



Community News

MARTEN | WEXCOMBE | WILTON | WEST GRAFTON | EAST GRAFTON

FEBRUARY 2023

Making Grafton Greater

Rural communities are complex places. The majority of Grafton Parish residents experience an active, thriving, evolving community and one of the key reasons is that people care about where they live. But they don't just care – they make an effort to contribute to making sure that our community continues to grow and a great deal of that effort is voluntary.

Opportunities to roll your sleeves up, lend a hand and help a local group are diverse. There really is something for everyone and helping out can be a great way to make connections (and friends).

But many people don't consider it. Why? No time? No one has asked you? It's all a bit cliquey? It's not your bag? You don't have skills? Volunteering is for old people. Don't know where to start? Can't find anything relevant to you?

Whether you have lived here for generations or have recently moved; whether young or old; we can all make a difference. If you aren't already actively involved in a local group, will you consider making a change and making a difference in 2023?

Thank You from Manor Farm, East Grafton

Many thanks to everyone who supported our turkey sales this year and for the lovely feedback about them. We have now divided the £800 between At Nicholas Church, Grafton Parish Council and Wiltshire Air ambulance.

COME AND JOIN OUR FRIENDLY BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

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GRAFTON GOSLINGS



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ARTS & CRAFTS, TOYS, ACTIVITIES AND SINGING

THURSDAY 10AM TO 11.30AM (TERM TIME)

CORONATION HALL, EAST GRAFTON

* * * * *

£3.00 PER FAMILY (£2.50 FOR BABIES UNDER 1 YEAR) – INCLUDES
A DRINK AND SNACK FOR CHILDREN AND FRESH COFFEE OR TEA
WITH DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CAKE FOR GROWN UPS!

February Winter Warmers' Lunch

The January Winter Warmers' Lunch is on Tuesday 7 February at 12.30pm in Coronation Hall.

Everyone is very welcome and if you are unable to come to the Coronation Hall, we are very happy to arrange a delivery to your door!

If you need more information please ring Liz on **07831 545772**.

We look forward to seeing you. February's menu is:

Hot Ham and parsley sauce, mashed potatoes and vegetables.
Bakewell Tart and Ice Cream.

Please let Liz know if you have any dietary requirements.



Join the Great British Spring Clean

Help keep our corner of the county looking lovely on

Saturday 11 March at 11am

Each year Sunflowers at Grafton organises a litter pick across the five Grafton Parish villages. Many of you have helped before and we hope you will join us again.

For those who haven't taken part previously – you'll be amazed at how much litter gets picked up! You are all very welcome.

Please bring a sturdy pair of gloves – gardening gloves are ideal – and a bag. We have plenty of litter pickers, bag holders and stylish hi-viz vests.

There will be co-ordinators in each village – simply meet on the day at 11am – and in the meantime keep an eye on village WhatsApp groups for further information.

East Grafton	Coronation Hall
Wilton	By the pond
Wexcombe	At the bus stop
Marten	At the noticeboard
West Grafton	At the noticeboard

For more information call Sue on 01672 810478 or email admin@sunflowers-grafton.co.uk.

The Great British Spring Clean is backed by the key anti-litter charities including Keep Britain Tidy - www.KeepBritainTidy.org



Grafton Parish Playing Field Survey

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the Grafton Parish Playing Field survey. More news on this will be available soon.

Local Business Listings

Airbnb Shepherds Hut	Emily Rance	07970 799214
Babysitting	Harry Rance	07555 185085
Babysitting	Livs Pearson	07974 400228
Bicycle Repairs	Peter	07366 418484
B&B Grafton	Victoria Frost	07557 791604
Self Catering Grafton	Pip Browning	07884 453300
Self Catering Wilton	Millie Lemon	01672 870266
Celebration Cakes	Nat Neal	07711 373688
Computer Issues	Stuart	07881 912477
Dog Grooming	Victoria Lewis	07786 686192
Dog Training/Walking	Carrie Holborow	07546 941709
Double Glazing	David Willcocks	01672 811979
Flowers	Gill Campbell	07833 670693
Gardening	Suz Upham	07799 765641
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Homeopathy	Emma H-Byass	07540 773531
Logs/Tree Surgeon	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Personal Trainer	Hen Mackinnon	07977 511959
Pest Control	Julie Watson	01672 811479
Printing	Jane Goldstein	01672 515444
Storage / Lockup	David Lemon	01672 870266
Sunflowers at Grafton	Julie McLernon	01672 810478
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Pinckneys Farm	Wendy	07989 228864
Yoga	Tim Brew	07747 780898

Bus Services in Our Parish

The following bus services are currently available:

Route 19 - between East Grafton and Marlborough, serving Wilton, East Grafton and West Grafton. Operator Salisbury Reds.

Route 22 - between Great Bedwyn and Marlborough, serving Wilton, East Grafton and West Grafton. Operator Swindon's Bus Company.

