



Community News

MARTEN | WEXCOMBE | WILTON | WEST GRAFTON | EAST GRAFTON

AUGUST 2025

Volunteering in our Community

With all the events going on at this time of year, there are lots of opportunities to get involved by volunteering to help. Last week, there were dozens of volunteers from near and far helping at the Wilton Windmill Family Fun Day, and at Crofton who were in steam.

Volunteering can fit in with the time you have available and the activities you are interested in. It can also lead to lifelong friendships with people you otherwise may not have met. Suggestions for volunteering locally include St Nicholas' Church, Sunflowers, Goslings, Winter Warmers and the Parish Council - more opportunities can be found here -

www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/volunteer/

Super Summer Holiday Club

TreeHouse Holiday Club and Burbage Primary School working together to offer a fun-filled summer

8.30am to 5pm

£41.75 per day + supplements as detailed on the full timetable



Whether you are working, want interesting holiday activities for your children or simply looking for a fabulous play date location ... we've got something for everyone

w/c 4, 11 & 18 August - based at Burbage Primary School, taking advantage of fabulous indoor and outdoor spaces with a packed schedule of activities and special visitors



Fantastic activities and experiences to challenge and inspire KS2 children and a great place for KS1 children to have the most fun possible!

Pottery ✓ Bike maintenance ✓ First Aid ✓ Cooking ✓ African Arts ✓ and, in a first for TreeHouse, working with local recording artist Lyla Foy to write and record our own songs 🎵



w/c 25 August - we're back in East Grafton for a week of adventures Out & About on the minibus

BOOK NOW Call 01672 810478 or email treehouse@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk

Full timetable, terms and costs at www.sunflowers-grafton.org.uk & www.burbage.excalibur.org.uk



We provide super adventures and team. You bring wonderful children and a packed lunch. PERFECT!

Crofton Beam Engines

24 & 25 August 10:00 - 16:30

Come and see our magnificent Beam Engines at work pumping water from Wilton Water into the Kennet and Avon Canal, just as they have done for over 200 years.

As well as learning about Crofton, children will be able to take part in our free craft activities.

Our Smithy Tea Room will be open, offering hot and cold drinks, cake and savoury snacks. Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic, enjoy our beautiful site, the wildlife and to watch boats and trains pass by.

For more information visit our web site:

<https://www.croftonbeamengines.org/events/>

Church Update

The Reverend Sue Hart will be licensed on Tuesday 16 September at 7pm in Burbage Church and will be living in Burbage Vicarage with her husband, Steve. She will oversee Burbage, St. Katharine's, East Grafton and Little Bedwyn.

East Grafton Parochial Church Council (PCC) looks forward to welcoming Sue and Steve. At our most recent meeting we felt we should try to re-think what we have been doing at St Nicholas' in recent years and to make fresh invitations to members of the community to help the Church and reinvigorate its governance.

I 'retired' as Church warden over five years ago, but we still have not found anyone to replace me. We recently welcomed Sophia Bentley onto the PCC, but would like to recruit two or three more members.

New people, new ideas, new life. Perhaps someone would prefer simply to lend a hand with flower arranging or cleaning. Any offers of help would be very much appreciated.

Contact Martin Butt - **01672 810743**

BBC Countryfile in Wilton!

Four generations of the Lemon family have farmed in Wilton and this was the story behind the Countryfile article with Adam Henson, which was aired on Sunday 27 July. It was great to see all the family contributing to running the farm and of course the emus! If you missed it, you can access it via the BBC iPlayer.

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JOIN US

Find out why the average length of service for our permanent Sunflowers at Grafton nursery team is more than eight years



Get in touch with Alison & Julie
admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk
01672 810478

Sunflowers at Grafton is a kind and straightforward place to be. We are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
The Green, East Grafton, SN8 3DB

Planning Applications

Application Ref: PL/2025/05959 **Deadline:** 21 August 2025
Application Type: Listed Building Consent (Alt/Ext)
Proposal: Replacement of four windmill sails, and installation of a modified fantail shaft assembly.
Site Address: Wilton Windmill, Wilton, SN8 3SW

Application Ref: PL/2025/05975 **Deadline:** 15 August 2025
Application Type: Householder planning permission
Proposal: Erection of two-storey rear extension (resubmission of PL/2025/01368)
Site Address: East Grafton Farm House, East Grafton, Marlborough, SN8 3DF

Pottery Throwing for Beginners

Working with clay is a satisfying and joyful experience

I run classes for 2 people at a time in my home studio in Wilton. No experience necessary. Come and have a go in a fun and relaxed environment

The classes will be split into 2 sessions.
 First session 2½ hours to throw. Second session 1½ hours to glaze.

