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March/April 2016

## Easter – did it happen?

We read the Easter story now with the benefit of hindsight and centuries of exposition, but what would it have been like to there - especially on that dark Friday? How would I have reacted?



Would I have been a loyal follower, as I like to think? Or would I have been a disappointed and frightened disciple seeing my world shattered and my hopes dashed? Or maybe an outraged priest seeing my most precious traditions and beliefs threatened by another fanatic? Or perhaps, like Pilate, I would have been intrigued and curious but unsure of how to respond? Or would I have been just another disinterested sceptic with deaf ears and no imagination?

It's a searching question and tough to answer truthfully – even more so when it comes to that extraordinary Third Day. Beyond the chocolate eggs and fluffy bunnies of today there is a profoundly challenging question: If, what is claimed to have happened on that Easter morning, DIDN'T actually take place, if it is just a myth, then millions of us are deluded, centuries of literature are erroneous, many so-called saintly and remarkable lives were misguided, and every place of Christian worship is a waste of space and should be bulldozed immediately. St Paul puts it very clearly in his first letter to the Corinthian Church: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile .. and we are of all people most to be pitted."

But if, on the other hand it DID happen, if an extraordinary act of divine intervention all those years ago fulfilled an ancient Jewish prophecy, it might just be the most important piece of news ever recorded. It could also pose the most pressing and significant question any of us have to address today. The one thing we can't easily do is sit on the fence – it doesn't stand up. Intriguing. Happy Easter!

*Richard Everett, playwright and screenwriter.  
Visit his website: [richardeverett.co.uk](http://richardeverett.co.uk)*

## Dear Friends

I leave it to Richard, David and Judy to express some thoughts for Easter this year. So I can just wish you a very Happy Easter!

With my very best wishes  
**Barbara**



## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: November 2015

At 6.30 am the morning after our party of 35 arrived in Jerusalem (an early start, when we were reminded this is a pilgrimage not a holiday!) we went to the top of the Mount of Olives for an amazing view over Jerusalem before walking down the narrow road that Jesus walked into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday.



We were conscious of many people of different nationalities – very similar to the crowds that lined the streets 2,000 plus years ago – all curious to explore the ground Jesus walked on. We had a Communion service among the ancient olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed agonisingly before his crucifixion, visited the church of Saint Peter Gallicantu (meaning cock's crow) which commemorates Peter's denial of Jesus, and the site where Caiaphas, the High Priest's house stood with its dungeon hewn in the rock below.

Jerusalem is full of colour, different cultures, history – a fascinating and vibrant city with narrow streets, old walls, steps and open-fronted shops selling everything from spices to brightly coloured handmade scarves and rugs. We explored the four quarters of the old city (Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Armenian) all with distinctive characteristics; we walked the Via Dolorosa (the way of the cross) to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on the site where Jesus was crucified on that first Good Friday. Here Ethiopian and Greek Orthodox, Syrian Copts and Catholics all worship under the same roof, at the same time and in their own languages – a moving and encouragingly unifying experience. We ended that day with Holy Communion by the garden tomb where Jesus was laid before his glorious Resurrection which we celebrate at Easter.

A pilgrimage - would we recommend it? Definitely 'Yes'!

*David and Judy Culhane*

## The Friends Events

Jazz Concert Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> – Tickets on sale now: £15 or £25 (with 2-course supper at The Wheatsheaf), from Pauline Lamb: [lamb@haslemere.com](mailto:lamb@haslemere.com) or 01428 643798

Grayswood Open Gardens Day Sunday June 19<sup>th</sup>, with Teas and Plant Sale, followed by Evensong at 6.30pm. Further details in due course or from Pauline.

## VILLAGE TRAFFIC ON LOWER ROAD AND THE MOUNT

Many thanks for your forbearance during the building programme. The contractors have now gone and the traffic flow is much improved by the extended zig-zags and new white hatched area, which allows parents to pull off the road to drop off children. Please could you continue to help by slowing down as you approach the new crossing point outside the school (where the dropped kerbs have been installed) and by joining in the unofficial one way system during drop off and collection times, if possible (Lower Road to Klondyke, and back down The Mount)? Thank you,

*Angela Wheeler (Traffic Liaison Group)*

## ALL SAINTS SPRING FAYRE

Saturday 7th May  
11.30 – 1.30 pm at Grayswood Village Hall

Bacon Butties served from 12pm – 1pm

RAFFLE  
CAKES AND PRODUCE  
KITCHENALIA  
BROCANTE  
BEAUTY AND THE BEADS  
PLANTS  
BOOKS AND DVDS  
CHILDREN'S CORNER  
BOUNCY CASTLE AND MORE!!



