



The Grayswood Runner

Serving the Community in Grayswood

October 2004

Editorial

The purpose of this new-look newsletter, funded and delivered to your door by all Saints Church, is not just to provide information about your village church, but now also to let you know about day-to-day topics that matter and may affect all of us who live in Grayswood. We actively welcome news sent to us either by e-mail or delivered to Church House, next door to All Saints.

We are shortly starting a Births, Marriages and Deaths notice section so if you want to keep your village informed of your family events then please let us know!

Some Events in October

Mens Breakfast 2nd
at the Village Hall—

Gardening Club— 7th
Winter Wonderland
at the Village Hall at
7.30 for 8.00 pm

WI—Autumn Pro- 13th
duce at the Village
Hall at 8.00 pm

WI—Coffee Morn- 23rd
ing in aid of Macmil-
lan Cancer Relief at
the Working Mens
Club from 10 to 12

Harvest Festival at All Saints is on 3rd October—come and give thanks for God's gifts and the farmers hard work!

How can you believe in a god who..?

Ever asked this question? Most people have at some time or another, including (I hope) those of us who call ourselves Christians. Mostly, after listening carefully to what comes next, my answer is simply: 'I don't.'

I don't believe in a god who smiles on injustice, racial hatred, vindictiveness or intolerance. I don't believe in a god who makes bad things happen, who sends illness and disease, who creates babies with serious physical and mental disabilities, who masterminds tragedy and disaster. I don't believe in a god who needs placating by good behaviour and rigid conformity to a set of rules. I don't believe in a god who approves of those who know they are right and won't allow for any possible differences in understanding. I don't believe in a god who

relishes making people squirm out of over-sensitive notions of guilt and encourages men and women to think of themselves as 'worms'. I don't believe in a god who sends people to hell because they have never heard of Jesus Christ. Do you?

None of these describe the Christian God. If you have rejected God in the past because s/he has been portrayed in any of these ways (and this list isn't exhaustive), you have been quite right to do so. You have rejected wrong portrayals, mistaken ideas, false images. And people have been wrong to offer them as truth.

Next month I'll tell you part of what I do believe - and why.

Barbara Steele Perkins

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 23 million boys and girls since 1991. It enables caring people to fill a shoebox with gifts for hurting children around the world. They are sent to children in hospitals, orphanages, refugee camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighbourhoods across the globe, regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs.



It is a great thing to do. If you'd like to participate you will need to get a leaflet either from Rebecca Willows (641921) or from the back of the Church.

**CHRISTMAS
COMING SOON!**



What is the Good News Van?

It is a van that has been coming to Grayswood, usually on the last Monday morning of each month, in order to provide a comfortable opportunity for people to meet and have a relaxing cup of coffee too. The van carries many books on Christian and other religious topics and themes.

This month it will be visiting us on 25th October at 10.30 until noon at 77 Lower Road, Grayswood. For more information call Jean on 643338

Contacting us:

Telephone: 01428 656504 or e-mail us at editor@grayswoodparish.org
Correspondence to: Church House, Grayswood Rd, Haslemere, Surrey
Visit our website at www.grayswoodparish.org

All Saints Matters

All Saints Church is your village church and is now 103 years old. It is a central building in our village but of course is more than just a building.

It is where a group of your neighbours and friends meet on a routine basis. These Grayswood people are a real cross section of the village—young and old, commuters and those who work locally, new people to the village and long established Grayswood families. They are all there!

Why not find out why they spend their Sunday mornings going to church? There must surely be better things to do on a Sunday morning

You may be pleasantly surprised.

Sunday Services

Services take place at All Saints every Sunday, usually a Holy Communion at 8.00 am and a further service at 10.00.

Our 10.00 services are usually well organized for families with young children—we have crèche facilities, fun for older children at Sunday School, and really don't mind if children make a bit of noise in church either! In fact we particularly encourage children to enjoy our church and join in with the first part of our service. There are special services which are more informal and this month the "All Ages" service will take place on 24th October at 10.00 am.

Thursday Services

Every first and third Thursday of each month at 10.30 am we hold a Holy Communion and Healing Service. too. All are very welcome!

Contacting All Saints

Your vicar Barbara Steele-Perkins is usually on duty on Monday, Thursday and Sunday and is available on 656504. Other people to contact if you need help are:

Doreen Hutton (644178)

Pauline Lamb (643798)
Peter Rix (644295)
Jenny Wardill (644443)
Jean White (643338)

If you need a vicar urgently then please contact Rev Norman Jones on 658107. The Church office e-mail address is allsaintschurch@grayswood.co.uk

Our web address is

www.grayswoodparish.org

and there is lots of information on the Church notice board inside the Porch.

The Church Administrator is Janet Fry and she is available Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Prayers this Month

This month we pray especially for those people in Grayswood who live in Lower Road, Park Close, and Ash Tree Close.

We also pray especially for the situation in Iraq and the people of Sudan.

Milford Hospital— possible closure and Grayswood

Will the closure of Milford Hospital affect Grayswood and its residents?

Milford Hospital has been looking after local elderly people who have previously been in an acute hospital but are not quite fit enough to return to their homes. It is a place of rehabilitation and an important part of the healing process of our local elderly people.

It is now set to close and there are considerable fears that by so doing not

only will this make the bed situation in our area worse for the elderly, but the

If you wish to give your views on the closure write to: Elizabeth Slinn, Guildford and Waverley PCT, Farnham Business Park, Weydon Lane, Farnham GU9 8QT

spill over effect into the general hospital could be bad news for people just wanting routine surgery. There is lots of information on the website www.milfordhospital.info and you can make your own mind up.

The public consultation process ends on 24th December 2004.

Teenagers Club in Grayswood every Friday

For youngsters between the ages of 14 and 17 there is now the opportunity to meet together at The Grayswood Club in Grayswood and have a fun sociable Friday evening with other village youngsters. The environment will be alcohol free and offers an alternative and comfortable meeting place. Contact John or Mandy on 651404

AWAY DAY

Why not join us for an "away day" to have a think about your village church and how it can make a greater contribution to your village and its inhabitants. Lasting from 9.30 to 4.30, the event costs £5.00 which also includes lunch. The day is important but should also be a lot of fun as we plan for the future! Contact Janet Fry for more information on 656504.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We need your contributions to keep this newsletter lively and up to date. Please let us have your events, family news, views on the newsletter, anything which you think may be important to your friends and neighbours.

Drop your letters into Church House or e-mail us: editor@grayswoodparish.org.

Look forward to hearing from you!