alternative schools of their choice and transition arrangements are being agreed to ensure as smooth a transfer as possible. Work has started to facilitate closure, but staff and governors are ensuring that this is all behind the scenes and that the children's experience at school continues as normal until the end of term.

A Special General Meeting of the Friends of Grafton will take place at 2.30pm on Thursday 14 July to agree a resolution that the association be dissolved. All members of the Friends are welcome to the meeting.

The Sunflowers management committee has developed a business plan covering the growth of Sunflowers into the school building – the first version of this has now been completed and sent to the Diocese. Contrary to the report in the Gazette & Herald the future use of the buildings is now the subject of much discussion and as far as the Sunflowers team are aware one other party have expressed an interest in use of the buildings. The Management committee is confident that Sunflowers will continue to flourish, and will potentially be expanding the childcare provision to include full day care for babies and pre schoolers and after school/holiday provision for primary age children.

Wiltshire Council has offered Grafton Parish Council the opportunity to take ownership of the school playing field through a Community Asset Transfer. This was discussed at the last Parish Council meeting and the transfer was agreed in principle. The legalities of the transfer are now being completed and discussions will continue about the future use of the field, including the possibility of developing a play area.

We will continue to keep the wider community informed of progress regarding the use of buildings and land through future editions of the Community News.

165 years Grafton Church of England Primary School

The staff and governors
of Grafton Church of England Primary School invite
past and present pupils, members of staff, governors
and the many community volunteers
who have played an active role in the life of our school to join
us for an event to mark the closure of our village school

An opportunity to meet up with old friends and
remember the history of our school over drinks and supper



Friday 15 July 2011
6pm to 9pm
R.S.V.P. by 1 July **01672 810478**

To mark the closure of our village school those who have played a part in its rich history are invited for drinks and supper on 15 July. There will be photographs and school logs covering the many years of our school history and we will be burying a time capsule prepared by the children to mark the date.

We are sure there will be some lovely memories for many of you – if you would like to join us please contact Debbie on **01672 810478** or admin@grafton.wilts.sch.uk so that we are able to cater for numbers.

We'd also love to hear from you if you have any old photographs featuring the school that we might borrow for the display. Please let Debbie know and be assured that we'll take good care of them and ensure that they are returned to you.

Grafton Parish Council will be pioneering a new structure following the meeting held on 12 May. Each Parish Councillor will take the Chairmanship for 4 months (2 meetings) in rotation, this will follow a preparatory 4 month period as Vice Chairman. This will enable all Councillors to experience the full workings of the Parish Council and to spread the work evenly. We are confident that our trial period will prove very informative for us all. The Parish Council will now use the following contact details to facilitate this "job share". They are chairman@graftonparish.com, councillor@graftonparish.com and clerk@graftonparish.com. The current mail@graftonparish.com remains the general contact address.

ARTIST DAYS

at

Wilton Windmill

**Sundays: 19th June
14th August
21st August**

Come and enjoy a day in the fresh air at Wilton Windmill (just off the A338 between Hungerford & Burbage, SN8 3SW) Glorious views, fascinating industrial architecture, vintage machinery to draw and paint.
Open to artists of all levels – please bring your own materials.
Professional artist/tutor on site to offer help.

ENTRY - £5 per artist includes:

Morning: Self directed – bring a picnic
Afternoon 2-5 pm: Free entry to mill interior
Free tea or coffee

Advice from artist/tutor

Free entry for 1 piece of windmill-related artwork to the Art Exhibition at the Windmill Heritage Open Day on Saturday 10th September 2011.

To book a place, please contact:

Hilary Arnold-Baker ~ 01672 870360 ~ hilaryarnoldbaker@talktalk.net

Goodbye and thank you to Rodney & Jenny Harrison

Rodney Harrison, who as vicar for the Savernake Team has looked after its four churches since 2002, is retiring this July. Regular church-goers have over the years enjoyed some very learned and well-prepared sermons and have been grateful for the enthusiasm with which Rodney has conducted his services. Rodney is not a 'trendy' vicar, he is a man of God who knows that the worship of God will bring us closer together as human beings.

Rodney & Jenny are retiring to Ledbury in Herefordshire, where they will be able to spend more time with their family. Our best wishes go with them to this lovely part of the world.