Entrance: £1 (adults) including tea/coffee & biscuit

More information from Di (654303;  
[drdcook01@gmail.com](mailto:drdcook01@gmail.com)) or Shirley (653285;  
[shirley1941@btinternet.com](mailto:shirley1941@btinternet.com))

Contacting the Runner : 01428 656504, [grayswoodrunner@gmail.com](mailto:grayswoodrunner@gmail.com)

Deadline for inclusion of items in next edition: 8th April 2016

**CHURCH SERVICES in MARCH and APRIL****Every Sunday: 8am** Holy Communion (BCP)**Every Sunday** the main service is at **10am****Sundays** March 6th, 13th, 20th : Reflective Evening Worship at **6pm****March**6th All Age Worship for **Mothering Sunday** with Baptism

13th Parish Eucharist

20th **Palm Sunday** Parish Eucharist**HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME**21st, 22nd, 23rd Compline at **8.30pm**24th **Maundy Thursday 7.45 for 8pm** Supper and Eucharist round the table Oonagh Jeffery Room  
*Please book with Judy (for catering) 652044*25th **10am Good Friday**

All Age Morning Worship;

**gather on the Green**

12 – 2pm Church open for private meditation

2-3pm Guided meditation

27th **Easter Sunday Celebration**

Eucharist with the (optional) renewal of Baptism vows

**April**

3rd Parish Eucharist

10th Morning Worship

17th Parish Eucharist

24th All Age Morning Worship

*followed by the APCM (at 11 am)***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: [barbarasteelerperkins@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:barbarasteelerperkins@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](mailto: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](mailto: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, please visit the church website on :  
[www.grayswoodparish.org](http://www.grayswoodparish.org)**

**VILLAGE PRAYER**

In March we remember those who live in Lower Road, Park Close and Ash Tree Close, & in April, those who live in Grayswood Road, Church Close, Sandy Lane & Grayswood Common.

**Useful Numbers**

Village Hall Bookings:  
[mark@stonefern.com](mailto:mark@stonefern.com)

Grayswood Club  
07748 065 821

Grayswood School 642086

Grayswood Nursery School  
658931

Wheatsheaf 644440

**Events in March/April****In the Village Club:****Book Club:** Tuesday 8th March & 12th April, 8 pm**Gardening Club:** Bees and bee keeping., Thursday 3rd March & 7th April, 7.45 pm**Quiz Night:** Thurs. 31st Mar. & 28th April, 7.45 pm**In the Village Hall:****WI:** Wednesday 9th March & 13th April

**Grandparent/Parent Toddler Group:** 9.15-10.45 am  
Wednesdays (term time). Details from Jane White,  
643891, or Janet Fry, 01483 527390

**77 Lower Road: Good Book Morning:** Easter Monday, 28th March, & 25th April, 10.30 am

**Haslemere Food Bank**

**Items urgently needed at the moment** (preferably small, rather than family packs, please):

Sugar  
Long life milk  
Small jars of coffee  
Drinking chocolate  
Tinned potatoes  
Tinned spaghetti  
Tinned pasta  
(ravioli, macaroni, etc.)  
Packet soup  
Puddings  
Tinned custard  
Tinned fruit  
Shampoo  
Toothpaste  
Treats



*Non perishables only, please.*

*Thank you for your on-going support and generosity, which is greatly appreciated.*

**Home & Vintage Spring Brocante  
Saturday 19 March 2016  
10:30 am until 3:30 pm  
at Grayswood Village Hall**

Selling furniture, textiles, clothing, beautiful handmade gifts and lots of hidden treasures from our array of vintage stall holders. Beautiful spring flowers, pots & plants, with tea and cake served in our vintage style tea room overlooking the cricket green with an added jumble section.

There will be a playground to keep the children amused whilst you shop and your four legged friends can run around on the village green — it has the makings of a perfect day out!!

Children welcome, as are well behaved dogs (on leads, please)

Entrance 50p

*NB The Editor has arranged a badly-timed holiday, which means that the deadline for receiving inclusions for the next edition, is unusually early! Please ensure that all contributions are received by*

**Friday 8th April 2016.**

*Many thanks and apologies for any inconvenience*

Tuesday Mornings at Grayswood Village Hall  
10:30 Post-Natal Mum and Baby Yoga

11:45 Baby Massage Courses and drop in sessions  
For more information contact [vera@muzitots.co.uk](mailto:vera@muzitots.co.uk) or 0775084771

**CAN YOU HELP?**

Jonathan Carter (at Three Counties Church) is seeking someone to co-ordinate the Christian Aid collections locally. If you would like to find out more please contact him on [joncarter316@btinternet.com](mailto:joncarter316@btinternet.com)