



The Grayswood Runner



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

December/January 08/09

Traditions and turmoil...

The coming weeks sees a veritable banquet of activity, that come January, leaves many of us physically and emotionally exhausted!!

The whirlwind of places to be, people to see, relatives to visit (or avoid), gifts to buy, to wrap, to deliver. Meals to cook, shopping to buy, puddings to steam, fiddly things on sticks to make that you only ever seem to make at Christmas that no one eats anyway whilst all the time humming various strains of a mishmash of carols...phew! I'm exhausted just thinking about it!!

The myriad of traditions old and new can often seek only to cover the true meaning of Christmas. For those who believe, a chance to celebrate the birth of Christ and the miracles that brings. For those yet undecided or those who just value the non material gifts, it is a chance to be with friends and family or just to take a quiet time to remember fondly those whom cannot be with us but who are much loved.

Whatever Christmas and New year traditions you choose to enjoy, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year

Events in December/January

Garden Club	4th/8th
Book Club	2nd/6th
WI	10th/14th
Mens Breakfast	13th/10th
Good News Van	22nd TBC/ 26th

Listen! It's coming.

What is? Snow? Possibly. A parcel in the post? Maybe. Good news for new home buyers? I doubt it. Christmas? Unquestionably. Carol singers? Yes.

Last year we didn't warn you, and many of you perhaps had the TV volume turned up, or were in the middle of what my daughter calls KTB - kid's tea and bath! Or perhaps, sensibly, you didn't want to risk answering the door after dark.

So be warned! A group from All Saints will be singing carols round part of the village on Monday 22nd December. We follow a small triangular route, up Lower Road, down Prestwick Lane, past Klondyke, down the Mount and finish up singing a couple of carols at the Wheatsheaf.

You're very welcome to join us; we set off from the church Lych Gate at 7.30pm. Bring a torch.

You might find it odd, but you needn't make sure you have your purse handy. It's one of the times of year where we consciously aim (however imperfectly and only in a very small way) to reflect something of what we believe God is like – generous and giving. At Christmas of course we celebrate God's very special gift of Jesus, who shows us what God is like. The church does ask for financial contributions sometimes, but this is not one of them. So come to your door, let the sound of carols (and the cold air!) in for a while, choose a chocolate and enjoy.

With my very best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Barbara

Christmas service dates for your diary

Everyone is very welcome at any and all		
Nov 30	Advent Communion	10am
Dec 6	Christmas Fayre	11.30-1.30
Dec 16	Dress Rehearsal in school of School Christmas Play	9.30am
Dec 21	Nativity Service	10am
Dec 21	Carols by Candlelight followed by Punch and mince pies	5pm
Dec 24	Crib service	4pm
Dec 24	Midnight Communion	11.30pm
Dec 25	All Age Celebration followed by a shortened Communion	10am
Dec 28	All Age Morning Worship	10am
Jan 25	Christingle	10am

New Year—New Ideas!!!

Many of you will remember the money raised by the village to reinstate the pond and the surrounding area. This activity has been successfully completed and the ongoing maintenance handed over to the National Trust. However, we have a nominal sum of money that has remained in the fund and here is where we would like your help!!

We have approximately £1,000 which we would like to use for the benefit of the village. Because these funds were raised for an environmental project this will be our theme. Perhaps



you would like some wildlife boxes? Other ideas could include

an observatory style project or learn about the stars above our village....

We welcome suggestions from all ages and all members of our community which will be discussed and then put to you for your vote!

Please email with your suggestions and any questions to editor@grayswoodparish.org or write to Environmental Project, Grayswood Village Hall, Grayswood Road, Grayswood, Surrey.

ALL of your ideas and suggestions will be considered, though please can we have them by end January 2009.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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** (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).



All Saints Christmas Fayre Saturday 6 December at 11.30am Grayswood Village Hall



Lots of fun and entertainment for all, including:- Photos with Santa, Christmas Gifts, Treasure Tree, Children's Toys, Bric a Brac, Jewellery, Fair-trade Gifts, Cakes and Produce, Books, CDs & Videos, Greetings Cards, Lucky Dip, Raffle and lots more...

Soup, Hotdogs and Mince Pies served from 12pm - 1pm

Outside stallholders (£10 + 10%) and stall contributions welcome – call Daphne (643140), Gill (644295), Charlie (644495) or Susie (642917)

Would you like to make a difference?

The Village Hall committee held their AGM in November and whilst the current Secretary and Treasurer are happy to continue in their roles, our Chairman has decided to step down from his position. Though committed to remain until a replacement can be found, he will certainly not remain indefinitely. Do you think this is something you may like to get involved in? Each committee member attends voluntarily and it is made up of a representative of each of the user groups of the hall. The time commitment would be approximately 6 meetings a year as well as occasional work parties. It's a great opportunity to be directly involved in the heart of the village. For further information or to express an interest please contact Jane White (Secretary) Janewhitehome@yahoo.co.uk call 643891



VILLAGE PRAYER

In December and January we remember and think about all those who live in Prestwick Lane, The Paddocks, Muddy Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Holdfast Lane, Highercombe Road and Three Gates lane

USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office 656504

Village Hall Bookings 643859

Wheatsheaf Pub 644440

The Grayswood Club 644154

Grayswood School 642086

Grayswood Cars 642303

Grayswood Nursery School 658931

Barkers 642894

Haslemere Herald 651271

Haslemere Hall 642161

Hairdresser 642821

The Rockery B&B 643178

www.therockerybedandbreakfast.com

Village Hall Payphone 658931

