

# December 2023 / January 2024



#### Dear All

However you count down to Christmas, whether it's a chocolate calendar or one of the luxury ones with gin, wine, beer or make up, or a plain old window calendar or advent candle, the build up has well and truly started.

From the launch of the John Lewis, M&S and Iceland Christmas adverts (other supermarkets are available) the bombardment to celebrate begins.

But with the news as dreadful as it is, for some it is very hard to find the Christmas cheer and excitement that the adverts portray.

And not everyone has family or friends to share the celebrations with. For some, it is simply a day to get through.

So whilst I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, I would urge you to keep an eye out for those less fortunate than yourselves and do what you can to share Christ's light and love this Christmas. After all, that's what Christ's birth was all about.

Wishing you peace, love and joy this Christmas and all the very best for 2024. with my love,

Fi x

Visit our website allsiantsgrayswood.org for our Grayswood poetry advent calendar and Free online calendar from Guildford Diocese

## **Christmas Fayre**

Join us on Saturday 2nd December from 11 til 1 pm Bacon butties from 11.30

at Grayswood Village Hall

Raffle, Cakes & Produce, Bulbs & Plants, Bottle tombola Gifts, Books & DVDs, Brocante, Toys, Preserves Entrance £1 to include tea/coffee and a biscuit. Free entry for children

## **Christmas Lights**

Why not start the Christmas celebrations by joining the Christmas Lights Switch On at The Club? Sunday, 3rd December from 4.00 pm

(Switch on at 4.30 pm). See you there!

Members and their guests are invited to mulled wine, mince pies and carols in The Club. Children & dogs (on leads) welcome. A big THANK YOU to The Club helpers for all their efforts to make the corner of Lower Road so welcoming as you swing in.

#### **Church Services**

8 am Services 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays 10 am Sunday Services:

In Church| On zoom Every Sunday allsaintsgrayswood.org

#### **Morning Prayer**

Weds-9-9.30

Mid-week top up? Join us for a short service from the Northumbria Community with a time of reflection and prayers for our community and the wider world Wednesdays 9-9.30 in the North Transept.

Church Open Every day: 9.30 to 4 (ish)



Baby & Toddler Group

Wednesdays

9-11 am During term time in the Village Hall £3 per family I

includes drink and snacks for children and tea/coffee and cake for accompanying adults. Lovely sociable group





Afternoon of festive fun at Grayswood School Christmas Fair on Saturday 9th December from 2pm til 4pm



Look forward to seeing you



# Could you be a school governor?



We're looking for another person to join our team of Governors at Grayswood Church of England Primary School.

School governors play a vital role in education and get to make a difference by shaping the future of children and young people.

Governing within a school also provides an opportunity for personal development, building your skills and experience in areas such as project management, budgeting, and working as part of a leadership team.

## Why volunteer?

- \*Help ensure voices are heard
- \*A rewarding experience

\*Leadership development

\*Improve the lives of local children

\*Make a difference in Grayswood

\*Build professional skills & networks

We meet currently meet 6 times a year. And the term of office is 4 years.

## Want to know more?

Please email in confidence to Mrs Fiona Tough (Chair of Governors)

ftough@grayswood.surrey.sch.uk

Rev Fi Gwynn (ex-officio Foundation Governor) revfigwynn@gmail.com

www.grayswoodschool.co.uk

# Christmas poem competition

Grayswood pulls out the stops to share the joy of anticipating Christmas this Advent



Thank you to all those people who kindly submitted their poems.

If you haven't already spotted them, look out for each new poem as they are released on All Saints website [allsaintsgrayswood.org], and the village WhatsApp group. The winning two entries will appear on Christmas Eve.

## A £20 Amazon Voucher will be emailed to the winner.

For further information contact Angela (awheeler100@gmail.com)

# Church finances- please can you help?

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Giving and Gift Aid claims

£3,000/month

Fixed Outgoings: Parish share and administration

**Regular Income:** 

£3,000/month

Variable income Collections, fees, interest, donations & fundraising ~ £1,750/month

## Variable running costs:

Stationery, telephone etc The Runner Gas/Electricity Building and churchyard maintenance Sunday Hall hire and Oonagh Jeffrey room (coffee, toddlers, one off events)

total ~£2,360/month

## Shortfall / month approx £610

Please help us fund this shortfall by signing up to regular giving, increasing your giving or making a one-off donation

The cost of the Audio-Visual System and improvements to the paths have been funded by a donation from the Friends of All Saints and the legacy received in 2022.

If you would like more detailed information, please use this link https://allsaintsgrayswood.org/contact-us/pcc or speak to Sarah in the Parish Office for a copy.

## You are welcome ...

Would you like to come to church but are nervous of walking in on your own?

We have a team of willing volunteers who could arrange to meet you either in the car park or outside the church to accompany you into the service. Please contact John McLean—07879 250 165 — in the first instance and he will put you in contact with a suitable buddy.



## Christmas Showcase

Saturday 9th December @ 7.30 pm at St Johns Church, Farncombe GU7 3EJ.

