



The Grayswood Runner



Hannah Bleach, Gold Class 2002



Serving the Community in Grayswood

MARKET FORCES

It wasn't that long ago when Grayswood had thriving shops all of its own—real hubs of the community and it was very sad for everyone when they were forced out of business for various commercial reasons—call them “market forces”.

It was sad just recently to read about the closure of a long standing hardware store in Weyhill as well as Lloyds Bank. Again there are sound commercial reasons offered, once again “market forces” I suppose.

And yet those same forces have somehow transformed Haslemere in a very positive way. Admittedly we have lost the butcher and the fishmonger, but go there on any day of the week, particularly a Saturday, and the place is jam-packed full of people spending money. Again, these are the “market forces” at work, heavily influenced by the hard work and enthusiasm of the Town Council, the Haslemere Initiative, and others in the community.

Many, including the writer, bemoan the loss of local shops and then climb into the car and shop at a superstore miles away. However, it is good to be able to want to shop in Haslemere once again. Let us hope that market forces and the energy of local people transform Weyhill to a thriving shopping centre very soon.

Editor

Some Village Events in June 2006

Gardening Club	1st
Mens Breakfast	10th
Pets Service	11th
WI	14th
Summer Ball	17th
Good News Van	26th

THE DA VINCI CODE AND ALL THAT



Was Jesus married or celibate? Is traditional Christianity a huge cover up?

Yes, I'm jumping on the latest bandwagon! Which way do we jump? Do we swallow the so-called 'smear campaign' whole and believe the conspiracy theory? Secret knowledge has always had a powerful pull over human beings, especially those who like to feel superior. "I know something you don't." is still the cry from playgrounds - just as it was when I was a child. That's power! And often adults are no different. Secrets are like a magnet, just like a good book. Although the film has had rotten reviews, the book *The Da Vinci Code* is a good read as a thriller. It draws us in and we want to know what comes next and how it all turns out. Gripping stuff - as fiction.

The claim at the beginning that "all descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents and secret rituals in this novel are accurate" is also fiction; as truth

it's highly questionable. Actually some are accurate, some aren't. Some of the book's ideas are at best misunderstandings, otherwise they're deliberate misrepresentations, or the product of a lively imagination (which makes a good writer of fiction). To load a painting with a 'foreign' interpretation which claims to be factual, reveals a basic ignorance of art styles of the time.

Some people of course prefer to believe fiction rather than fact. For me however, it's not so much the idea that Jesus might have been married which is shocking, although for some Christians it is deeply so, but it's the notion of a monumental cover up by the early Church which is so offensive, because of its implications. Surely someone of integrity would have exposed a lie of that magnitude. After all, the first disciples would have known the truth; they were with Jesus for 3 years and I cannot believe that as followers of one who embodied truth, they were heavily involved in a cover up. Some of them died rather than deny Christ. What do you think? It's far too complex to explore in more detail here, but if you're interested in following up the ideas and issues raised by the book, go to www.rejesus.co.uk. It's a reliable site, well worth investigating.

Barbara Steele-Perkins



PETS SERVICE followed by PETS ON THE GREEN!

11th June 2006—5.00 pm

Everyone is very welcome to bring their pets to Church at 5.00 for a Service to celebrate pets and their contribution to village life. The service will be very light and child friendly, but of course the stars will be the pets!

After the service there will be chance to have your picnic on the green and all the pets present on the green will be entitled to a special Certificate of Attendance with some prizes in various categories including:

- Naughtiest Pet
- Best Behaved Pet
- Cuddliest Pet
- Smallest Pet

and lots more on the day!

Join us, if you can, at 5.00 in church first and then on the Green afterwards from about 5.45 pm. All are welcome, with or without their pets, to come and enjoy the day.



GRAYSWOOD SCHOOL SUMMER BALL

Saturday 17th June, 7.30 pm

Enjoy a glamorous evening in Grayswood with cocktails, a sumptuous 3 course dinner and dancing -all in support of our local village school. Amazing value at just £20 per ticket!

Contact Penny on 652147 for more information!

Village Feedback on Mars Bar Cake

We have had some very kind feedback on the Mars Bar Cake from our March Issue. One youngster called it “wicked” which summed it up just about right! Do try it, if you can!!

Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, editor@grayswoodparish.org

All Saints Matters

Sunday Services

8.00 am Holy Communion every week

10.00 am 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.

- 1st Sunday:** Parish Communion
- 2nd Sunday:** Morning Worship
- 3rd Sunday:** Parish Communion
- 4th Sunday:** All age Morning Worship
- 5th Sunday** we usually join in with St Barts or St Christophers, either in Grayswood or Haslemere—see notices on the Church Door!

Evening Services are occasional but are advertised in the village.

Mondays at 9 am (not Bank Holidays) - a short meditative service which follows the pattern of the Church since its early days

Thursdays

1st and 3rd Thursday Holy Communion using the BCP (old prayer book)

5th Thursday—Modern Iona style Communion Service

At all services we pray for people in any sort of need. If you would like us to pray for someone in particular - or be prayed for yourself (we need only a first name and you don't have to give a reason), either pop a note into Church House, leave a message on the answerphone, write in the book at the back of church, or ask someone to pass the message on.

Sacred space

The church building is open every day from about 9am until dusk in winter, about 6pm in summer. It's a peaceful place to think, meditate, dream, pray.

Contacting All Saints

Our vicar **Barbara Steele-Perkins** (barbarasteelerperkins@tiscali.co.uk) is officially on duty all day Sunday and Thursday, and Monday and Friday mornings; she also works part-time for the diocese, but both jobs allow for some flexibility. She responds to answerphone messages left on 656504 every day except Tuesday and will get back to you as soon as possible. **Janet Fry**, our church administrator, works in **Church Office** 656504 (in Church House) which is open Wed, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am-12 noon. **Doreen Hutton** 644178 is the coordinator of pastoral care in the parish. Please contact her if you would like someone to visit you - for whatever reason. You are promised complete confidentiality. If you would like to donate flowers at any time - in memory of someone or at a special anniversary. **Jaquie Lisle** 661091 is our flower coordinator. If you need a vicar urgently and can't get through to Barbara, phone **Norman Jones**, Rector of Haslemere (644578).

Bicycle Week 17th-25th June 2006

With all the stunning countryside around our village why not dust off the bicycle this month and have a ride? A nice, reasonably safe 1 hour ride from Grayswood is to the Lurgashall Winery via Holdfast Lane and Gospel Green. Remember you have to ride back too!



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**

VILLAGE PRAYER

In June we will be praying especially for all those we know who live outside the parish boundary.

A Night in June

The sun has long been set,
 The stars are out by twos and threes,
 The little birds are piping yet
 Among the bushes and the trees;
 There's a cuckoo, and one or two thrushes,
 And a far-off wind that rushes,
 And a sound of water that gushes,
 And the cuckoo's sovereign cry
 Fills all the hollow of the sky.

William Wordsworth

FATHERS DAY 18TH JUNE 2006

The third Sunday in June is Fathers Day—not yet a national holiday like in the United States, but nevertheless a special day for the men in the family. With Fathers Day in mind, some observations:

Many parents give their children everything except themselves.
Anon

When hugging and kissing end in any home, trouble is on the way.
Stephen Olford

The best test of a man's character is to ask his family about him.
Anon

There are three ways to get something done:

1. Do it yourself.
2. Hire someone to do it for you.
3. Forbid your children to do it.

A DAD!

YOUNG MEN LIKE THEIR HOME COMFORTS!

Young men often tend to live at home, while young women move out, according to recent Government figures.

An impressive 57% of men in the UK, aged 20 to 24, still live at home. This compares to only 38% of women. But both these figures have increased by six percentage points since 1991. For those aged 25 to 29, the gender differences remain: 23% of men are still living at home compared with only 11% of women.

ELDERFLOWER PRESSE'D

It is all rather bewildering but this year the elderflower just seems to have disappeared from the hedgerows of Grayswood. Is it climate change or is it the effects of the Runner readers stampeding towards their nearest elderflower patch to make our cordial recipe from the last edition of the Runner?

Either way the Runner has had more than one complaint on the shortage of elderflowers. It will be Nettle Wine next year!

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