

Platinum Jubilee Review

The Grafton Parish Platinum Jubilee celebrations on 5 June were a great success.

The Saturday preamble to the event was a very industrious cupcake decoration session when young volunteers had a ball decorating 120 cupcakes in the Coronation Hall!

Firstly a big thank you to all those who volunteered to help and who put in mammoth efforts to make this event truly memorable. The Parish Council set out a plan which included tractor rides from all the Hamlets followed by picnics, rounders on the green and all gave their time generously in setting up as well as coordinating events. Particular thanks go to Kevin Burke for everything that went on outside and Annie Whitcher for everything in the Hall. The magnificent display of memorabilia and the videos of resident's memories (put together by Sophia Bentley) were in the Coronation Hall together with teas, coffees and copious quantities of cakes which arrived during the morning.

The bar and ice cream parlour both added to the enjoyment of the day which was held during the best weather that could have been expected – the rain started just as the gazebos, bar and flags etc were packed away for another day. The Swan provided a variety of "street food" under gazebos in the rain but sadly it was decided that the fireworks were best kept for another, hopefully fine, evening later in the year.

Jubilee boxes of cakes, sandwiches and treats were distributed to those who were less able to come to the Green so that they could feel part of the day. Thank you to Wiltshire Council which provided a grant towards this. This was another very successful community event and has set the bar for the next venture!

A large selection of photos from the day can be seen on www.graftonparish.com/community-news/features (**web address to be confirmed**)

The winner of the "70 things of wonder" - the Parish Quiz that was distributed in the Community News last month - was Ellen Harris from Marten. Congratulations!

The Parish Council is pleased to report that all the expenses of the day were covered by the takings in the Hall, bar, ice cream parlour, Wiltshire Council grant and donations.



Wilton Windmill Family Fun Day *Celebrating 200 years!*

Saturday 30 July 12 noon to 4pm

All the fun of a country fair! Free entry & free parking.
Guided Tours of the Windmill ~ Punch & Judy
Magic shows ~ Falconry Display ~ Live Music
Morris Dancers ~ Children's Games ~ Raffle & Silent Auction
Stalls featuring the work of local makers and craftspeople
Bar ~ Barbecue ~ Tea Tent

Grafton Parish Platinum Jubilee Film

Thank you to all the kind people who participated in the Grafton Parish Platinum Jubilee film – it was wonderful to hear your stories, and share your thoughts and memories of The Queen and her long reign.

I am particularly grateful to Robin Dudney who lent me his video camera, and spent many hours editing the film with such skill. It now includes some extra footage of the Big Lunch day itself with all the fun on the Green and photos of the Jubilee display and delicious cakes in the Coronation Hall.

The film is now available to view on Vimeo, using the link below which can also be found on the village WhatsApp groups:

<https://vimeo.com/722539599/bb23665dbb>

If you do not have access to a computer, but would like to watch the film, then we can either lend you a DVD or you can have one of your own in exchange for a small donation to cover costs. Please phone Sophia on 07778 294122 to arrange this.

Thank you
Sophia Bentley



Crofton Beam Engines are open on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday until 25 September 2022.

We are powered by volunteers and endeavour to put the engines into steam at least once a month.

The planned steaming days for the summer season are:

Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 July 2022

Sunday 28 and Bank Holiday Monday 29 August 2022
(we are open on Saturday 27 August, but not in steam)

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 September 2022

Updates and more information, including opening times and prices, are available on the Crofton Beam Engines' website
www.croftonbeamengines.org

Telephone: **01672 870300** (please leave a message)

Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic to enjoy overlooking the canal and railway. No refreshments are currently available on site.

Please note that the only access to the site is via the main gate opposite the car park. There is no access from the lower canal entrance at lock 60 as that gate is locked.

For Coronation Hall booking information and details of how to hire trestle tables and gazebos, please see www.graftonparish.com, call **01672 216115** or email hall@graftonparish.com

Walk on the Wild Side at Wilton Water

A walk around Wilton Water and the Canal can bring the careful observer into contact with an increasing number of bird species. I don't present this article as a definitive list, they are merely the birds I have identified on my walks and some common species are not included for the simple reason I haven't seen or heard them!

I have arranged them in their families for ease of listing.

Corvids: Carrion Crow, Raven, Rook, Jay, Magpie, Jackdaw.

Tits: Great Tit, Blue Tit, Long-Tailed Tit, Coal Tit, Marsh Tit.

Waterbirds: Mallard, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Teal, Mute Swan, Canada Goose, Greylag Goose, Coot, Moorhen, Little Grebe, Kingfisher, Cormorant, Common Tern, Common Sandpiper, Red-Crested Pochard, Mandarin Duck.

Raptors: Kestrel, Sparrowhawk, Peregrine Falcon, Common Buzzard, Red Kite.

Finches: Chaffinch, Bullfinch, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Linnet.

Pigeons: Wood Pigeon, Collared Dove, Feral Pigeon.

Warblers: Cetti's Warbler, Willow Warbler, Reed Warbler, Garden Warbler, Whitethroat, Chiff Chaff, Blackcap.

All The Others: Robin, Wren, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Nuthatch, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Meadow Pipit, Redwing, Redstart, Grey Wagtail, Pied Wagtail, Yellowhammer, Goldcrest, Skylark, Starling, Reed Bunting, House Martin, Swallow, Swift, Dunnock, Pheasant, Red-Legged Partridge, Tawny Owl, Barn Owl, Grey Heron, Little Egret, Redpoll, Wheatear and Spotted Flycatcher.

That's a total of 79 species and the later arrivals are not counted - these are only birds I've seen or positively identified by their song. All this from a short walk in the beautiful countryside!

