

## IMMIGRATION

As part of my family tree re-research I took a DNA test to test my ancestry.

It turns out that my genetic profile can be traced back to Southern Europe and the near East to about 10,000 BC. Northern Europe including Grayswood was apparently covered in pack ice and had been for thousands of years but this pack ice slowly started to withdraw back up to the North pole.

In about 9,000 BC these ancestors followed the ice up and I now have genetic matches throughout Scandinavia, England, Ireland, Scotland, Russia, Poland and the Baltic states.

My own family went to the Baltic state of Lithuania and here I am 8,000 years later in Grayswood, Surrey. This has somehow placed all the new immigrants from Eastern Europe in a new and different context. These immigrants are just the latest in a continuing stream of human movement. All of us already living here in Grayswood are also part of that very same stream. Fascinating — makes me feel different about immigration too.

Editor

### Events in October

Gardening Club	4th
Book Group	9th
WI	10th
Men's Breakfast	13th
Good News Van	22nd

## It's a Wonderful Life!

Do you remember the film? Apparently it's had more showings on TV at Christmas than any other. There's worry, temptation, struggle and self-sacrifice, and the feel-good factor is high. Heart-warming stuff.

Part of the story is about a bank which is threatening to go under, and all the townsfolk worry about their own financial security – not surprisingly really. Queues form; people want to take their money out while they still can and put it elsewhere. It doesn't matter that the bank has helped people out in the past, changed their mortgage repayments, given them extra time when times are hard. What matters is now, and what happens to my money.

It's extraordinarily similar to what's happening with Northern Rock. Listening to the lunchtime news today (18 Sept) I was warmed by one woman who travelled quite a distance to open an account with them, because they had donated money to a charity with which she was involved. Then the presenter 'on the spot' revealed how much the bank was involved in giving to local charity.

Does it make a difference? In the film it did. In reality, who knows? The story may have moved on by the time you read this. But it challenged me – again – about our innate selfishness and our instinct to look after Number One. Which is all very well up to a point, but who, watching the film, sides against George Bailey (the 'good guy')? No one. Perhaps because, after all, there's a side of us which wants to be altruistic and self-sacrificing, giving rather than grabbing; a side which is generous and open-handed – and reflects the nature of God.

Barbara Steele-Perkins

## ROYAL SURREY SAVED, MILFORD THREATENED?

It is wonderful news that the Royal Surrey future is now set fair but will this be at the cost of Milford Hospital? Its 42 beds are in constant demand and it sees up to 20 patients each day for treatment and rehabilitation. It is of course very important that NHS assets are used wisely but it would also be very sad to lose this much valued asset—treasured particularly by the more vulnerable members of our community. It is worth keeping an eye on things over the next few months.

Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, [editor@grayswoodparish.org](mailto:editor@grayswoodparish.org)



## Grayswood Book Group

The numbers surprised even the organisers—16 villagers turned out for the inaugural meeting of the Grayswood Book Group!

The Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month and the following books were nominated for the next three months.

### October 9th

*Half of the Yellow Sun* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

### November 13th

*We need to talk about Kevin* by Lionel Shriver

### December 11th

*Under the Greenwood Tree* by Thomas Hardy

Meetings start at 8.00 pm, and will be at the Grayswood Club.

All new readers very welcome!

## Grayswood Cricket

Whether you enjoy cricket or not you may be pleased to learn that Grayswood's first XI cricket team has had the most amazing season and as the Runner goes to print there is even the possibility that they may win the league—more news next month!

## 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](mailto: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).

## Things to do in October

As the evenings draw in earlier in October and the clocks go back on the 28th October it is time to cheer ourselves up and take our minds off winter with some positive things to do round and about Grayswood.

**Haslemere Museum** is holding an exhibition entitled Ancient Civilizations—open to the 13th October

**Vivartis Arts Festival** held at King Edwards School offers fantastic modern art and sculpture—open to the 14th October

**Haslemere Thespians** presenting A Month of Sundays at Haslemere Hall—from 4th to 6th October

**Solane French Choir** —St Barts, Haslemere on 13th October 7.30

**Haslemere Camera Club** exhibition from 16th to 27th at the Museum

On the assumption that October will be cold and wet, then these mainly indoor activities offer a great way to spend a few autumn hours!

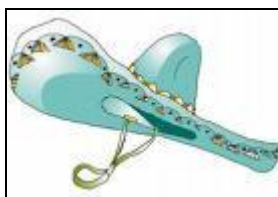


### USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

**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 October we pray for those who live in Lower Road, Park Tree Close, and Ash Tree Close.



### MEXICAN FIESTA!

Tickets are still available for this splendid evening for Grayswood School on 10th November—for information and tickets contact Penny Glaser on 01428 652147.



### Feast on the Bible's big meal to draw strength for today and tomorrow

Like us, the Christians in Rome knew what it was to live under pressure; to need strength and hope for today and tomorrow. Paul's answer in Romans 15.1-6 was for them to draw on 'everything written in the Scriptures'. And that's the nourishing theme for Bible Sunday this year.

To 'go large' by taking a helicopter view of the Bible. To see our lives and our world in the light of all God is and does. Bible Sunday 2007 is out to help your church get the Bible's big picture. Because the more we know about what God has done in the past, the greater our confidence in him for the future. Find out more at the All Age Service at All Saints Grayswood on 28th October at 10.00 am this year.

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