



December 2018 / January 2019

I love Advent – the expectation of finding a new picture behind the window of my calendar when I was young, burning down my candle as a teenager and watching my children find something new each day in their fabric calendars when they were little – all added to the excitement that something special was coming. The first of December is for me the beginning of Christmas.

Now the advertising and mince pies appear as early as September and the John Lewis advert will be the subject of many conversations. With the build up to Christmas starting so much earlier does it take away the wonder and excitement?

In a poll taken last year, 1 in 5 people in the UK didn't know that Christmas was a celebration to mark the birth of Jesus. I wonder what they thought they were celebrating? Don't get me wrong I love everything about Christmas, the tree, decorations, food, fizz and exchanging gifts, but I enjoy them knowing that we are celebrating the birth of Jesus. A tiny baby born in less than ideal surroundings who would go on to give up his life for the good of all mankind.

I encourage you to take time this advent to take stock of what it is we are celebrating and if you haven't been before then please do come and join us at one of our Christmas services and discover the story for yourself.

May God bless you all this Christmas. Love Fi x



The Mystery of Advent

Almost as much as Christmas itself, like Fi, I love the time leading up to it known as the season of Advent. If one can see beyond the commercial noise there is a quiet stillness to be found, a sense of anticipation that has been handed down through the centuries. What I also love is the contradiction that lies at the heart of Christmas - a moment in history when the whole of creation held its breath and a mystery unfolded, something almost beyond explanation. The Maker of All Things stepped through time to reveal himself to a broken world - not as conquering deliverer as was expected then, not as a super hero as might be expected today, or as a fearsome powerful judge as some would prefer, but paradoxically as a small, vulnerable and helpless child.

When I was at Durham University as a Visiting Fellow last year I was privileged to write an introduction in verse for the St John's College carol service in Durham Cathedral. Perhaps, what I am trying to say is better said using those words:

See!
Someone approaches
Their face is hidden
Yet I hear them coming

Messengers from another country
Speak of footsteps on the tide of history
A seed of hope
Planted by an Ancient Hand
Brings forth the dawn
Brings forth life
Brings forth the song
Of a child with light in his eyes

And the breath of life in his hands
Who separates the day from the night
Who mends the broken-hearted
And calls home the lost from their wandering.

Listen!
Someone approaches
Whose face reveals
The smile of God
Upon a new-born child
Who comes to us
In a broken world
Who is with us
To awaken all
And remind us
Again
Of Emmanuel –
God with us.

Wishing you a Happy Advent!
Richard Everett (richardeverett.co.uk)

All Saints Christmas FayreSaturday 1st December

11.00 am – 1.30 pm

Grayswood Village Hall

Soup and Bacon Butties served from 11.30am

BROCANTE CAKES AND PRODUCE

BULBS AND PLANTS BOOKS AND DVDS

TOMBOLA CRAFTS

RAFFLE AND MORE!!

Entrance: £1 (adults) including tea/coffee and biscuit
Under 10s free

All donations of plants and cakes gratefully received.

Please support us & make this a great success again

Contact: Di (654303) or Shirley (653285)


**The Nativity
for all the Family**

“Dramatic and intimate
telling of the Christmas
story”

Weds 12th - Sun 16th
December, times variable

Prices:

£18 (adults), £9 (child);
family ticket £50
(2 adults, 2 children).

www.wintershall-estate.com

Cards for Good Causes

Haslemere Educational Museum

Fri 19th Oct - Sat 15th Dec

Mon - Sat 10.00 - 4.30

Sun 2nd Dec 11am – 4pm

Haslemere Cards for Good Causes
is a multi-charity Christmas card
shop selling cards on behalf of 30
national and local charities including
GUTS, Phyllis Tuckwell and the
Fountain Centre. Helped by the
support of local volunteers we are
able to give a very high return to
these charities. We also stock
traditional advent calendars,

wrapping paper, tags,
stocking fillers and this
year we have an
excellent range of
themed gifts.

**HASLEMERE FOOD BANK**

Once again this year the Food Bank plans to distribute special
Christmas packs which will contain some Christmas goodies
as well as a square meal for a family. We would really
appreciate if you could help with this by donating something
from the list below.

