



The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002

Serving the Community in Grayswood

March 2006

FORTNIGHTLY RUBBISH

Most reasonable people would agree that recycling is a good thing. It has been quite a challenge for many families to recycle their paper, cardboard, glass and bottles (with wine bottles in particular seeming to occupy embarrassingly high volumes of space in our recycling box).

Some weeks it has not been easy squeezing everything down into just the one dustbin. It can only be the very saintly among us that has not considered using a neighbour's bin for the odd bit of overflow from our own bulging wheely bin – when they were not looking of course!

However, alarm bells are ringing in that we understand that Waverley have decided that Grayswood is soon to have fortnightly collections of its non-recyclable rubbish and I have heard a few people wonder whether our larger village households will be able to meet this new requirement. If they can't? Then it's off to the tip at Witley where their rubbish will end up as landfill anyway.

One can only wonder what will benefit more—the environment or Waverley Council's budget?

Editor

Some Village Events in March 2006

Ash Wednesday	1st
Gardening Club	2nd
WI	8th
Mens Breakfast	11th
Mothering Sunday	26th
Good News Van	27th

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Half term for me was an experience of contrasts. I flew in an almost empty plane, a row of 4 seats to myself, seconds of coffee, quiet to nap. Homeward bound the Airbus was full to capacity and throbbed with about 70 excited teenagers going home after their first experience of America. No napping this time, even though it was a night flight, and the attendants had their hands full.

On the first Sunday of half term in America I woke to 10½ inches of crisp, pure white snow; fir trees bedecked with it, bushes weighed down with it, cars imprisoned in garages. We built snowcastles and played snowballs. Four days later, in temperatures of 64°, we stripped off our coats and gloves and donned T-shirts.

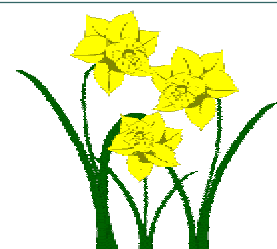
I read several Mr Men books several times over, played trains and 'wake up spider', did jigsaws and tickle-chased 2 small boys up to bed every night. Sunday lunch (at the home of my daughter's in-laws) belonged to a different tradition from our own - chicken biryani and very hot beef curry, with spiced carrot for dessert. And the conversation was earnest: religion (any and all) has caused all the wars on the planet; why do we feel we have

to defend our own beliefs not merely passionately, which one might expect, but violently - railing against the deeply held faith of another (even another of the same faith) and killing, supposedly in God's name? How would you respond if your Jesus were portrayed as a terrorist?

We live in a world of contrasts, more obviously today perhaps than ever before. Accepting difference is threatening for some, embracing it problematic. And yet Jesus Christ chose 12 disciples who came from different traditions and had contrasting lifestyles and expectations. His other followers were even more divergent, and included ordinary people, women as well as men, the poor, the wealthy and the elite as well as people of dubious reputation.

I don't know if anybody in Grayswood Church has a 'past', but in many churches that is the case - and quite rightly if we are truly following Christ. But I do know that we accept and embrace people from different traditions and with contrasting expectations - of life and of faith - as Jesus did. Challenging? Yes. Exciting? Yes. Difficult? Maybe, sometimes. Boring? Never! Whatever your tradition, your expectations, and your experience of life, you are welcome to join us.

Barbara Steele-Perkins



Mothering Sunday –26 March

There is an old Jewish saying: *God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers.*

Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods - our human mothers - all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' - as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known.

During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families - which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name.

This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

Join us at All Saints to celebrate Mothering Sunday on 26th March at 10.00 am.



Mens Breakfast

A chance for the men of the village to share some time together on a Saturday morning before the onset of the mad rush of the weekend. Good company, interesting conversation and great fun for those who attend. All are welcome to join us on the 2nd Saturday of the month in the Village Hall at 8.00 am.

Village Hall AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall will take place on Monday 27th March 2006 at 8.00 pm. The Village Hall is an important village amenity and volunteers are needed to represent the village in its running and organisation.

If you value this important village institution then please do come to the meeting and meet the rest of the committee who undertake such an important role in our village organisation

Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, 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

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 March we remember those who live in Lower Road, Park Close and Ash Tree 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

Cuts and the local community

It is a particularly difficult time to be living in our part of the UK. Everywhere we look there is an apparent lack of funding from both central and local government. For our children, there are cuts to funding in schools as Surrey CC makes big changes in its budget and services to fund its financial deficit. For our youth, there are cuts to their drop-in centres which keeps them off the streets and out of trouble. For the elderly and disabled there are threatened cuts to local hospitals and other services which currently make life that bit easier.

The ironic thing is that last year we were fighting the closure of Milford Hospital. This year we are fighting to save beds at Haslemere Hospital. If we are successful this year then we will probably lose the beds at Milford Hospital which we fought to save last year. Financial prudence is of course to be supported, but how sad that it now pits community against community, interest group against group, education against health, young against old.

A practical and ethical problem with no obvious or easy solution and one which demands understanding and tolerance from everyone involved.



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.

Support your Village Church

Shop on Amazon!

We have gone truly digital at All Saints Grayswood and on the front page of our website there is a link to Amazon. If you click on that link and then purchase something, then All Saints will earn a referral fee for introducing you!

It doesn't cost any more for you to shop at Amazon using this link and it means that you will be playing a valued part in the financial support of your village church.

Log on to: www.grayswoodparish.org today!

amazon.co.uk

Overheard in the pub...

It is not always easy to say the right thing on the spur of the moment. We can sympathise with the chap who met an old friend after many years. "And how's your dear wife?" he asked warmly.

"She's in heaven," replied the friend.

"Oh, I'm sorry," stammered the chap. Then realising this was not the thing to say, he stammered: "I mean, I'm glad." That seemed even worse, so he tried again.

"Well, what I really mean is, I'm surprised."

If you would like to contact The Runner please phone 01428 656504 or e-mail: editor@grayswoodparish.org