Martin Butt Church Warden

COMING SOON : The Sporting Event of the Year – The return of the Wexcombe 10 km Run – Sunday 18 September

In aid of The Alzheimer's Society and St Nicholas Church, East Grafton

With 3 months to go it is time to start training for this prestigious event in the calendar. The run is single lap and traffic free at Wexcombe Manor Farm. The event includes a 10km run, a 5 km walk, a children's 1.2km Fun Run for 8+ year olds as well as the obstacle course races for younger children and a tractor ride. There will be a barbecue, refreshments and cakes. Please support us either by burning off some calories whilst running or walking or you can just come and eat cake and cheer on the runners. Any help with marshalling will be appreciated so please do let us know. In the meantime, here are a few tips to help you plan your training schedule:

- Dig out your trainers. It is an off road event so you will need trainers with some grip. Encourage your children to get out running too.
- Start training gently to build up stamina. Walking/running intervals is a perfect way to start – eg walking for 1 minute then running 1 minute, slowly increasing the running intervals. If you are a seasoned runner then build up to the 10 kms (6 miles) gradually.
- Always warm up and cool down and stretch sufficiently afterwards to avoid injury.
- The run is a multi-terrain event with a hill or two so don't practise only on roads and do include some hill work. (The Roman Road at Wilton is a perfect training location!)

For further training tips you can contact henriettamackinnon@yahoo.co.uk or 07977511959

Grafton residents are welcome to play tennis at Burbage. You are invited to an Opening Event on Sunday 26 June from 12.00

The Tennis Club has two courts at Red Lion Field, East Sands. Men's and mixed doubles teams play in the local leagues; coaching is readily available, and there's plenty of opportunity for informal, recreational tennis.

The courts have been resurfaced and freshly painted with new floodlights and nets. You can either join the club or use the courts on a pay-and-play basis.

12.00 Coaching demonstration for Juniors [join in!] and 'Beat the Champion' for Seniors

12.30 BBQ and Pavilion Bar and at 14.00 "Thanking our Sponsors"

All readers of Community News, family and friends are invited: nobody's the wrong age or ability for tennis! Bring or borrow a racket. Contact Andrew Gordon, Burbage Tennis Club 01672 810421

Community Round-Up

Following up from last month's edition of the Community News, the Game Fair at the beginning of May raised just over £15,000 for Help for Heroes and St Nicholas' Church.

The May Food Fair at Wilton Windmill on 14th May was extremely well attended with upwards of 2,000 people. A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped make the day such a success – over £4,500 was raised which is amazing. Whether you were helping or visiting, we hope you enjoyed it. The shepherd's huts which provide the shop and refreshment facility for the windmill need to be replaced and this gives our fundraising a real boost. Thank you!

All manner of nearly new items were bought and sold at the Grafton Goslings Sale. From Victoria Beckham Jeans to expectant Grandmas preparing for new arrivals, and left handed golf clubs finding a new home nearly £1400 of goods were sold. Sellers received 70% of the value of the goods sold and Grafton Goslings raised £600 which will be used to buy new toys and resources. Thank you to everyone who bought, sold or helped.



Celebrate the Great Outdoors

Grafton Community Camp

Friday 1 July – Saturday 2 July 2011

Join us at the Grafton Community Camp on the school playing field on Friday 1 July from 4.30pm until noon on Saturday 2 July.

We'll be making the most of our amazing outdoor setting with lots of fantastic activities. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust will be with us on Friday evening – great fun in store with shelter building, fire lighting and wild art. Other activities include camp cooking over a real fire, scavenger hunt and lots of games.

Everyone welcome, children (aged 2 – 16) must be accompanied by an adult. Older children welcome as 'helpers'. 'Non campers' are welcome to go home to bed!

Bring a tent and bedding. Loos and basic washing facilities available at School. BBQ supper & continental breakfast provided. Cost £5 per head to cover food and activities.

For more information and to book please email
camp@griftonparish.com.

This is a community event organised by the Friends of Grafton

News in Brief

New Location for Mobile Library

The mobile library will be changing its route from September this year to stop once in East Grafton at the more central location of the Coronation Hall. This change allows the service to make an additional stop at Burbage School.

Anyone who is too frail, ill or disabled to travel the additional distance to Coronation Hall will be offered a Home Library Service instead.

Carer Support Available

Carer Support Wiltshire supports the 40,000 unpaid carers across the county and has had its official launch at Devizes Town Hall. For details email Debbie@kennetcarers.org.uk or call **0800 181 4118**. Further information can be found at www.carersinwiltshire.co.uk.

