

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

For many the prospect of a summer holiday from school or work, combined with travel and a stay somewhere other than Grayswood, is extremely attractive. There is of course no better way for families to get to know each other than to holiday together. Sometimes that intimate involvement with each other for 24 hours a day for a whole two weeks, can be just a bit too much to bear. Stress levels have been known to rise!

The fact is that whilst holidays can be fantastic, the travel is often highly stressful, the accommodation a bit of a let down, and the foreign food does not always agree with the English tummy. The traditional summer holiday is often a heady mixture of the absolutely fantastic moments combined with times of frustration and stress.

I am already looking forward to coming home from holiday and returning to the regular routines of Grayswood, back to my own bed, bathroom and toilet. I will once again enjoy the opportunity to escape from the family for much of the day—and for them to escape from me.

Enjoy your holidays wherever you go..... and your safe return to Grayswood too!

Editor

Events in July

Gardening Club	5th
WI	11th
Men's Breakfast	14th
Good News Van	23rd

DAD OF THE DECADE

Jesus is surrounded by a whole range of undesirables. 'Course, the religious leaders and law enforcers spot this and start their 'tutting and frowning' routine again; 'this chap doesn't only talk to these lowlifes; he actually shares his lunch with them!' they whine. So Jesus says, loud enough for the Tutting Club to hear

This factory owner guy has two sons. The kid brother gets it into his skull that he's had enough. He goes to his dad, and as much as wishes the old man dead: he asks for his half of the inheritance, sharpish. The dad almost has a heart attack from the shock, but he sits down, does the sums, sells some shares and hands over half the family assets. The son doesn't even hang around to hear his dad's top ten tips for survival. He legs it. Within weeks he's off to foreign climes, spending the nights filling the glasses of the designer set with his liquid assets. He has such a great time he can't remember any of it the next day. 'Course, the money goes down the toilet. So do the "friends" when they realise he's skint. So he surfs around and finds a site called www.worstjobsposs.com. He scrolls through the search results and ends up cleaning out the pigsties – not such a great career move, since he still counts himself Jewish.

He's there with his shovel, scratching away and suddenly a light bulb goes on just above his head: "What am I doing? The worst job in the old man's empire is, like, jet-setter status compared to this. If I had any food in my stomach, I'd be throwing up. I'll hitchhike home. Work on a speech – something like 'You don't have to think of me as family, but please give us a job.'"

After a long hot trip, he turns the corner into his old street. His dad sees him and runs out into the street in his slippers, throws his arms round him, lifts him up and spins him round. And the noise! The whole street hears it. Soooo embarrassing! He starts his speech, but the dad cuts in, telling his PA to arrange the biggest street party ever: "My son was virtually dead, and he's come back. He was lost and now he's turned up." So they party. Don't you just love a happy ending? Me too. Sorry, not this time! See there's still the big-brother issue. He's coming home from work, he turns the same corner and thinks he's in a scene from an old musical: dancing, music, tables right up the middle of the street and everyone having a fantastic time. He calls over one of the waiters and says, "We just win the lottery, or what?" The employee answers, "Better than that, sir: your brother's back, and your dad's blown the whole entertainment budget on the party!" That's the trigger. He loses it. Furious, he walks off, kicking lampposts, ranting and swearing. His dad catches up with him but he has to fend off words he'd never heard before from his eldest: "I've slogged my guts out. Slaving over your accounts. Doing exactly what you told me to do – I've not even taken a sickie when I fancied a day down the beach – and did you ever, ever throw a party for me and my mates? No! But when this waster comes crawling back, oh yes, he gets the full treatment. Well, thanks for nothing!" "Son," his dad says, grabbing him by the shoulders and eyeballing him, "you're around all the time, and I love it. What's mine is yours. But how could I not throw a party – as far as I knew, your brother was dead! Now he's alive. He could've been anywhere, and now he's here, with us. Come on, join the party."

Barbara Steele-Perkins



FIREWORKS FOR ALL

On the 7th July The Cricket Club is holding a Fireworks Display on the Green for the whole village as a "Thank You" for all the support the village community has given to the cricket over the past 18 years. There should be live entertainment in the Grayswood Institute Club from 8.00pm onwards with a barbeque being provided for a small charge of £5. The Firework Display will start at approximately 10.00pm. The Grand Prize Draw will follow the fireworks. We hope that each and every villager will be able to "Come on Down" and enjoy the celebrations

For Grand Draw tickets please contact Daphne and Greg Bleach on 01428 643140.

All profits from the evening will go to the Ben Williams Trust.

Donations will be gratefully received.

THE ONE TO WATCH!



A reminder that the annual Ben Williams Memorial Cricket Match starts at 2.00 on Sunday 8th July on the village green. The Williams family are hoping that as many people as possible will join them for the afternoon—teas, cake, barbecue plus the famous Grayswood Elder-flower Cordial will be available!

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** (barbarasteeleperkins@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 Monday, Wed, 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).

THE FIRST PR MAN

When you go back to work after the August Bank Holiday, spare a thought for John the Baptist, who is remembered on the 29th August. John the Baptist. By our standards, he had a tough life. Yet the Bible tells us that of all the people in history, few who have been born were ever as great as him. Why? Because of the unique job God gave him to do, which has to be the best PR job of all time: act as God's press officer. This was quite literally the PR job from heaven: with God as his client, John the Baptist's job was to broadcast the news that the Messiah had come. He was the first person to recognise Jesus as the Messiah. PR people also help their clients prepare for their public role, and John did the same for Jesus: he baptised him in the Jordan at the start of his ministry. PR people also stand up in public for their client's point of view, and in John's case it led to his arrest and imprisonment. His death was finally brought about by the scheming of Herodias and Salome. Not even Max Clifford has ever lost his head over a client. Spare John a thought this year.



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 July we remember those who live in Prestwick Lane, The Paddocks, Muddy Lane, and Clammer Hill Road

CHRISTIAN AID



Well done to the readers of the Runner and the village community who generously contributed a total of £272 during Christian Aid week—and a further £39 will be claimed through the Gift Aid Scheme in due course.

Recollections of my Sunday in the Plymouth Brethren 80 years ago when I was aged 4

No Cooking on a Sunday
 No Public Transport to be Used
 Distance from home to Gospel Hall—one and a half miles each way.
 Breakfast cold followed by prayers.
 Kneeling on a tiled floor.
 Off to morning service, lasting one and a half hours
 Home for cold lunch, followed by prayers
 Walk to Sunday School, 2pm—4 pm
 Back home again. Then off to Evening Service
 Back home to cold supper and bed.

WM, a current All Saints congregant

Traffic in Grayswood

General consensus seems to be that traffic volumes have definitely risen since the Hindhead roadworks. So much so that the possibility of a tunnel underneath the A286 at Grayswood from the Hall to The Wheatsheaf is being actively considered by councillors, so encouraging rat runners back to Hindhead. One can only dream.

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