Route 103 - between Pewsey and Marlborough, serving East Grafton. Operator Salisbury Reds.

For timings and further details on these services, go to bustimes.org/localities/east-grafton

New Bus Service!

The first phase of an Uber-type bus service will be starting in March. The route will link Devizes to Marlborough, going as far east as Shalbourne and south to Collingbourne Ducis.

More information to follow.

Our Vicar Writes

Sometimes in life we are presented with something that is difficult to explain. Recently the Church Commissioners announced that they were giving £100 million to projects with communities that were linked to their historic investment in the Slave Trade. The hardest thing to explain is how £100m is available at a time when small cash strapped parishes are being asked to recover the post Covid debt. I can only offer my own resolution of this.

How do I deal with the Church Commissioners? I don't! My concern is the people who I have vowed to care for.

To that effect, we are introducing Creation Church at St Katharine's on Sunday the 12 February at 4pm. A monthly chance to walk with the Lord and other friends, reflecting on the good things in life. On Monday 27 February at 6pm in Little Bedwyn we start 'Still Waters,' de-stressing for half an hour in a holy place. There are many other things going on, particularly during Lent when we will be following the theme of 'Give Up Stress for Lent.'

I believe that Jesus' message has something to say to the world. Whatever the hypocrisy of the institution, that message remains true. The true richness of church has little to do with institution and everything to do with people.

God Bless, Michael

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Can you help Local Families?

Home-Start helps families with children under five who are experiencing tough times.

Volunteers visit families weekly to help them cope with challenges such as: isolation, poor mental health, financial worries, and multiple birth. Support is tailored to need. It could be accompanying a parent a playgroup or playing with a child whose parent is too ill. Often, just listening makes all the difference.

"If it hadn't been for Home-Start, we would have lost all hope. Every time I think of them, I smile." Mum.

We're looking for volunteers with:

- A friendly, positive nature
- Great listening skills and empathy
- Parenting skills or relevant life experience
- Time to visit families for 2-3 hours each week

Next Volunteer training starts:

February 2023. Devises.

T:01672 569457

E: hello@homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk W:

www.homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk

Home Start North Wiltshire is committed to equality, diversity, and safe recruitment. This volunteering post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

Charity number: 1106736

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For the latest information, register for Gastro News and/or the weekly Fish List: enquiries@gastronicks.co.uk

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4 Garland's Estate, Cadley Road, Collingbourne Ducis, SN8 3QE
Open in December: Monday - Saturday 9.30 - 5.30
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Message from Burbage Surgery

There are a lot of viral infections around at present - coughs, colds, flu, covid and gastroenteritis. Please refer to the [NHS.uk website](http://NHS.uk) for advice on management. If you have any concerns we are very much here for you when you need us.

Due to this extra pressure over what is always a busy time of year we are running slightly behind with prescriptions, but should be back to normal in the next few weeks. You will get a text from us at Burbage Surgery when your medication is ready to collect. Please ignore any messages you get from the NHS app saying it is ready. This should avoid you coming in if it has not yet been done. If you are concerned you will run out please do let the reception staff know and we will get it ready for you.

We will continue to use the window at the back of reception for dispensing as it makes the process much more efficient, but do feel free to come into the surgery if you have any mobility issues or if it is too cold or rainy to stand outside!

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Find Out About Where You Live

The Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership (a local, not for profit organisation) promotes the whole of the Pewsey Community Area. There is lots of information on the website -

www.visitpewseyvale.co.uk - including walking and cycling routes, places to visit and where to eat, drink and stay.

If you have a business and are interested in joining, contact Susie Brew on susie@visitpewseyvale.co.uk.

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tim.brew@hotmail.co.uk

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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

Dates for your diary

Mobile Library

Wiltshire Council has updated the Library Service's webpage - apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/Library/Mobiles

The website enables you to find a library near you and includes information on mobile library stops, dates and times as well as physical library buildings.

February

05	11:00	Church Service	St Nicholas' Church
06	18:00	Grafton PC Planning Meeting	Manor Farm, Wilton
07	12:30	Winter Warmers	Coronation Hall
08	11:40	Mobile Library	Coronation Hall

March

05	11:00	Holy Communion	St Nicholas' Church
06	19:30	Grafton PC Meeting	Coronation Hall
08	11:40	Mobile Library	Coronation Hall
11	11:00	Great British Spring Clean	Various - see page 1

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

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 (every week)	Olivia Boydall - Chair Yoga	14:30
Thursday (weekly in term-time)	Dance	16:45
Monday (1st & 3rd in month)	Alzheimer's Cafe	13:15
Tuesday (1st in month from October)	Winter Warmers	12:30



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References available on request.

07990 512342 or email Jasonlewis08@aol.com



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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twitter.com/graftonparish

Deadline for the next issue Friday 24 February 2023