



The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002

Serving the Community in Grayswood

October



2005

Editorial

You know you're living in 2005 when you accidentally enter your pin number into the microwave.

You also know you're living in 2005 when your immediate family of six have fourteen possible phone numbers on which they may be contacted!

It is therefore all the more relief to some of us in Grayswood that time out is taken in October to celebrate the 2005 harvest at our annual Harvest Service on 2nd October. Some things haven't changed and our reliance on the annual harvest and the farmers that work on all our behalf is there to be remembered.

Another year of my own feeble produce, fighting off rabbits, root fly, slugs, and pigeons serves to further remind me what an amazing job farmers everywhere do on our behalf.

EDITOR

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Wooden or plastic chairs for the garden? Fish or curry for dinner? Cream or jungle green emulsion for the bedroom? What difference does it make? Not a lot! Unless of course you do yourself a damage years later by falling through an old chair (which a friend of mine did a few summers ago) or you get a fishbone caught in the back of your throat - or you need the house doctor to help you sell your house! Even small, apparently insignificant choices can sometimes have an unexpected effect, for good or ill.

We can all look back and think of circumstances that would be totally different if it hadn't been for one apparently random choice we made years ago. But we'll never know of course what would have happened if we'd chosen differently. Tantalizing! "Two roads diverged in a wood", says the poet. And we have to choose; fence-sitting isn't an option.

Although - quite properly - there are escape clauses in some areas, generally we have to learn to live with the choices we make. A character-building device! But some of the choices we make in life are not morally neutral; these are either life-enriching (even though at the time they

may appear the opposite) or life-denying: to sniff glue - or not? to go with culture or the crowd against our own conscience - or not? to allow unethical ideas to influence us at work; to lie to get ourselves out of a mess; to cheat with course work... The pressure can be tough.

The Bible encourages us to make choices which are life-enriching: choose life; choose to reject wrong and choose right; choose wisdom and understanding; choose what pleases God.

On top of that I can also make choices to do good as well as to do right (there's a difference). I can choose to be generous with my time, my talents and my money; I can choose to help a neighbour rather than keep myself isolated. I can choose to correct the wrong (too much) change I've been given. I can choose so many things, which, in the grand scale of things, might appear to make very little difference to society or to the world. It might be insignificant and be but a drop in the ocean, but the ocean, like life, is made up of many many tiny drops; one small choice can make a big difference. So, choose life, choose good - and make a difference.

Barbara Steele-Perkins



HAVE FUN AND HELP CHILDREN IN NEED

Fight off those winter blues and put Saturday 12th November in your diary for a party in Grayswood Village Hall.

This is an opportunity to let your hair down, get out your dancing shoes and have a great night out. There will be a supper and a disco, along with a cash bar, with all profits being split between two child focused charities, namely Children in Need and The Kings World Trust. Tickets are only £12.50 each and include supper. The party will start at 8.00 and finish at 12.00.

To find out more speak to Rebecca Willows on 641921, Daphne Bleach on 643140 or Paul Smy on 643377. Tickets are available on 643377.

Some Village Events in October 2005

Harvest Service	2nd
Gardening Club	6th
Mens Breakfast	8th
WI	12th
Good News Van	24th

VICTORY FOR GRAYSWOOD—TRAIN HORNS TO BE SILENCED!

Following a year's negotiation the Horns Team have received confirmation from Network Rail that routine horn blowing need no longer be mandatory. Their track maintenance team will be scheduling in the works to remove the whistle boards for the train drivers. The village should then have comparative peace, although drivers may still hoot if they see someone on the crossing. A considerable amount of tree felling has been done to improve driver visibility and achieve this result. Thanks are due to the Horns Team, those property owners who have lost trees, and those who will be sharing the cost.

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 prac-

tical 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 October we remember in our prayers those who live in Lower Road, Park Close and Ash Tree Close

Our charity this calendar quarter is Through Faith Missions, well known for spreading the gospel through the "Walk of 1000 men" in churches, schools, pubs, clubs and doorsteps throughout the UK.

ALL SAINTS DAY OUR CHURCH'S 103RD BIRTHDAY!

In pre-Christian times, the Druids and Celts celebrated the end of summer on 31st October. Their celebrations also signalled the onset of winter, a time when it was feared that unfriendly ghosts, nature-spirits, and witches roamed the earth, creating mischief. So the Druid priests lit great bonfires and performed magic rites to ward off or appease these dark supernatural powers. When Christianity arrived, it began to replace the Druid religion. 1 November - All Saints' Day - was dedicated to all Christian Martyrs and Saints who had died. It was called 'All Hallows' Day'. The evening before became an evening of prayer and preparation and was called 'All Hallows' Eve', The Holy Evening, later shortened to 'Halloween'.

Today, Christians have learned to turn to prayer instead of charms to overcome the powers of darkness. Amidst all the fun, the deeper, true Christian meaning of All Hallows' Eve, should not be forgotten.

Our Annual Memorial Service takes place on Wednesday 2nd November at 7.30 at All Saints.



USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

- Church Office 656504**
- Village Hall Bookings 643859**
- Wheatsheaf Pub 644440**
- The Grayswood Club 644154**
- Grayswood School 642086**
- Haslemere Cars 642303**
- Barkers 642894**
- Haslemere Herald 651271**
- Haslemere Hall 642161**
- Hairdresser 642821**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We know it seems ages until Christmas but to help children, of all religions, race and creed, this Christmas you can fill a shoe box with gifts for those children and have them ready by Sunday November 13th. It is a great thing to do and if you would like to participate then ask for a leaflet from Rebecca Willows (641921) or you will find them at the back of church. Further information: www.samaritanspurse.co.uk.

APPLE DAY 21ST OCTOBER

It is Apple Day on 21 October.

There is a web-site dedicated to it:

<http://www.commonground.org.uk/>

where you can get details of various events around the country. In our area in particular there are special days at Secretts, Wisley, and West Dean. Not all the events are on the 21st October so it is well worth checking out as soon as possible!



THE YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY.....

Don't believe all the things you read in the national newspapers about young hooliganism and binge drinking. The A-level subject with the largest rise in entries this year - 16.9% - is Religious Studies, according to the 2005 A level entry and results data. You won't read that in the national press!

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