By Mike Fleckney



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Mondays: Closed / Tuesday to Friday: 9.30am to 5.30pm
Saturday: 9.30am to 3.30pm
Wine Bar Wednesday & Wood Fired Pizzas: 5.30pm-7.30pm



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St Nicholas' Raffle

A huge thank you to everyone that supported the raffle, buying and selling tickets and kindly donating a great selection of prizes.

We sold 1000 tickets, raising £2000 for our St Nicholas Church funds which were much depleted by the costly ceiling repairs that were carried out last year.

Here is a list of the main prize winners:

1st prize - Florence Butt

2nd - Jane Leighton

3rd - Rafe Smith

4th - Ben Riley

5th - Lauren Stewart

6th- Chris M

Plus 7 other lucky winners

Many thanks, Grafton PCC


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Our Doctor Writes

We are very pleased to now have Burbage Surgery, as well as Bedwyn Surgery, as regular contributors to the Community News.

We are delighted to welcome to Dr Kate Bailey who has joined us as a GP, working on Thursday and Friday mornings. We are sure she will be a valuable and popular new member of our Surgery Team.

Military Veterans

Burbage Surgery is proud to be an accredited Veteran Friendly GP Practice. As such, we have a clinical lead for Veteran Health, Alex Freeborn, who can help support our Veteran patients to access dedicated health services. If you are a Military Veteran, please do let us know, so we can make sure we understand your health needs and do our best to support you.

Burbage Ukraine Network

The Surgery is working with the Burbage Ukraine Network, welcoming refugee families who are staying with some of our Patients. We are here to support both the Refugees and Host families with healthcare needs in any way we can.

Resuming normal life

As we continue to move back to a pre-pandemic life, we are offering more face-to-face GP appointments which are bookable online, along with telephone consultations for those who would prefer this. You are also able to book blood test appointments with the nurses in this way. We would appreciate it if you would kindly still wear your masks when coming into the surgery if you have colds, coughs or any symptoms of an infection. This should help to reduce the spread of all viruses and keep our community safe.

Timmy B Yoga East Grafton Coronation Hall

Tuesday 7.00pm – Yoga
Wednesday 9.30am – Yoga
Thursday 3.00pm – Chair Yoga

Pewsey Rugby Club
Thursday 6.30pm – Yoga

Stable Yoga – Kintbury
Saturday 9.15am – Yoga Mostly for Men

Details & Bookings at
www.timmybyoga.co.uk
Mobile 07747780898

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Creating a Wetland at Manor Farm, Wilton

Manor Farm in Wilton is part of a network of farms in the area who have joined forces to develop environmental initiatives www.southernstreams.co.uk. The Southern Streams Farm Cluster is linking activities on each of the individual farms and together enriching the landscape and biodiversity of the area with particular focus on enhancing water quality in local rivers, streams, lakes and ponds.

The group has been making good progress and last year it teamed up with Action for the River Kennet (ARK) and the North Wessex Downs AONB, as part of the government's Green Recovery Challenge, helping to plant 8,500 new trees and restoring 3.5km of chalk stream and wetland habitat. Their work with the Green Recovery Challenge has been the design of a new wetland at Manor Farm, Wilton. With the support of a number of organisations, Manor Farm is bringing the design to life and has already begun its construction.

The wetland is comprised of three linked wetland cells that will help slow the flow of water draining from Wexcombe and allow it to filter unwanted sediment and nutrient before continuing downstream into Wilton Water reservoir. As well as enhancing biodiversity on the farm itself, the wetlands will also protect the source of the Wilton Water reservoir where the water quality is poor. The reservoir feeds the Kennet & Avon Canal which flows into the River Dun and River Kennet chalk stream, causing further downstream water quality problems.

The improvements from this project will go far beyond Wilton Water reservoir itself and positively impact the River Kennet catchment downstream.

Once the excavation works are completed, Action for the River Kennet (ARK) will be working with the farm and volunteers to plant the wetland with 20,000 wetland plug plants and 350 trees this autumn.

If you are interested and would like to lend a hand, visit www.riverkennet.org or email rupert@riverkennet.org

Wiltshire Council / Grafton Parish Planning Applications

Address: Forest View, East Grafton, SN8 3DB

Application No: PL/2022/04600

Closing Date: 19 July 2022

Proposal: Timber Framed Granny Annexe for Ancillary Accommodation.



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Dates for your diary

July

03	11:00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
11	19:30	Parish Council Meeting	Coronation Hall
29	19:30	Bedwyn Music Society Summer Concert	St Mary's Church
30	12:00	Family Fun Day	Wilton Windmill
30	10:00	Crofton in Steam	Crofton Beam Engines
31	10:00	Crofton in Steam	Crofton Beam Engines

August

03	11:00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
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Local Clubs

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

Community News Closing Dates

Please note that our closing date is always the last Friday in each month. Issues are then distributed by volunteers either over the following weekend or within the next few days (thank you all). If you wish to publish an event, advert or comment then do please be aware of the calendar period covered by each issue.

Coronation Hall Regular Dates

Monday (weekly in term-time)	Dance	16:45
Tuesday (weekly in term-time)	Zumba	09:30
Tuesday (weekly in term-time)	Dance	16:15
Tuesday	TimmyB Yoga	19:00
Wednesday	TimmyB Yoga	09:30
Wednesday (weekly in term-time)	Dance	15:30
Thursday (weekly in term-time)	Grafton Goslings	10:00
Thursday	TimmyB Chair Yoga	15:00
Thursday (weekly in term-time)	Dance	16:45

Monday (1st & 3rd in month)	Alzheimer's Cafe	13:15
Tuesday (1st in month during winter)	Winter Warmers	12:30



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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 the next issue Friday 29 July 2022