



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

Dec 13 / Jan 14

Spare a thought

Recently I have become increasingly aware of just how difficult some people find this time of year. The persistent adverts telling us what we want or need for Christmas start earlier and earlier every year, the piped 'hits' hound us as we shop, and it's hard to avoid the paraphernalia that has little to do with the true meaning of the season!

There often seems to be a general assumption that everyone is happy and excited at this time of year, but with increasing poverty and debt, foodstuffs increasing in price whilst shrinking in size, loneliness, homelessness, recent natural disasters, and many struggling to make ends meet in our community, it can be a very difficult and stressful time.

As we approach Christmas this year, let's spare a thought for those who are finding life difficult and may not be feeling as upbeat as they feel the season demands, as we seek to remember and find joy in the simplicity of the real meaning of Christmas.

Janet Fry,
Church Administrator

My wish for us all is that this Christmas we have the opportunity to connect with people—that we have the chance to tell those we love, that we love them and how special they are, and to reach out to those who might be lonely or in need.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and every blessing for a wonderful year ahead.

Editor

Dear Friends

Thank you!

Amazed, thrilled, excited, humbled? Yes, all of those. Your response to the Gift Day was overwhelming, and we are deeply grateful to all those who have contributed so far. Including a sizeable gift from the *Friends of All Saints* and Gift Aid where applicable, you have given just over **£50,000**. It's an incredible start, and thank you all most sincerely.

From now we will be concentrating our attention on fund-raising efforts, but if you haven't yet made the contribution you would like to, please do so. Yellow Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of the church; fill them in as required and drop them into Church House. If you wish your gift to be anonymous, put it in a plain envelope appropriately marked, and only the Gift Aid administrator will know.

The fundraising efforts will get under way soon, and I hope you will join in as much as you can, to the events which appeal to you – and join in the fun. Many different things are being planned, in the hope that we appeal to all tastes.

Giving is a Christmas thing to do. As the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has said recently, we give presents which show love and affection, not try to buy love and affection. Our generosity to each other at Christmas and to those in need (as in the Philippines for example) reflects the generosity of God, who gave us freely of himself and became a human being vulnerable to the constraints of life.

*With my very best wishes
for a Happy Christmas
and a New Year filled with joy and peace
Barbara*

**All Saints Christmas Fayre
on Saturday 7th December from 11.30-1.30
in Grayswood Village Hall**

With Father Christmas, Gifts, Cakes and Produce,
Toys, Raffle, Books, DVDs, Tombola, Decorations,
Bulbs, Soup and Bacon Butties and lots more.....

Please come and join the fun!

**SAVE THE DATE:
SATURDAY 1ST MARCH 2014 -
'RAISE THE ROOF' JAZZ EVENING**

Join The Friends of All Saints for a lively toe-tapping session of New Orleans Jazz. Brimming with a wealth of music and performance experience, John Shillito's Select Six play all over the country and are much in demand.

Tickets £15 (or £25 to include two course set meal at The Wheatsheaf)

Please contact Pauline Lamb for tickets and further information: 01428 643798 or lamb@haslemere.com



Contacting the Runner : Telephone: 01428 656504, grayswoodrunner@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES for DECEMBER and JANUARY

Every Sunday: 8am Holy Communion

Every Sunday the main service is at 10am

DECEMBER

- 1st **Advent Sunday** Parish Communion
- 8th Morning Worship
- 15th Parish Communion
- 22nd **Nativity Service** with Baptism
- 22nd **5pm Carols by Candlelight**
followed by Punch & mince pies
'Still No Room' - a sketch for Christmas
by Richard Everett
- 24th **Christmas Eve 4pm Crib service**
11.30pm Midnight Communion
- 25th **Christmas Day All Age Celebration**
followed by a shortened Communion
- HAPPY CHRISTMAS!**
- 29th Joint Service of Holy Communion for all the Family (at All Saints, with St Bart's and St Christopher's)



JANUARY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- 5th Parish Communion for the Epiphany
- 12th Morning Worship
- 19th Parish Communion
- 26th **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**



Contacting All Saints

Do contact us if you would like us to pray for you. Phone any number below, send an e-mail, write the name in the book at the back of church, pop a note into Church House, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

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

Barbara Steele-Perkins 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 answer-phone messages every day except Tuesday and will get back to you as soon as possible.

tel: 656504 e-mail: barbarasteelerperkins@tiscali.co.uk

Janet Fry, our **church administrator**, works in **Church Office** (in Church House) which is open Mon, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am-12 noon. At other times you can still leave a message.

tel: 656504 e-mail: allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

If you would like someone to visit you - for whatever reason, please contact Barbara or Janet (contact details above). You are promised complete confidentiality.

Fiona Gwynn is our **flower coordinator**. Contact her if you would like to help with an arrangement for a special festival or donate flowers at any time - in memory of someone or at a special anniversary, etc.

tel: 654728 e-mail: gwynnfamilysky.com

"Traffic...Traffic...Traffic"

As reported in the last edition of *The Runner*, the expansion of our Infant School to become a through Primary School has been agreed at County level.

One of the major concerns raised by village residents and businesses was that of **traffic congestion**. Whilst there is no easy solution to this problem, it may be possible to reduce the traffic impact on the village.

School Governor *Stephen Frye* has agreed to coordinate consultation between the village, School, Highways and Surrey County Council.

If you would like to be part of a Liaison Committee please contact Stephen direct on 653482

The Ben Williams Trust Christmas Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale will be held on Saturday 7th December from 10-12.30 at Crofton, Park Road, Haslemere.

A selection of gifts, wreaths, cakes and table decorations will be available.

Everybody Welcome!

VILLAGE PRAYER

In December & January our prayers are for those in Prestwick Lane, The Paddocks, Muddy Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Holdfast Lane, Highercombe Road and Three Gates Lane

Useful Grayswood Numbers

Village Hall Bookings mark@stonefern.com

The Grayswood Club 07748 065 821

Grayswood School 642086

Grayswood Nursery School 658931

Wheatsheaf 644440



You might have heard about the **Bible TV series** that has topped ratings in the USA.

The UK transmission date for the first episode has finally been announced:

Channel 5, 9pm, Saturday 30th November

See www.thebibleuk.org/tx for further details.

Events in Dec/January

Book Club	2nd Tuesday
WI	2nd Wednesday
Good Book Morning	last Monday in Jan, 10.30 am
Toddler Group	Wednesdays, in term time, 9.15 am (last meeting 11th Dec. restarting 15th Jan)

All Saints Christingle Service will be held on

Sunday 26th January at 10 am

Everyone is welcome to this lovely child-friendly service

During the service there will be a collection for

The Children's Society which raises essential funds for the support of disadvantaged children and young adults across the UK who are suffering from poverty, harm and neglect



The Bordon Liphook Haslemere Charity would like to thank all those who have donated to, or bought from to our three charity shops in the respective towns this year. As a result we have made more money than ever, enabling us to distribute cash grants to those in financial need, and the charity is particularly keen to hear from the elderly in our community who may be experiencing hardship due to the rising costs of fuel and food.

For more information phone Sue at 01420 477787 or info@blhcharity.co.uk