



# The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002

February



2006

Serving the Community in Grayswood

## A TRUE BEST SELLER!

The Bible continues to be the most translated book in the world. It is found in its entirety or in part in 2,377 of the approximately 6,900 languages that exist. The Bible is available

in whole or in part to some 98 percent of the world's population.

If you give the Bible a chance you can see why—it is full of the most amazing stories. Some violent, others gentle; some inspiring, others downright raunchy. Characters and individuals of every type, from the saintly to the worst examples of humanity—a huge cast of individuals. Every best selling novel I have read contains a story line that you can read first in the Bible. If you haven't read the Bible ever, or haven't done so for years, then why not give it a chance?

For a start, The Bible Reading Fellowship offers daily guidance on how to read this amazing "best seller". Contact the editor if you would like to find out more!



## SOAKING UP THE SUN IN FEBRUARY?

The season of grey days and colds is upon us. Sunshine Deficit Syndrome (SDS) is at its peak and we're more likely to be miserable at this time of year than any other. A good opening, don't you think?



How do you resist the seasonal temptation to succumb to SDS?

Firstly, I suggest, by not allowing that opening to get to you! Some of us head off to the sun perhaps, others a nearby sunbed and soak up the necessary vitamins that way.

What about the rest of us?

I heard someone (actually the Archbishop of Canterbury!) talking about basking in the sun the other day, but, surprisingly to some of us perhaps, he was talking about prayer.

Too often we think of prayer as just praying for people in need (which of course it is, partly), or as a duty to fulfil (which it is only in the same way that I have a duty to talk to my husband!), or as something I do when I need help myself (which, again, it is, partly, but Richard would be a bit put out if I spoke to him only to ask him for something!)

Let me encourage you to hold in your minds the picture of prayer as basking in the sunshine of God's presence.

What does it say to you?

Barbara Steele-Perkins

++ Grayswood Pets ++

Diary note: The next Pets Day in Grayswood will be 11th June. Make a diary note now and more news will follow soon!

## THE VERY FIRST VALENTINE CARD

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could - until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison waiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer.

The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14 February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.

## EDITOR

### Some Village Events in February 2006

Gardening Club	2nd
WI	8th
Mens Breakfast	11th
St Valentines Day	14th
Good News Van	27th
Shrove Tuesday	28th

### Ever fancied being a Calendar Girl?

Well here's your chance!

The ladies of Grayswood and beyond will make you very welcome and invite you to join them for a glass of wine, (or a cup of tea) and be introduced to the members of the Grayswood WI..

Whoever you are, whatever your age, they'd be really pleased to see you and promise you some lively and interesting evenings. They have guest speakers, Wine Tastings, Pamper evenings and

some great days out, learning and laughing at the same time,

The WI meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 8pm (next event is 8<sup>th</sup> February) at Grayswood Village Hall. Do go along, bring a friend, and see for yourself that they really are a modern voice for British women.

For more information call Heather on (01428) 605439 or email us at

[GrayswoodWI@googlemail.com](mailto:GrayswoodWI@googlemail.com)

Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, [editor@grayswoodparish.org](mailto:editor@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 5th Sunday of the month we

### Haslemere Hospital facing closure of hospital beds

Our local Primary Care Trust which manages our local spend on health need to recoup an overspend of around £16 million and have proposed five different routes to do so. Three out of the five options they have suggested for consultation include the closure of in-patient beds in Haslemere.

These beds are for the use of the elderly recuperating from illness and operations and specialist rehabilitation of patients of all ages. It is a much valued and cherished community resource that has been used by numerous Grayswood residents over the years.

Campaigners advise the Runner that there are other ways of recouping the overspend which need not mean the closure of hospital beds here in Haslemere. So if you want to help then sign the petitions at GP's surgeries, call 01428 648613, or e-mail [haslemerehospital@warrenden.com](mailto:haslemerehospital@warrenden.com).

Your support will be much appreciated by the Friends of Haslemere Hospital as well as the many people who depend on the Hospital for daily healthcare support.

share our service with St Bartholomew's and St Christopher's, 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 Mondays (am), Thursday (all day), Friday (am) and Sunday and is available on 656504. The answerphone is regularly monitored. Jenny Wardill (644443) and Doreen Hutton (644178) are the Pastoral Assistants.

### 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 even something practical like finding a good plumber.

Pauline Lamb (643798)  
Graham Wardill (644443)  
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 February we pray for, and think about, those who live in the Mount, Upper Mount and Williamson Close.

Our special cause this calendar quarter is our own village school—all monies placed in the plate at the back of church (ideally with a covenant envelope) will go towards the school funds



### USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

- Church Office 656504
- Village Hall Bookings 643859
- Wheatsheaf Pub 644440
- The Grayswood Club 644154
- Grayswood School 642086
- Grayswood Cars 642303
- Barkers 642894
- Haslemere Herald 651271
- Haslemere Hall 642161
- Hairdresser 642821
- Village Hall Payphone 658931

### HHH Concert in Village Hall 11th March 2006 at 2.00 pm

An enjoyable and varied programme of classical music from the London Concertante string players, right here in Grayswood! See if you can come and make this a real village event!

There are no "tickets", but a voluntary contribution of between £3 and £5 would be gratefully received.

Contact Sarah Barnes on 643129 to book places and for further information.



### DOREEN BECOMES A PASTORAL ASSISTANT

#### Doreen Hutton writes

*I was surprised but interested when our vicar Barbara Steele-Perkins encouraged me to join the Pastoral Assistants Course last January. Now, having completed the Foundation Course (training is on-going), I am so glad I was given the opportunity. After the first session I looked forward to each one, finding the content helpful, fascinating, challenging and fulfilling. Having completed the Foundation Course, each one of us is encouraged to pursue a speciality. In consultation with Barbara I have chosen to continue with home visiting, which I have done for many years, and to specialise in hospital visiting, and bringing Holy Communion to the housebound.*

Many Grayswood villagers would like to wish Doreen all the very best in her new post!

A bike suitable for a larger child/smaller adult is available for collection free of charge to someone who will use it themselves — please contact the Church Office.