



The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002

Serving the Community in Grayswood

March 2005

Editorial

I always remember falling in love with Diana Spencer, as so many did, on the day of her amazing wedding. It now seems so long ago. She was charming, beautiful and seemed to inject a real sense of humanity and fun into what seemed a rather austere and pompous royal family.

In contrast, I have, perhaps very unfairly, felt the complete opposite about Camilla Parker Bowles and my initial response to learning of the news of their wedding was not very kind. I know some other Grayswood residents feel the same too. She was cast by Diana as the problematic "third person" in her marriage.

On Holocaust Memorial Day this year, I was impressed by the survivors capacity to forgive and look forward to a new beginning. They were amazing people and set an extraordinary example which, particularly at Easter, I could do well to follow.

Editor

Some Village Events in March 2005

Gardening Club	3rd
Mens Breakfast	5th
Mothering Sunday	6th
Womens Institute	9th
Rock Coffee Morning	18th
Palm Sunday—10.00 Church Service	20th
Good News Van	21st
Good Friday—10.00 Church Service and 2.00 Last Hour at the Cross	25th
Easter Sunday Service—10.00	27th

LIVING WITH MYSTERY AND SPECIAL MOMENTS

Do you enjoy mysteries? Films, books, plays? Stories which get more complex by the chapter, and which you can't quite fathom (if you're like me, that is) until almost the last page.



On holiday last year, I read '*Mr Golightly's Holiday*' by Salley Garnet. On the one hand it was an easy-to-read and pleasant novel (set in a part of Devon where we lived for 10 years), but on another level I found a mystery where I hadn't expected one. Several times I re-read a paragraph and thought 'that's odd'. Several more times my mind started to make a connection, but - 'no, it can't be'. Then there was the inevitable 'Oh, goodness; I see' moment, where things clicked into place and the whole made sense on a completely new level. Then I wanted to read it all again seeing it from this new perspective. Life is a mystery a bit like that. We can be ambling - or sprinting - along, existing at a surface, almost

superficial level - when all of a sudden we stumble across something we hadn't seen before, and we're forced to think and feel more deeply. It's a paradox, because the more we appreciate the depths, the more we realise how little we understand or know - whether first hand or indirectly. Christianity is like that too. If God is truly God, rather than merely a much magnified human being, there is bound to be mystery involved. At the communion service we sometimes 'proclaim the mystery of faith': *Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again*'. Whichever way we interpret those statements of faith - literally or spiritually (and sincere and genuine Christians do both) - it's still a mystery.

We do get the occasional 'Oh, I see' moment, the new perspective which gives us a radical new slant on things, or the fresh understanding which makes vivid connections for us. But most of the time faith is about living with the depth, the complexities, the oddities - and the sheer mystery of it all. And being content to live without the fullness of understanding which comes at the end of a novel.

Barbara Steele-Perkins

Grayswood Village Club Centenary 2005

Exactly 100 years ago the building known as the Grayswood Village Club stopped being the village school and became known as The Grayswood Village Institute, owned under trust, to be used for "the purpose of a reading room or village club". The club is celebrating its birthday by inviting you and your friends to join them for their celebrations:

Thurs March 17th, 7.30 pm for a pools and darts competition

Friday March 18th 7.30 for a live band, Party Food, & birthday cake

Saturday March 19th, Quiz Night 7.30 (£100 prize to the winners)

Sunday March 20th Darts Competition 12 noon onwards



There will be lots of real ales over the four days too—a mini beer festival! Absolutely everyone is welcome.

To find out more please contact David Franklin on 01428 652902.

The Other Village Pond

The Runner's editorial last month prompted a number of readers to remind us that there was of course a pond into which the spring underneath the current village hall car park used to drain.

The size of the pond illustrates why this patch of tarmac just won't stay in its place!



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

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 very accommodating 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.

Thursday Services

Every first and third Thursday of each month at 10.15 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. The answerphone is regularly monitored. Jenny Wardill (644443) is the Pastoral Assistant.

Help in the Village

We are very fortunate to have a team of people in the village who volunteer to come to you to help—whether it is something spiritual like coming to terms with illness or bereavement, or something practical like finding a good plumber.

Doreen Hutton (644178)
 Pauline Lamb (643798)
 Peter Rix (644295)
 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.

SPECIAL EASTER SERVICES

A special time of year when Christians remember the pain of the cross and then celebrate the joy of the resurrection—do visit All Saints for our special Easter Services during March at 10.00.

20th March, Palm Sunday—remembering Christ's arrival in Jerusalem and the loud acclamation of the crowds who waved palms

25th March, Good Friday—remembering the day of the Crucifixion

27th March, Easter Sunday—celebrating the miracle of the Resurrection and new life

HOBBIES AND CLUBS IN GRAYSWOOD

Given the size of the village it is surprising how many opportunities there are to meet and share interests and hobbies with others. The Runner would like to focus on this in future editions so if you would like more people in the village to know about your club, association, hobby, or interest do contact us and we will be pleased to let our village know more about you through The Runner and put your details on the village website too:

www.grayswoodparish.org

We look forward to hearing from you!



USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

- Church Office 656504**
- Village Hall Bookings 643859**
- Wheatsheaf Pub 644440**
- The Grayswood Club 644154**
- Grayswood School 642086**
- Rover Garage 642303**
- Barkers 642894**
- Haslemere Herald 651271**
- Haslemere Hall 642161**
- Hairdresser 642821**
- and any other suggestions?**

THE TRAIN HORNS TEAM LAUNCH THEIR CAMPAIGN

Notwithstanding the expected reduction in the volume of train horns, many villagers feel that the battle is far from won and are taking up the cudgels with the relevant authorities in order to secure much greater assurance about a peaceful future.

We hope you feel that this issue is important enough to contact the Horns Team about. It is so easy to "leave it to others" but your opinions will be valued and your support very helpful in securing a safe and quieter future.

The Horns Team e-mail is:

hornes@grayswoodparish.org

or you are invited to contact them on 643129 to register your opinions.

GRAYSWOOD SCHOOL'S AMAZING WEEK!

It was a truly amazing week at Grayswood School which celebrated its 100th birthday during the first week of February.

Mr Forde and current villager Mrs Walker who both went to the school in 1924 joined in the celebration as did so many villagers, past staff, pupils and parents, the Diocesan Director of Education, and the Bishop of Guildford.

The children had an Edwardian dress up day



and held a celebratory service at All Saints where they sang their favourite hymns and shared ideas about why they think Grayswood Infant School is a special place to be.

At the party afterwards they played Edwardian party games including hopscotch, Oranges and Lemons, Shove Ha'Penny, and marbles. The children sang happy birthday and blew out the special hundredth birthday cake.

It was the end of a wonderful week of memories and fun which we hope that everyone involved will always remember.

To contact the editor please e-mail editor@grayswoodparish.org or contact the Church Office.