



The Grayswood Runner



this banner was designed with assistance from Gold Class, Grayswood School 2006/2007

March/April 2008

Climbing into Haslemere

On one particularly cold afternoon I recently decided to walk into Haslemere— I think the first time I have ever done it. To my surprise I actually quite enjoyed it. The road is of course a bit noisy, but putting that to one side I actually enjoyed the scenery, taking time out to look at the war memorial, finding houses that I never knew existed, and inspecting the World War 2 anti-tank devices still present in the woods off the road. I was delighted by some wonderful brambles which will be well worth a visit in the Autumn. I was however shocked at what a tough uphill walk it can be— investigation later on the web indicated that Lloyds Bank is some 160 feet higher than our Village Hall. This is equivalent to the height of Nelson's Column! The walk is made even harder by the fact that instead of a steady incline the road undulates. So, why don't you give it a go and climb to Haslemere. Share with me the rather smug satisfaction in not having to pay Waverley's parking charges—the real icing on the cake of human satisfaction!

Editor

Events in March/April

Gardening Club	6th/3rd
Men's Breakfast	8th/12th
Book Group	11th/8th
WI	12th/9th
Good News Van	31st/28th

A very happy Easter!

You might be glad to know that Easter won't be this early again for 70 years! Read the Editor's explanation (over). Although it's a "moveable feast", Easter is the most important celebration of the Christian year, but it doesn't have the popular appeal of Christmas. Perhaps it should have? It's about the conquering of death – the "last enemy" – about new life and new beginnings. Christians celebrate the decisive example of God making "all things new" – for all humanity.

But before the amazement and wonder of resurrection, there's always Good Friday and Saturday. They are dark days. Good Friday reminds us, supremely of course, of the cost to God himself of making all things new. But also that being a true disciple – still today in some parts of the world – is no sinecure. It shows us starkly that (at the least) the hard choice of being a follower of Jesus may result in misunderstanding, isolation and loneliness, and may possibly even cost us our life.

Saturday is an in-between time, a waiting time, where "Death is given space to be itself, in all its coldness and helplessness." In that space there is fear, awfulness, emptiness; there is no guarantee of resurrection, only – perhaps – a thread of belief in a promise. So often we skate over it, embarrassed by it perhaps, filling the space with the good news we – with hindsight – know, but which the disciples then were not so sure of. What better day is there to reflect on Auschwitz, Hiroshima, Chernobyl, "signature events of the power of evil [which move us into] other occasions of deathliness that [we] inescapably face"?

What better day could we use to remind ourselves of the reality of death and the frailty of human existence threatened by war, personal tragedy, terminal illness? On what more appropriate day could we reflect on apparent abandonment by God? This day is symbolic for us of the need to stand alongside those who are living in that coldness and helplessness of Saturday and for whom hope is dim, if there at all.

Barbara Steele-Perkins

Grayswood Book Club

The Grayswood Book Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the Grayswood Club and many villagers are getting a huge amount of fun reading a book they would not normally choose and discussing it with others.

The next three months have the following books for discussion:

- March—A Million Little Pieces by James Frey
- April- The Diving Bell and the Butterfly by Jean Bauby
- May- Miracles Of Life by J.G.Ballard

For further information please call Paul or Janis on 643377



KEEPING GRAYWSOOD CLEAN

A number of residents of Grayswood (and parents who walk their children to school) have been complaining about unpleasant doggy deposits around the village, and particularly Lower Road.

The school is currently undertaking an environmental awareness scheme trying to encourage more children to walk to school in order to reduce pollution and traffic congestion. It is a shame that a small and thoughtless problem such as dog mess should start to deter people from getting involved in the scheme.

It would be hugely appreciated by everyone if the minority of dog owners who do not currently clear up after their pet could do so in future!

HHH Concert

8th March 2008, 2.30

The Village Hall is hosting a light classical concert held by HHH and all are welcome to enjoy the afternoon. Tea is also available.

Call Sarah 643129 for more information!

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 usually 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 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).

Some Things to do in March/April around and about Grayswood

2nd March—Farmers Market

6th March—Walk for Health from High Lane 10.00 am 661166

7th March—Killer Queen Tribute Band at Chiddingfold Live Music Club 684995

15th March—St Barts Charity Dinner at The Royal School 644578

25-29 March—Musical "Summer Holiday" at Haslemere Hall 642161

3 April—Walk for Health from High Lane 10.00 am 661166

6th April—Farmers Market

18th April—Haslemere Society Spring Meeting, Haslemere Hall at 7.30

23rd April—Haslemere Flower Circle at Haslemere Hall 1.45 for 2.00 654810

25th April—Chamber Dinner Dance at the Georgian Hotel at 7.30

Finally—do not forget the special **Good Friday and Easter Sunday** services at All Saints Church at 10.00 on 21st March and 23rd March! All are very welcome!



USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office 656504
Village Hall Bookings 643859
Wheatshaf 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 March and April we remember and pray for those living in Lower Rd, Park Close, Ash Tree Close, Grayswood Road, Grayswood Copse, Little Home Close, and Church Close.

WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Annual Service takes place on 7th March at 10.30 am at St Stephens Church, Shottermill—a crèche is available and there will be tea and coffee after the service.

WHY IS EASTER AMAZINGLY EARLY ONE YEAR AND ABSURDLY LATE ANOTHER YEAR?

Easter, the celebration of Jesus's resurrection, was originally celebrated by the early Church on the same day as the Jewish Passover—the 14th day of the month of Nissan. The Jewish calendar is a lunar calendar whereby the 1st day of the month is a new moon, the 14th day of the month is always a full moon and by the 28th day it almost returns to a new moon again. A full moon is guaranteed on the 14th day of the month!

When the current western solar calendar was introduced the Passover date jumped about and therefore so did Easter. Many Christians felt strongly that whatever the date, Easter should at the very least take place on a Sunday as this was the biblically recorded day of Jesus's resurrection.

In 325, a Church Council decided to celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox (always March 21st).

This year that day is March 23rd but in 2011 the date is April 24th.

So Easter is "when it is" due to a fascinating combination of Jewish practice, astronomy, theological debate and good old fashioned compromise.

Now you know the answer to the question!