



The Grayswood Runner



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

February 2016

Be brave and give it a go!

Having not painted anything for many years, but having always loved drawing at school (the only lesson I enjoyed), last Autumn I joined a local art class.



I've now completed my first 'term' and can hardly begin to express the joy my new hobby has brought me and how much it has enriched my life.

I really look forward to the weekly two hour long class, and can't wait to see what new challenge awaits us and to get started! We have already experimented with watercolours and pastels – including landscapes, still-life, and 'dotty' pictures, and although we don't always finish in the time, each new medium or style brings its own possibilities and pleasures!

The time flies, with total absorption in whatever task has been set before us, and new like-minded acquaintances have quickly become firm friends. It feels almost like a form of relaxation therapy, and I have been thrilled to discover that I have a God-given talent I've never previously recognised.

The classes have been a source of great joy to me, adding something wonderful to my life, and I am beginning to develop a new confidence in that area. It's hard to describe the amazing and astonishing sense of joy and achievement to see an end product which you alone have created!

You don't have to have a special talent to enjoy something, but if you're considering taking up a new hobby, I'd encourage you to be brave enough to give it a go. You never know, it might just be your 'thing' and open up a whole world of new possibilities in the same way the art classes have for me.

Vera Prangley

LOOKING FORWARD

A **JAZZ CONCERT** organised by the *Friends of All Saints*, will be on Sat. 21st May 2016, with the John Shillito Six returning to delight us, following their popular performance in 2015.

Tickets (£15, or £25 to include a special 2-course meal at The Wheatsheaf), are available from Pauline Lamb, tel. 01428 643798 (email: lamb@haslemere.com)

And for our Open Gardens Day on Sunday 19th June, some readers might like to start thinking now about preparing plants for our accompanying Plant Sale.

Dear Friends

We have a way of remembering firsts, don't we? Tim Peake, Britain's first astronaut; Neil Armstrong - the first man to walk on the moon. Two of my grandsons are over the moon that Bournemouth, their local team, is in the first division for the first time in its history! I can vividly remember the awesome feeling the first time a car moved under me when I was learning to drive; terrifying. And I fondly remember my mother's first experience of flying – aged 80. My first child, my first job, the list goes on. They have a place in our memory just because they were the first.

I heard at a conference many years ago the dubious statement that the first word of the gospel is 'repent', as that is the first word we hear Jesus say in the gospels. I questioned it then, I've quarrelled with it since, and now I ignore it as nonsense!

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The first word of the gospel is LOVE. How could it be anything else? The creation stories tell us of God's delight in the world and in human beings. The Christmas story tells of '*God in man made manifest*' (Christopher Wordsworth) which came about because of God's love. The Good Friday and Easter stories have no meaning outside of God's love.



God's love is inexhaustible. It's inviting. And it comes first. Right at the beginning of the wedding service we remind ourselves: *God is love, and those who live in love live in God and God lives in them.* (1 John 4.16)

What is the first word of the gospel?

LOVE

With my very best wishes
Barbara



Celtic Pilgrimage to Guildford Cathedral
Saturday 19th March (9.30 am – 4 pm approx.)

As part of my BA studies I am arranging a Pilgrimage to Guildford Cathedral on Saturday 19th March.

The starting point will be at Godalming Station and we will walk along the river to Guildford and then up to the Cathedral. The full walk is approx. 7 miles and is on uneven terrain. (We will be walking whatever the weather!) I have chosen to use the Celtic prayer style to base it on and there will be stopping points and collective worship along the way. If you would like to know more information or would like to join me then please email me on revfigwynn@gmail.com

There are 15 places available on a first come, first served basis, and I look forward to hearing from you. Fiona Gwynn

CHURCH SERVICES in FEBRUARY**Every Sunday:** 8am Holy Communion (BCP)**Every Sunday** the main service is at **10am**

- 7th Parish Communion
- 10th **Ash Wednesday 8pm**
United Benefice Service
at St Christopher's
- 14th Morning Worship
- 21st Parish Communion
- 28th All Age Morning Worship

**VILLAGE PRAYER**

This month we remember those who live in
The Mount, Upper Mount and
Williamson Close

Dear Food Bank supporter

Thank you to all of you for your generosity throughout the year as a result of which we were able, once again, to have a special Christmas distribution of festive packs to families in Haslemere who are struggling financially in this festive season. Packs were distributed to 55 families on this occasion.

In the last couple of weeks we have also had an increase in the number of people being referred to the food bank so we would be grateful for your continued support.

We are particularly short of:-

Shampoo
Toothpaste
Long life milk
Drinking chocolate (small size)
Tinned potatoes
Tinned pasta (e.g. ravioli, macaroni cheese)
Tinned custard
Sugar
Puddings
Treats (e.g. sweets, chocolate)

We also need to maintain our supply of:-

Small jars of instant coffee
Tinned Meat
Tinned Tomatoes
Baked Beans
Tinned rice pudding
Tinned fruit
Small Tea Bags (40 pack size)
Breakfast cereals (NOT family packs, please)
Biscuits
Jam/marmalade
Rice
Couscous
Toilet rolls (4 pack)
Soap
Jars of pasta sauce

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 part time in a voluntarily capacity for the church, as an Ordained Local Minister. Fi's day off is Friday.

email: revfigwynn@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

Useful Numbers

Village Hall Bookings:
mark@stonefern.com

Grayswood Club
07748 065 821

Grayswood School
642086

Grayswood Nursery
School
658931

Wheatsheaf 644440

**Events in February**

Book Club: 'The Narrow Road to the Deep North' by Richard Flanagan,
Tuesday 9th, Village Club, 8 pm

Gardening Club: 'Winning water gardens—with fish', Thursday 4th, 7.45 pm, Village Club

Quiz Night: Thursday 25th, 7.45 pm, Village Club

WI: Wed. 10th, 7.30 pm, Village Hall

Good Book Morning: Monday 22nd

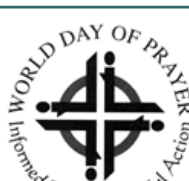
Grandparent/Parent Toddler Group: each Wed. in term time, 9.15-10.45 am, Village Hall. (please contact Jane White, 643891, or Janet Fry, 01483 527390) for details)

All Saints' Organist (Jean White) and Choir are looking to "train up a pianist" [or two] so that we can gradually build up the team of musicians who lead the worship with the choir.



We have a fine Hill and Norman Beard two-manual organ, and Jean will be happy to guide and support you. As a church we are members of the Royal School of Church Music who offer training days, courses and assistance, and free tuition may be available with the Surrey Organists' Association.

If you have Grade 4 or higher, are interested and would like to talk about it, please phone Shirley Richmond on 01428 653285 or email: shirley1941@btinternet.com

**Women's World Day of Prayer**

will take place on
Friday 4th March
at the Methodist Church

Followed by refreshments
Everyone welcome – men,
women and children

(Time still TBC—please see our website (above) for details nearer the time)