



The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002

Serving the Community in Grayswood

June 2005

Editorial

I know it must have been May because there were two Bank Holidays in May and so dustbin collection day is now Monday...or possibly Tuesday because Monday was a Bank Holiday. Or does that count....?

Are we the only household in Grayswood that waits for others to put their bins out first and then follows suit? On speaking to friends it appears not—everyone claims to follow everyone else's example; but there must surely be someone in Grayswood who understands the system and puts their bin out first. To that special person a sincere thank you from the confused majority with the earnest hope that the recycling collection vehicle doesn't adopt a similar system for a while yet.

Editor

Fathers Day is June 19th!

Remember and celebrate the men who have helped you to further your life on Fathers Day, 2005.

Some Village Events in

Gardening Club	2nd
Pets Service	5th
Walk for the Water	5th
Womens Institute	8th
Mens Breakfast	11th
Monthly Bible Study	21st
Good News Van	27th

PEACE PERFECT PEACE!

Some people have the idea that Sunday is a vicar's busiest day. I was disabused of that very early on when I married one! Daily routine hardly exists, as each day, each week is different. This morning Janet (our church administrator) and I are sharing the workspace - my study cum church office - and so far today we're each doing our own thing. We've had only one visitor this morning, but sometimes it can be more like Piccadilly Circus, with quite a few people coming and going, most of whom enjoy a coffee with us.

Every week there's a sermon to write, e-mails, letters to respond to, and services to arrange, and often a meeting of some sort. Regularly I meet with Jean, our organist, to choose hymns for the next few weeks; with Doreen, our churchwardens; with Doreen, our Pastoral Assistant in training. Then there's the occasional 'keeping up' meeting with other people: Jenny, already working as a P.A., Home Group leaders, Sunday School teachers, the pastoral team. I take assembly in the school regularly, and welcome them into the church for their service at the end of each term. I've recently prepared 5 people for Confirmation.

Then there is "the occasional

offices" - weddings, baptisms and funerals. The first two score highly on my enjoyment scale! By the end of this year 6 couples will have been married in Grayswood church, and three are already booked for next year. Each one involves 3 interviews, where we get to know each other, check legalities and logistics, and talk seriously about the preparation for marriage itself, what Christian marriage means and go through the marriage service. In the week before the wedding there's the rehearsal, an address to write, and finally the service itself. (Sometimes there's also the delight of sharing in the reception.) Baptisms too involve getting to know people myself, introducing them to other young families in the church and seeing friendships develop - and I love babies and small children. At the other end of the emotional scale are the funerals, where I find it a privilege to meet people at a very vulnerable time in their lives and offer them (I hope) some comfort, and the opportunity in a Christian context to say their goodbyes to someone they have loved.

That's only some of it - a taster for you - but it's not only the vicar who does the work of ministry in a parish. Watch this space and I'll be telling you something about that - as well as what I do with the rest of my time.

Barbara Steele-Perkins



BRING YOUR PETS TO CHURCH!

Sun 5th June, 5.00 pm

We all love our pets and this is the village's opportunity to meet as a village in church for a short and happy service of thanksgiving for our animals' presence in our lives.

After the service, at around 5.30, we will all cross the road to the Green and there will be prizes given for dog races, cutest pets, and a "dogs most like their owner".

Everyone welcome to come and join the fun—bring picnics too and enjoy the evening!

SIGN SEEN OUTSIDE A CHURCH

CHURCH CAR PARK

CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY

Trespassers will be baptized!

SPRING FAYRE RAISES OVER £1,000!

What an amazing achievement—over £1,000 was raised from the Church Spring Fayre in May—the highest sum in memory and a hugely enjoyable morning and lunch for everyone that came. A really big thank you to the organisers and all who helped make the day a success.

Contacting us: Telephone: 01428 656504 or e-mail us at editor@grayswoodparish.org
Correspondence to: Church House, Church Close, Grayswood, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2DB
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. We work on a rotation basis during each calendar month as follows:

1st Sunday: Parish Communion

2nd Sunday: Morning Worship

3rd Sunday: Parish Communion

4th Sunday: All age Morning Worship

On the fifth Sunday of the month, which happens a few times a year, we share our worship with St Bartholomew's and St Christopher's in Haslemere

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

VILLAGE PRAYER

In June we pray for those who live beyond our parish boundary and yet still join us in prayer here at All Saints, Grayswood.

Our charity this calendar quarter is Grayswood Village School. Gifts can be placed on the plate at the back of All Saints during services and the white envelope system can be used to get some tax back too. Please support your village school!



KIDS REALLY ARE WELCOME!

Attention all children!! Why not try us out on a Sunday morning? After a few minutes in church you can go across the road with your friends to play games, listen to bible stories, do arty things and learn a bit more about who God really is and discover why Jesus was born. You can only come if you enjoy having fun and playing with your pals. A great way to spend Sunday morning.

We have groups according to age for the older children as well as a crèche for the little ones who are always well looked after and seem to have



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?

LEARNING MORE ABOUT FAITH

Every week in Grayswood there are routinely 30 people who get together in small groups to explore more about life, its meaning and our role in the grander scheme of things. It all sounds rather heavy but in fact these Home Groups are usually great fun and really stimulating. Whilst these events have a distinctively Christian theme to them, the opportunity to learn more about God and faith with ordinary people who are themselves also exploring their faith makes these evenings enormously interesting. Please contact the Church Office for more information—656504

Wildlife Week 4 - 12 June 2005

The Wildlife Trusts offers everyone the chance to get involved with wildlife during Wildlife Week, an annual celebration of wildlife across the UK. Discover your 'wild side', such as fun farm days, guided walks, bat patrols, seal spotting, mini-beast hunts, bird watching, wooded walks and rock pool rambles.

Contact The Wildlife Trusts on 01636 677711 or visit www.wildlifetrusts.org

Use it or lose it

I must use this precious moment
For it will not come again
And I can never be content
With things that might have been.
Kind words I fail to say this day
May ever be unsaid,
For I know not how short
May be the path that lies ahead.
Author unknown

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