The Alzheimer Café comes to the Coronation Hall every month

Fabulous home cooking, lots of help and advice in a very friendly atmosphere on the first Monday of every month. Contact Gaynor Mapp on 01672 517435 for information or if you can offer to help.

Coffee Mornings in Great Bedwyn

A reminder that the Bedwyn & Grafton Link Scheme coffee mornings are on the first Tuesday of every month and the Bedwyn Patient Group coffee mornings are on the third Tuesday of every month. The next dates for the Link Scheme are therefore Tuesday 5 July and for the Patient group are Tuesday 21 June and Tuesday 19 July. They start at 11am and take place at the British Legion hall in Great Bedwyn. Everyone is welcome.

Get Registered!

From 2012, garden waste collections from the doorstep will be free of charge. As this service is optional, you have to register by 30 September 2011 to get a bin which will be delivered during the winter. You can register on-line at www.wiltshire.gov.uk or by calling **0300 456 0100**. Anyone who already uses the garden waste collection service does not need to register.

Thatch News

A new thatch information pack for residents of thatched properties has been launched to help reduce the risk of fire. Although fires in thatched roofs are fairly rare, the devastation caused can be immense. The pack includes information on how to prevent a fire to what to do in the unlikely event of a fire starting. The Fire Service has also worked with a master thatcher to learn the best way of removing thatch from a building that is on fire and this has dramatically reduced the time taken to do this. For more information, visit www.wiltshirefire.gov.uk or call **0800 389 7849**.

Pewsey Area Board

Such was the popularity of the Coronation Hall, the Pewsey Area Board will be taking place in the parish again on Monday 4 July at 6.30pm for coffee and a 7pm start to the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Wiltshire Council Consultations.

Wiltshire Council has two consultations currently available for comment – Wiltshire Housing Strategy 2011-2016 (closing 6 July) and Wiltshire & Swindon Draft Waste Site Allocations Development Plan (closing 5 August). Both are available on the website – www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

Pewsey Campus Project

In order to reduce costs and maintain services, Pewsey has been selected as one of the 5 pilot areas in Wiltshire where a 'Community Campus' will be developed. The campus will co-locate council services and those of other agencies (for example, the Police) and voluntary groups. A board, representing community groups, parish councils, youth groups and others, has been set up to define the design, development and management of the campus. More information can be found on www.wiltshire.gov.uk.

Parish Councillor applications

It is not too late to consider joining your local team. Grafton Parish Council has received applications for the vacancy on the Council. These applicants, and any more received in the meantime, will be asked to attend the meeting on July 7 when selections will be made.

Transport for pupils at St John's School Marlborough

Bedwyn Youth Group has obtained a grant from the Pewsey Area Board for St John's pupils in our area who require transport to and from after school activities in Marlborough, for example Azuza Bluz and Zus nights and the cinema at St John's. If anyone is interested in using this service, then please contact colin4x4read@aol.com

Dates for your diary



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

JUNE

- 13 09.30 Circuit Training
- 14 09.15 Pilates
- 14 10.00 Zumba
- 14 19.30 Yoga
- 15 11.00 Circuit Training
- 16 10.00 Grafton Goslings
- 16 19.30 Thursday Club
- 17 13.00 Circuit Training
- 19 11.00 Parish Communion *St Nicholas*
- 20 09.30 Circuit Training
- 21 09.15 Pilates
- 21 10.00 Zumba
- 21 19.30 Yoga
- 22 11.00 Circuit Training
- 23 10.00 Grafton Goslings
- 24 13.00 Circuit Training
- 26 11.00 Family Service *St Nicholas*
- 27 09.30 Circuit Training
- 28 09.15 Pilates
- 28 10.00 Zumba
- 28 19.30 Yoga
- 29 11.00 Circuit Training
- 30 10.00 Grafton Goslings