Thank you for your support.:

- * Mince pies (pack of 6)
- * Small Christmas cake
- * Christmas pudding (900g)
- * Tinned custard
- * Tins/boxes of fancy biscuits
- * Tins/boxes of Chocolates / Sweets
- * Packets of nuts
- * Pringles
- * Christmas crackers



We would also appreciate donations of good-as-new toys,
games & children's books to help those who will struggle
with the expensive business of buying Christmas presents for
the family.

It would help us in the organisation of the distribution if
donations were to reach us by Wednesday 19 December.
Thank you.

A Christmas Celebration

in aid of

**The Hunter Centre,
Haslemere**
at All Saints,
Grayswood
on Mon 17th December

Carols and Readings
6.30 to 7.45pm
Tickets £12 to include
mince pies & mulled
wine
manager@
thehuntercentre.co.uk

The Hunter Centre is to
provide care and
stimulation for those
living with various
forms of dementia.

RUNNER BY MAIL

Please could all those who
receive the Runner by

mail note that this is the last issue for
the current year 2018.

To receive the first issue of next year
2019 please send 9 x 2nd class
stamps to Pauline Lamb, Little
Paddock, Grayswood GU27 2EE.

If any would like to start receiving
the Runner by mail please contact
Pauline on 01428 643798 or
email: lamb@haslemere.com

THANK
YOU!



THANK YOU
to Haslemere
Garden Centre for
donating the
Christmas tree at
The Club.
Angela Wheeler

THANK YOU to all those
who attended the
Macmillan
Coffee Morning.
We raised
£391.83.
Carol Franklin

**Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

100 years Anniversary of Armistice Day 1918—2018

On 27th October, Jo Tomes, Flossie and I carried out a house
collection on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Our designated
route was Prestwick Lane, Paddock Way, Muddy Lane, Clammer
Hill/Kondike, Williamson Close, Lower Road, Park Close and Ash
Tree Close. Coco Carmel allowed us to collect as did the Fayre
being held in the Village Hall. The generosity of residents and
customers realised the fantastic sum of £295. On behalf of the
Royal British Legion, thank you for your kindness and support it
is sincerely appreciated. Eric McNally. “LEST WE FORGET”

We will remember them ...

Grayswood School held a special school assembly in November to 'remember those who have given their lives for our freedom, with particular emphasis on the centenary of the end of World War 1. '



Children were invited to make poppies and lay them at the 'cenotaph' in the school hall.

SAVE THE DATE

FOR A RETURN TO GRAYSWOOD OF THE MASTERFUL
EAGLE JAZZ BAND.



MANY OF YOU WILL REMEMBER THE WONDERFUL EVENING OF RAGTIME, MARCHES, SWING AND VOCALS WE ENJOYED THIS YEAR. THE CONCERT WAS SO SUCCESSFUL WE HAVE INVITED THEM BACK ON **23RD**

MARCH 2019

IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT **8.00PM.**

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW BUT I CAN REVEAL THAT KEN AT THE WHEATSHEAF WILL BE OFFERING A DELICIOUS 2-COURSE PRE-CONCERT JAZZ SUPPER FOR ALL WHO WISH TO MAKE THIS A GREAT

GRAYSWOOD VILLAGE HALL

Under section 121, Charities Act 2011, notice is hereby given that Grayswood Village Hall and Sports Pavilion Charity is applying to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Members of the Grayswood community are invited to inspect the proposals and submit comments or objections to the Village Hall Committee by 21st December, 2018.

All information is available at www.grayswood.org.uk or on the Village Hall Noticeboard.

The Tree of Life

by Elizabeth Hackman

This tree stands tall
alone, compelling
to mark the summit of
a rounded hill
in command of the rolling landscape.

Its branches
broadly spread to encourage
a climb to the top, yet
warnings are there
of hazards ahead.

There'll be falls to negate,
aspirations to attain
such heights, falls which will hurt,
could destroy this ambition
to challenge, to ignore
teasing gestures of welcome
that come from the summit on high.

The Tree of Life calls you again and again,
to proceed upwards and on,
to renew strength, to revitalise
to ignore weary weakness,
but continue to strive, to urge you
to climb, climb up and then on.

To arrive safe 'mongst the branches
as they wait to enclose, embrace
to give life renewed
through love and concern
from this one tall tree,
The Tree of Life.



Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Good Book Morning

at 'Corner Cottage' 77
Lower Road

10.30 am—midday
4th Monday of every
month



Do join us for
coffee and lively
discussions

Toddler Group

Wednesday mornings
(term-time)
from 9.15-10.45 am in
the OJ Room, Village Hall

For details please ring
Jane White, 643891
£2.50 per family unit

**GRAYSWOOD
COFFEE AND CHAT**

in the Village
Club

10.30 - 12
noon



12th December
9th January

Every 2nd Wednesday
of the month
For more information,
contact Di on 654303 or
07769 971720 or
drdcook01@gmail.com

MUSIC GROUP

All Saints are looking for
players to join the music
group which will play for the
All Age service on 4th
Sundays in the month.



So dust off your recorders, bassoons,
'cellos and any other instruments
you have tucked away [we can provide
triangles] and
contact Shirley Richmond
on 01428 653285 or
shirley1941@btinternet.com

CHURCH SERVICES in DECEMBER

All 10 am services at All Saints Grayswood unless otherwise stated

2nd	8 am	Holy Communion (St Christopher's)
	10 am	Parish Communion for Advent
9th	8am	Holy Communion (St Bart's)
	10 am	Parish Communion for Advent
16th	8 am	Holy Communion (All Saints)
	10 am	Nativity Service
	5 pm	Carol Service followed by Christmas refreshments
23rd	8 am	Holy Communion (All Saints)
	10 am	All Age Morning Worship
24th	<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
	4 pm	Crib Service with Carols
	11.30 pm	Midnight Communion
25th	<i>Christmas Day—We wish you a very Happy Christmas</i>	
	10 am	All Age Celebration followed by a short Communion
30th	10 am	United Benefice Communion Service (St Christopher's)

**CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY**

6th	8 am	Holy Communion (St Christopher's)
	10 am	Parish Communion for Epiphany
13th	8 am	Holy Communion (All Saints)
	10 am	Morning Worship
20th	8 am	Holy Communion (St Christopher's)
	10am	Parish Communion
27th	8am	Holy Communion (All Saints)
	10 am	Christingle Service for all ages



**All Saints
Christingle Service**
will be held on
Sunday 27th January
at **10 am**

Everyone is welcome to this gentle child-friendly service.

During the service there will be a collection for

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

VILLAGE PRAYER

In December, we remember those who live and work in Prestwick Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Paddock Way, and Muddy Lane, and in January those who live and work in Holdfast Lane, Three Gates Lane, and Highercombe Road.

**Do you need space to escape the busyness of life?**

Whether you want to pray, give thanks or find hope in times of despair, our beautiful Grade II listed church is open for you every day from around 9am until dusk in winter, and until 6pm in summer.

Would you like us to pray for you? God hears you, but it is good to know you have other people who care, joining with you! Phone us, email us, add your name to the book at the back of church, pop a note into the postbox in the porch, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need - confidences are ALWAYS respected.

Would you like a home visit or to speak with a priest?

Rev'd Fi Gwynn works part-time. Fi's day off is Friday.

Tel 01428 654728 or 07929 935179 Email: revfigwynn@gmail.com

Baptism? Wedding? Funeral? Please contact the church office on 07769 856343 in the first instance.

Do you have a general enquiry? Our church office is based in the church, is open Mon, Thurs and Fri mornings from 9am -12 noon for general enquiries and is staffed by our administrator Sarah Bennett.

At other times you can still leave a message or send an email.

Tel: 07769 856343 Email: allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, please visit:
www.grayswoodparish.org

EVENTS IN DECEMBER /JANUARY**In the Village Club:**

Gardening Club: 7.45 pm Thursday December 6th
Christmas Dinner and January 3rd Social Event

Book Club: Third Tuesday of the month (December 18th) - 'Eleanor Oliphant is completely fine' by Gail Honeyman

Quiz Night is on Thursday, 20th December at 7.45

Coffee and Chat 10.30 - 12 noon— every 2nd
Wednesday of the month

In the Village Hall:

Toddler Group: Wednesdays mornings in term-time from 9.15-10.45, contact Jane White on 643891

77 Lower Road:

Good Book Morning: 4th Monday in the month from 10.30 am—midday

USEFUL NUMBERS

Village Hall Bookings: grayswoodvh@outlook.com

Grayswood Club 07748 065 821

Grayswood School 642086

Grayswood Nursery 658931

Wheatsheaf 644440