Classes are for 2 people, at £70 per person (includes both sessions)
 One on One classes are an option at £120.

Please contact me to arrange a suitable date and time.

07887 763999
 bowes.creative@btinternet.com
 www.juliabowes.com

Celebrating Railway 200 at Crofton

Crofton Pumping Station was built to raise water to replenish the Kennet and Avon Canal and, for well over 200 years, it has carried out this work. For more than 100 years of its life, Crofton was owned by the Great Western Railway and supplied water to the GWR railway locomotives as well as the canal.

In 2025, "Railway 200" is a national celebration of the 200th anniversary of the modern railway. To mark this, at the Steaming Weekend on 24 and 25 August, Crofton will have an exhibition, including displays of GWR artefacts, images and a chronicled timeline of our link with the railways. Get a glimpse of our relationship with the railway engineering shop at Swindon and how Crofton provided light relief for the Swindon apprentices. Learn about GWR's involvement, from keeping the station open, to supplying Crofton with a small saddle tank engine to keep the pumps going when our engines failed. Our knowledgeable volunteers will demonstrate some of the GWR tools still in use to this day, as they stoke our boiler and drive our engines so that visitors can experience the power of steam in action.

Children's activities will include a special trail guiding them round our station, seeking out our GWR tools, as well as a crafting area for children to have a go at describing, drawing and junk-modelling a train.

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Mushroom Culture

What's new at Unit 7, The Cattle Shed

The Cattle Shed, Manor Farm, Wilton, SN8 3SP

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 3pm to 5pm Saturday - 10am to 4pm

PAY DAY SALE

Pay Day Sale is the last Saturday of every month with at least 10% off across all Astute Canine items.

At My Little Blue Duck we are having a jiggle around and will soon be offering "rent a shelf" space. If you would like to know more please do pop in and see us or send an email.

Keep an eye on our social media platforms to keep up to date with Unit 7 or why not sign up for Astute Canine Doggy Delights newsletter? Newsletters will include unbiased product reviews in the future so sign up to find out more.

www.astutecaninedoggydelights.com
 mylittleblueduck@gmail.com

Timmy B Yoga

Weekly Yoga Classes
 Coronation Hall, East Grafton

I'm having a break in August
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tim.brew@hotmail.co.uk
 07747 780 898
 www.timmybyoga.co.uk

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Thank you from the Windmill

The 2025 season started on Easter Sunday with an Easter Egg Hunt in and around the Windmill. Since then, we have held a training day for our new volunteer tour guides who now are leading guided tours of the Windmill on Sundays and Bank Holidays throughout the Summer.

In June we hosted a visit from pupils of the Mark Way School in Andover, just one of several small group and various local school visits to the Windmill this year. This year's murder mystery 'Malice in Wonderland' and hog roast supper in July was a sell-out event.

The highlight of the year so far has undoubtedly been the 'Wilton Windmill Family Fun Day', with an amazing line up of live music, children's games, side shows, vintage vehicles, delicious refreshments and stalls displaying or selling a wide variety of locally made arts, crafts and produce.

I would like to thank everyone involved in making the day such a success. Whether you baked a cake (or several), helped with setting up and taking down tents, organised car parking or poured cups of tea, every single person's effort contributed to lots of people having a wonderful and memorable time and of course raising important funds for the Windmill.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to mill any grain this year after one of the sails broke while milling last year. These sails have been on the Windmill since 1975 and, with only one refurbishment since then, the rot had set in after fifty years of Wiltshire weather. Four new sails have been designed by the millwright, which will be fabricated in their workshop in Caversham and fitted to the Windmill later in the year. While they will look identical to the current sails, they should be more efficient, allowing us to mill grain at slightly lower wind speeds. In the meantime, we still have two sails in place and are still open for visits, guided tours, light refreshments and events.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help look after this beautiful Grade 2 Listed Building and, if you would like to get involved, please send an email to secretary@wiltonwindmill.co.uk or call me (Peter Wilson) on **07366 418484**.



