



The Grayswood Runner



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

October 2009

Minutes, hours, days and weeks.....

Don't they all fly past so very very quickly. Full time working, Full Time parenting, Full time carer, Full Time friend, Full Time Full On!!

There are always so many thing to do in a day, to fit in or attend to that invariably we end the week or weekend fretting about all the things we couldn't manage to do and resolving to do them first thing next week!

Are those things really so important though? Should we just take 10 minutes every now and then to look around us at all the beautiful things we have, like trees turning their golden shades of orange. Or maybe at the animals in the fields growing their winter coats. Perhaps even just sitting on the back steps with a cuppa in hand laughing to yourself as you watch the steam on your breath.

Life is full of things you HAVE to do, quite often not leaving enough time for the things that wed like to do.

I think the key is to use your time wisely, make what you do count and go to bed each night knowing that whatever you did, you did your best.

Editor

Dear friends



Following on from last month - how do Christians read the Bible? We sometimes fail to realise, because it was written so long ago, that the writers (all Jewish, although one - Luke - is debatable) demonstrate sophisticated linguistic and literary skills. Two simple examples:

1 *Image, metaphor and symbol figure strongly throughout the Bible.* The writers knew that God could not be defined, only described, and then inadequately. In different contexts therefore, they used a whole variety of images for God, which would resonate culturally with the people of that time - king and judge, for example, both of which we understand differently because of our culture, and we have to learn about theirs in order to get the proper picture. God is also variously portrayed as guide, lover, husband, rock, protector and so on. Nothing simplistic here.

2 *Stories are powerful conveyors of truth.* Think of the parables of Jesus. Are they true stories? We can answer that in two ways: No, they did not really 'happen', but they were recognisably plausible in that context. Only up to a point however, as, in order to make a point, most have a decidedly surreal twist! A shepherd leaving 99 to search for the one, for example, or a boss who pays the same for an hour's work as for a full day, or a woman who kneads over 100lbs of dough - not just her family's daily bread! On the other hand, yes, they are true in the sense that they convey truth; they have something important to say.

Opinion is divided about the story of *Jonah and the Whale*; is it historically and literally true or is it a parable? It's beloved by children who enjoy the drama, and scorned by many adults for its surreal notion of a man being swallowed by a 'whale' (literally 'big fish'). But does it have to be literally 'true' in order to convey truth? Is there a danger we might miss that truth if we insist it 'really happened'? More next time

With my very best wishes

Barbara

Light Fantastic

Grayswood Church is holding a Light Fantastic Party on **31 October 2009** from 4 - 6pm.

Any children aged between 4 - 11 who live in the village is very welcome to attend! There will be plenty of games for everyone, including messy play (so please do not wear your best party outfits!). A tea will also be provided so a suggested donation of £2 per child, payable on the door would be much appreciated.

Spaces are limited so if you would like to come please contact Lara (654199), Fiona (654728) or Daphne (643140) by 23 October 2009. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!



Barn Dance

Come along to Grayswood Village Hall and Join the fun for a Harvest Barn Dance on Saturday 10th October from 7.30pm. A caller will lead the dances so that EVERYONE can join in as and when they feel brave enough!

Tickets are £7.50 each and include a 2 course meal. A cash bar selling cider, wine and soft drinks will be available. Ticket are available from Doreen Hutton 644178, Paul Smy 643377 and Fiona Gwynn 654728

Harvest Lunch

There will be a bring and share lunch of soups, cheeses and pudding following the Harvest Festival Service on Sunday 4th October.

Everyone is welcome and no tickets are required, but if you plan to come please either sign the list on the back of the church or contact Judy Culhane on 644125 so we can get an idea of numbers.

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 with St Bart's or St Christopher's, 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 at 10.15 am

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, Thu, 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).

USEFUL GRAYSWOOD PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office 656504

Village Hall Bookings 643859

Wheatshaf Pub 644440

The Grayswood Club 07748 065 821

Grayswood School 642086

Grayswood Cars (Garage) 642303

Grayswood Nursery School 658931

Barkers 642894

Haslemere Herald 651271

Haslemere Hall 642161

Hairdresser 642821

The Rockery B&B 643178

Village Hall Payphone 658931

Grayswood Taxi Service 644440

Mobile 078877 14799

Harvest Festival Service

All Saints all age Harvest Festival will be held in church on Sunday 4th October at 10am - all are welcome



Events in October

Gardening Club	1 st October
Book Club	13 th October
WI	14 th October
Men's Breakfast	10 th October

VILLAGE PRAYER

In September we remember and think about all those who live in The Mount, Upper Mount, Williamson Close

Grayswood Book Club

Have you ever wondered about the mad woman in the attic in Jane Eyre? What took her to dark, brooding Thornfield Hall? Well Grayswood Book Club is back for the Autumn and we will be looking at *The Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys. This brilliant, short novel looks at the history of Mr Rochester and his first wife during their time in the West Indies, it is considered by many to be a modern masterpiece. The next meeting is on the 13th October in Grayswood Village Club at 8.00 p.m. The book club meets every second Tuesday at 8.00 in the Club followed by 10th November and 8th December. Everyone welcome.



Village Hall AGM

Grayswood Village Hall Management Committee will hold their AGM on the 18th November 2009 at 8.00pm in the village hall. This is open to all village residents.