JULY

- 01 10.30 Coffee morning
- 01 16.30 Community Camp *Grafton School*
- 03 11.00 Holy Communion *St Nicholas*
- 04 14.00 Alzheimer Cafe
- 04 18.30 Pewsey Area Board Public meeting
- 05 09.15 Pilates
- 05 10.00 Zumba
- 05 19.30 Yoga
- 06 11.00 Circuit Training
- 06 14.00 Wednesday Club
- 07 10.00 Grafton Goslings
- 07 19.15 Parish Council open meeting
- 08 13.00 Circuit Training
- 11 09.30 Circuit Training
- 12 09.15 Pilates
- 12 10.00 Zumba
- 13 11.00 Circuit Training
- 14 10.00 Grafton Goslings
- 15 18.00 Celebrate 165 years *Grafton School*
- 17 11.00 Parish Communion
- 18 09.30 Circuit Training
- 19 09.15 Pilates
- 19 10.00 Zumba
- 20 11.00 Circuit training
- 21 10.00 Grafton Goslings

Coronation Hall bookings 01672 810406

Private bookings are not shown in the calendar here so please make sure that you telephone or email hall@graftonparish.com in good time.

Coronation Hall Function Committee

Do you know where the card tables are? Are you storing them for us? Please call **01672 810406** with any information.

To contact us:- news@graftonparish.com or a note into the letterbox by the hall. Deadline for the next issue is Friday 8 July. Editorial rights reserved.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMINGS: *Devizes Route H*

- 22 June and 06,20 July.
- 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.

Art Club	libby_gilbert80@hotmail.com
Bingo	hall@graftonparish.com
Church flowers/clean	01672 810743 Sally Butt
Circuit Training	01672 810266 Hen Mackinnon
Cricket Club	pack.andy@googlemail.com
Friends of Grafton	01672 870253 Sue England
Grafton CofE School	01672 810478 Jill Parr
Grafton Goslings	graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk
Horticultural Soc	01672 810364 Marijke Craig
Link Scheme	01672 870120
Parish Council	mail@graftonparish.com
PCC Secretary	01672 870266 Millie Lemon
Pilates	07788 970976 Beth Knight
Police	08454 087000 PC Hollands
Sunflowers preschool	07748 349856 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

B&B West Grafton	Angie Orssich	01672 810339
Baby sitting/odd jobs	Tom Nield	01672 870196
Baby sitting	Florence Butt	01672 810743
Disco and Karaoke	Pete Vallis	01672 811326
Disco and Party	Steve	01672 811109 07749 553681
Domestic/Garden Help	Maria Vonsova	01672 810713
Furniture	Holgate & Pack	01672 870887
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Hat Hire	Victoria Frost	01672 810386
House Sitting	Maxine Wallis	07879 993150
KACIS Ironing Service	Karen Evans	07920 755372
Kindling	Jo Harman	01672 810673
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Pest Control	Julie Wilson	01672 811479
Seasoned Hardwood Logs	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Wellbeing Centre	Amanda Toon	01672 811677

Our Doctor Writes: As may you know the coalition government has opted to have a "pause" in the programme for proposed NHS changes. I'm sure that the broad thrust of the changes will remain intact following this consultation. The plan is to make the way NHS services are purchased and organised more clinically focussed and mainly under the control of GPs working in consortia. This could see more competition and more involvement of the private sector. The outcomes of the consultation may mean that private providers may be less prominent and that there will be more collaboration with other clinicians and local authority representation which I think is a good thing. So where are we locally at the moment? Over the last few years we have been part of the East Kennet cluster of practices. These practices are Great Bedwyn, Burbage, Pewsey, Ramsbury and Marlborough. This grouping has worked really well and we have managed to put in place some useful changes and been the only group in Wiltshire over the last few years to make savings on our budget and in turn have money returned to us to invest in local care. Unfortunately this grouping isn't big enough to manage to function and provide all of required activity of a consortium. We are therefore in the process of joining a bigger working group of practices in the area of north Wiltshire. We are aiming to maintain much of our autonomy though within this bigger grouping.

Exactly what will happen with the eventual deliberations of the NHS Future Forum being chaired by Professor Steve Field remains uncertain. What I can tell you though is that the way that we are responding to the agenda I'm sure will protect the local NHS and the services that you have become used to as much as is possible. I'll keep you all posted... Dr Tim Ballard

(This article has been edited to fit into the space available, to see the full text please see www.graftonparish.com)

The Shalbourne, Ham and Grafton Conservative Committee

Invite you to a **SUMMER COFFEE MORNING**

with **CLAIRE PERRY, M.P.**

at **THE CORONATION HALL**

On FRIDAY 1 JULY 10.30am until 12.30 pm

COFFEE, CAKES, SUPER RAFFLE

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