

I learnt something new last week... Those funny bumps on either side of the Grayswood Road that I always assumed were 'something to do with something' but actually had no idea what about...are in fact, according to an article in last week's 'Herald', dragons teeth to stop tanks!!

You may or may not have noticed them,



or you may have seen them and thought you knew what they were, and maybe you were right (I love it when I'm right!), or you may have had no idea. Either way, it's always nice to know something about where you live. And if you've not noticed them before, happy dragon hunting!

#### Dear fríends

What does it mean to be human?

We see and read in the news every day examples of inhuman behaviour - "man's inhumanity to man" as Burns put it. We recognise inhuman behaviour in cruelty for the sake of it: oppression, bullying, crimes against the vulnerable, whether elderly or young. We recognise it when we see people marginalised or ignored. That's inhuman behaviour.

But how can we define being human? Is it in the opposite? "Acts of random kindness"? Altruism? Positively seeking out injustice and trying to do something about it? Giving to good causes? Praying with intelligence about those situations? As a wise person said, "Evil triumphs when good people do nothing."

Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness before embarking on his ministry. What was happening there? Commonly we think of the temptations which he resisted. But it's deeper than just that. It's about Jesus finding out what it meant to be human. About Jesus knowing what life is really like, warts and all as it were. About the struggle to be true to oneself; about integrity when it's far from easy; about going the extra mile for someone else; about giving until it hurts. And Jesus came through it knowing what it's like to be human.

And after those days we see him enjoying life to the full, telling stories, going to weddings and dinner parties, and also going where the poor and vulnerable people were, lifting them from the ignominy of being ignored or shunned and valuing them and their company.

How might we imitate Jesus this Lent? How might we discover more truly what it is to be human?

I wish you joy in the discovery.

With my very best wishes Barbara

# **ROOF FUND RAISING NEWS**

Many thanks to all who supported the recent Quiz Night and the Clothes Sale. We are doing well with the fund raising but still need to keep going to try ensure that we all keep warm and dry next winter!!

By the time you read this, we shall have had a weekend (hopefully drier than at present!) outside Tesco, raising our profile and collecting donations. Other events coming up include:

## Curry Evening on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 7.30-10.30 pm

Editor

Tickets are £15 and you can book a seat, a table or a take away. Food will be excellent and it promises to be a great evening. Please contact Di on 01428 654303 or <u>drdianecook@hotmail.co.uk</u> soon!

**\*\*NEW,,,,Harp Recital in Church on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm** A selection of pieces played by Amy, Kay Turk's daughter. More information next month.

#### Beating the Bounds on 17th May

A chance to do all 13 miles or just a shorter section, which might appeal to more of you! We are planning to lunch at the Dog and Pheasant as in previous years. We are asking that people consider getting sponsored (form available) or make a donation before fastening their walking boots this year! Contact Di for information (details above).

## Spring Fayre 3rd May 11.30 am - 1.30 pm

More detail in April's Runner, but please put it in your diaries!



Servi	ing the Community in Grayswo	bod			March 2014
CHURCH SERVICES in MARCH			Contacting All Saints		
Every Sunday: 8am Holy Communion (BCP) Every Sunday the main service is at <b>10am</b>			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.		
5 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Communion ASH WEDNESDAY		<b>Sacred space:</b> The church building is open every day from about 9am until 4 pm winter, about 6pm in summer. It's a peaceful place to think, meditate, dream, pray.		
5	9.15am School Service		Contacting All Saints		
9 <sup>th</sup>			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.		
16 <sup>th</sup>					
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Worship for All Ages with B	antism	tel: 656504 e-mail: <u>barbarasteeleperkins@tiscali.co.uk</u>		
30 <sup>th</sup>			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 car		
Thursdays 6 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> at 10.15am: Holy Communion			still leave a message.		
		tel: 656504 e-mail: <u>allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com</u> If you would like someone to visit you - for whatever reason. You are promised com			
			plete confidentiality. Please contact		•
Village Prayer In March we remember and think about all those who live in Lower Road, Park Close, and		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 or someone or at a special anniversary, etc.			
Ash Tree Close			tel: 654728 e-mail: <u>gwynnfamily@sky.com</u>		
Grayswood Gardens are openir		THE DATE'	Events in March		
		ng again on 8th June, from 11.30 am I Saints in support of the Roof Appeal	Book Club	Tuesday 11th, Village Club	
There will also be Evenson			g in All Saints on the same day— Is nearer the time	wi	Wednesday 12th Village Hall
	MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES		seful Grayswood Numbers	Good News Van	Monday 24th 77 Lower Road
<b>F</b>	• The Fund Raising Team		Village Hall Bookings		each Wednesday in March at 9.15am
		mark@stonefern.com		Toddler Group	
	has a number	The G	rayswood Club 07748 065 821		in the OJ room at the
	of events planned over	Grayswood School 642086			Village Hall
144	the next	Grayswood Nursery School 658931			
diaries	hs. So please get your s out now and be ready	Wheatsheaf 644440		The Village Hall needs village support!!	
for more information 7th June:				We need someone to contribute to helping showcase the use of the	
Wine	···· <sup>·</sup> · · _		L SAINTS LENT COURSE	Village Hall and to help secure ide- as and plans for the coming years.	
l 2th Barn	2th July:     Ash We an		Will begin with the ednesday Service on 5th March, d will continue with weekly ings on Wednesday evenings 2.45 pm for an 8 pm start)	The Grayswood Village Hall Committee is looking for a volun- teer from Grayswood to become a	
6th Sept: Auction of Promises, Grayswood Village Hall		All are be usir	member of the member of the sing the book, 'Living Faithfully', hn Pritchard, as the basis for the s. More details in church, or from Isaintsgrayswood@gmail.com		ent Committee. :: Gavin Laybourne