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- Wonderful selection of Fine Wines and Deli Specialities
- Pizza Fridays—pre-order for collection, wood-fired or ready to bake
- Our new website has launched making it even easier to shop wherever you are, including Click & Collect

www.gastronicks.co.uk 01264 852701
4 Garland's Estate, Cadley Road, Collingbourne Ducis, SN8 3QE



Pottery Taster Sessions

Wheel throwing for up to 2 people - to book go to www.bookwhen.com/natalienealceramics

Also, check my recent blog:

www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk/the-wheel-of-wellbeing

For further details:

NatalieNealCeramics@gmail.com
www.natalienealceramics.co.uk

The Studio, West Grafton

Natalie Neal
Ceramics



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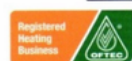
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Dates for your diary

Mobile Library

Information on the monthly Mobile Library Service can be found at apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/Library/Mobiles
The next mobile library is on Wednesday 20 August at the Coronation Hall in East Grafton from 11.40 to 12 noon.

Coronation Hall - Gazebo Hire

New covers have been purchased for the gazebo's and they are now able to be hired again! Please contact the Hall for further details:
hall@graftonparish.com - 01672 216115 / 07479 281809



Please use this QRcode to donate towards the upkeep and running of St Nicholas' church.
Every penny will be wisely spent.
Thank you for your support as always.



Enjoy the Summer & Get Outdoors

With the lovely sunny weather (and the occasional wet day!), why not get outdoors and do some walking or visit a local heritage destination?
Lots of information of walking and cycling routes, as well as places to visit available on www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk

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August

| | | | |
|----|-------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 03 | 11:00 | Church Service | St Nicholas' Church |
| 20 | 11:40 | Mobile Library | Coronation Hall |
| 24 | 10:00 | August Steaming Weekend | Crofton Beam Engines |
| 25 | 10:00 | August Steaming Weekend | Crofton Beam Engines |

September

| | | | |
|----|-------|----------------|---------------------|
| 07 | 11:00 | Church Service | St Nicholas' Church |
| 17 | 11:40 | Mobile Library | Coronation Hall |

Local Clubs

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Windmill Society | secretary@wiltonwindmill.co.uk |
| Horticultural Society | 01672 810364 Marijke Craig |
| Crofton Beam Engines | crofton@katrust.org.uk |
| Baby & Toddler Group | graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk |
| Dance classes | 07746 479345 Charlotte Price |
| Yoga | 07747 780898 Tim Brew |
| Zumba | 07710 115324 Joanna Bury |

Coronation Hall Regular Dates

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Tuesday (weekly in term-time) | Zumba | 09:30 |
| Tuesday | Timmy B Yoga | 19:00 |
| Wednesday | Timmy B Yoga | 09:30 |
| Wednesday (weekly in term-time) | Charlotte Price | 15:30 |
| Thursday (weekly in term-time) | Grafton Goslings | 10:00 |
| Thursday (weekly in term-time) | Charlotte Price | 17:00 |
| Thursday | Timmy B Yoga | 20:00 |
| Monday (1st & 3rd week in month) | Alzheimer's Cafe | 13:15 |

David Willcocks

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East Grafton Coronation Hall

To book Coronation Hall or to find details on how to hire trestle tables visit: www.graftonparish.com or contact as follows:

Email: hall@graftonparish.com (anytime)

Call: 01672 216115 or 07479 281809 (9am to 6pm Monday to Friday)



Village WhatsApp Groups

New to WhatsApp? We can help - just get in touch

Text or WhatsApp to join:

East Grafton: Tamara 07711 824864 Marten: Richard 07795 636767

West Grafton: Annie 07802 923344 Wilton: Tara 07833 320951

Wexcombe: George 07786 332950



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Deadline for content for the next issue is Friday 29 August
Email news@graftonparish.co.uk to contact the Community News team. Check www.graftonparish.com/community-news/ for advertising rates and advertisement format specifications.