



The Grayswood Runner



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

Dec 2015/Jan 2016

Tis the season to begloomy!

Of course it isn't really but, as the John Lewis advert shows, some people don't enjoy Christmas and it is up to those who look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ to help share some of that Christmas spirit.

Typically, it is not just about giving presents bought at the shops but rather giving time and companionship to people who may be alone and looking back at Christmases past rather than Christmas 2015. How sad it can be for the lonely, sick, bereaved and depressed to turn on the car radio and hear joyous carols and yet still be struck by sadness and melancholy. So this holiday season it would be wonderful to spread some Christmas cheer by sharing it with a neighbour relative or friend.

A great way to spread that cheer is to be with other people. Each of us can be compared to a lump of coal: isolated we usually remain cold and rather dark, whilst grouped together we can glow and feed off each other's energy and joy.

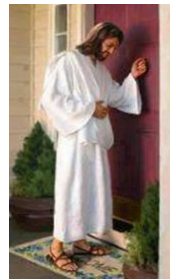
In Grayswood, All Saints Church offers a warm welcome to everyone of all beliefs and none, with no strings attached, and our wide variety of services over the Christmas period should satisfy different tastes and ages. A chance to share in that very special spirit they call Christmas.

David Glaser

Dear Friends

If you knew that Jesus Christ was coming to visit you in your home, what preparations would you make? An interesting question. Some of us would rush around making sure everything was perfect; some would go to great lengths to prepare a special meal; some perhaps would carry on as usual, assuming he would be part of ordinary family life, and some others perhaps wouldn't welcome him at all and send him away.

But perhaps a more basic question is – would we recognise him? In this image he is knocking at a modern door, but dressed in 1st century attire. What if he were wearing jeans and a sweat shirt?



At his coming to Mary and Joseph in the town of Bethlehem, his identity was initially known only to a few. He came as a human being, a vulnerable baby at that, learning and growing alongside us, with us in our work and in our homes, with us in our successes and our failures, in our joys and in our sadnesses.

God with us – which is what *Emmanuel* means.

We are promised a Second Coming, when he is revealed in all the glory of God's heavenly realm – a different ball game entirely. There will be no problem recognising him then.

And in between, having seen what God is like in Jesus, we are able perhaps to recognize the coming of God in other, smaller ways. The touch of a hand or a hug from a friend when we're sad, time spent with someone we love, a letter or gift out of the blue, quietly giving to the needy, noticing injustice and doing something about it, working for harmony in our community or for peace across the world - all evidences of love and self-giving. They are signs of the coming of God now, mediated through ordinary human beings like us.

With my very best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2016; may both be filled with the consciousness of the presence of God among us.

Barbara



All Saints Christmas Fayre
Saturday 5 December
11.30am – 1.30pm
Grayswood Village Hall

Lots of fun and entertainment for all, including:-
Raffle, Bran Tub,

Toys and Games, Gifts, Bulbs,
Mugs, Books and DVDs,

Cards, Bottle Tombola and lots more....

Bacon Butties served from 12.15pm – 1.30pm

Stall contributions welcome, as are any offers to help on the day!!

For more details please contact Di (01428 654303; drdcook01@gmail.co.uk) or Shirley (01428 653285; shirley1942@btinternet.com)

Spreading festive cheer....
Grayswood Carol Singing

Do join us on Monday,
21st December.....

and if you can't join us,
please do open your doors

and join us for at least one carol.
We won't be asking for any money!!
We will meet at 6.30 on the drive of 7, Lower Road and progress around Lower Road, Klondyke and The Mount.

Children welcome.
Please bring a torch.



SAVE THE DATES

For your diary now:

Saturday 21st May 2016:
The Friends of All Saints are organising a Jazz Concert, and the John Shillito Six will be returning, 'by popular demand'.

Sunday 19th June 2016:
Grayswood Open Gardens Day; ten gardens - excitingly new and friendly, familiar ones for you to visit!

Further details and ticket information in the next edition of The Runner

NOVEMBER 29th * Advent Sunday * United Benefice Service, Celtic style * 10am * in GRAYSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

CHURCH SERVICES for DECEMBER and JANUARY
 Every Sunday: 8am Holy Communion
 Every Sunday the main service is at 10am

DECEMBER

6th Parish Communion
 13th Parish Communion
 20th Nativity Service
 5pm Carols by Candlelight followed by Punch & mince pies



24th Christmas Eve
 4pm Crib service
 11.30pm Midnight Communion

25th Christmas Day
 10am All Age Celebration followed by a shortened Communion

HAPPY CHRISTMAS!
 27th Morning Worship for all ages together

JANUARY 2016 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

3rd Family Eucharist for the Epiphany
 10th Morning Worship
 17th Parish Communion
 24th **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**
 31st 11am United Benefice Service at St Christopher's, Haslemere



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 does some teaching for the Diocese. She responds to answer-phone messages every day except Tuesday and will get back to you as soon as possible.
 tel: 656504 e-mail: barbarasteeleperkins@tiscali.co.uk

Fi Gwynn works for the church part time and also has another part time job.
 email: revfiqwynn@gmail.com

Janet Fry, our church administrator, works in Church Office (in Church House) which is usually 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 (details above). You are promised complete confidentiality.

For more information, visit the church website on : www.grayswoodparish.org



NSPCC Swingin' Christmas Concert with star of 'The Rat Pack' Gary Williams

Come and listen to all your Christmas 'favourites from Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Andy Williams and, of course, Bing, sung by Gary and his band, and support your local branch of the NSPCC and Childline Surrey Schools Service, which plays such a crucial role in keeping children safe and happy. On Friday 4th December. Chiddingfold Village Hall, 7.30pm Tickets £20 from 01428644314 or pearson.lynnne@gmail.com
Every Childhood is Worth Fighting For

Useful Grayswood Numbers

Village Hall Bookings:
 mark@stonefern.com
 Grayswood Club 07748 065 821
 Grayswood School 642086
 Grayswood Nursery School 658931
 Wheatsheaf 644440



Events in December and January

Book Club: "The Paying Guests" by Sarah Waters, Tuesday 8th December; & meeting again on 12th January
Gardening Club: No meeting on 3rd December, but Christmas Dinner at The Wheatsheaf, Saturday 12th December; Quiz and 'bring and share supper' on 7th January

Club Quiz and Christmas Raffle: Thursday 17th December, and 28th January

WI: 9th December & 13th January

Good Book Morning: No meeting in December, but again on 25th January, 77 Lower Road

Grandparent/Parent Toddler Group: each Wednesday in term-time (ending on 9th Dec, & re-starting on 13th Jan) in the Oonagh Jeffrey Room, at the Hall. Please contact Jane White, 643891, or Janet Fry, 01483 527390, for details

The Runner by Mail

It's not too late to renew your order for the coming year. Please email Pauline Lamb on: lamb@haslemere.com for details, or phone: 01428 643798

VILLAGE PRAYER

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

The Nativity— a play for all the family

Enjoy the 'real' Christmas Story at Wintershall—with actors in memorable costumes, live animals and a real barn, tickets are available from 01793 418299 or www.wintershall-estate.com



Performances (lasting approx. 90 mins) take place at 4.45 and 7.30 pm on 16th-18th December, and at 2.30 and 5.30 pm on 19th and 20th December

Refreshments available 45 mins before performances



All Saints Christingle Service will be held on Sunday 24th 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