Music Director Kathy McLeish with Vaughan Larmond and Band

Adult Ticket £10, Children free

Tickets at gcgcinformation@gmail.com | On the door (cash or card) or from The Record Corner, Pound Iane, Godalming, GU7 1BX (cash only)

Refreshments, raffle and a very warm welcome!

# Cards for Good Causes

Haslemere's Shop is open until Dec 23rd selling cards, paper, tags and gifts at Haslemere Museum ( 01428 642112 )





Grayswood Book Club

Time and Time Again by Ben Elton. on Tues 19th December at 8 pm

and

Star of the Sea by Joseph O'Connor on Tues 16th January at 8 pm

Contact Angela: awheeler100@gmail.com

# Runner by Post

If you live out of the Parish or find it difficult to get to church regularly, but want to be keep in touch, I can post the Runner to you regularly.

Please send your name and address and 10 x 2nd class stamps for a year, ten issues starting with February 2024.



Pauline Lamb, Little Paddock, 4 Paddock Way, Grayswood. GU27 2EE

## Grayswood Club Christmas Tree

A big thank you to Gary and his team at Haslemere Garden Centre who, once again, have provided The Club with a beautiful Christmas tree.

Don't forget, the garden centre is your nearest source for Christmas trees, cards, presents and flowers ...



and that's a good excuse to drop in for a treat at the Sweetpeas Cafe too!

## Grayswood Village Club

Christmas Lights Switch on, carols, mulled wine & mince pies Sunday 3rd December from 4pm

**Christmas Wreath Making** Monday 4th December from 7.30pm -

**Coffee & Chat** Wednesday 13th December 10-12

**Christmas quiz night and raffle** Thursday 21st December from 7.45pm

## **Festive Opening Hours**

**Christmas Day** - bar is open from 12 - 2 **New Years Eve** - 60's & 70's party for New Year

## **Regular Opening Hours**

Friday evenings (7 - 10.30 pm) and Sunday afternoons (from 12)

Members only Club, but it's easy to join : Call 07808 474147

Visit www.grayswoodclub.co.uk

The Club can also be booked for parties and family celebrations and by local clubs/individuals for regular daytime use.

For bookings contact: <a href="mailto:awheeler100@gmail.com">awheeler100@gmail.com</a>



Join us in December for

## Christmas crafting

**DATE:** Wednesday 13th November, 7:45/8pm **WHERE:** Grayswood Village Hall Tuck in to mince pies and mulled wine while trying your hand at a little festive macrame. December is the ideal meeting to come along as a guest or bring a friend.

All materials are provided and our brilliant Crafty Coffee group will be there to help.

#### SAVE THE DATE: January 10th 2024

Discover 2024's WI Resolutions campaigns shortlist—presented by our Committee, ready for members to cast their votes

#### Guests Welcome | New Memberships available

For more information or to join, contact us on grayswoodwi@gmail.com



## Serving the Community in Grayswood

Church Services: December / Jan Dec 3rd 10 am Advent Sunday Service			
		8 am	Holy Communion Advent Sunday Service
	Dec 17th		Advent Sunday Service
	Dec 24th	4 pm	Crib with Christingle Service m First Communion of Christmas
	Dec 25th	10 am	Christmas Day Service
	Dec 31st	10 am	UB St Barts Communion
	Jan 7th	10 am	Parish Communion
	Jan 14th		Holy Communion Morning Worship
	Jan 21st	10 am	Parish Communion
	Jan 28th		Holy Communion 4th Sunday Service
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\*Join us on Zoom — Sunday Services (in bold\*) are set as a recurring meeting on zoom—just go to: join.zoom.us

Meeting ID: 325 676 8563 | Passcode: 2023



Topic: All Saints Sunday Service | Time: 10 am

Or for "dial in" call +44 203 481 5237. Enter the meeting ID followed by the # key. Then the passcode followed by the # key. You will be connected to the meeting and be on mute. Please do not unmute yourself unless necessary as this can distort the reception for everyone else. If you do need to unmute, press \*6. Please note: Calls will be charged at your usual standard rate - for approx. 40 mins.

## Haslemere Food Bank

The Haslemere Food Bank continues to operate thanks to generous donations. Please remember that all of us can need support at some time or another especially in the present circumstances, if you, or anyone you know is in need during this time please do not hesitate to obtain a voucher for the Food Bank from

Rev Fi Gwynn on 07769 856343

Please leave donations in the box in All Saints Church or deliver directly to the Haslemere Methodist church (opposite the Esso garage) on a Wednesday or Friday between 10-12.



## Ways to contact the Church

## 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, pop a note in the postbox at church, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

#### Would you like to speak with a priest?

**Revd Fi Gwynn** works part-time (day off Fri) Tel 01428 654728 / 07769 856343 Email: **revfigwynn@gmail.com** 

Revd Elaine Collins works part-time (day off Tues) Tel 07543 083178 Email: revelainecollins@icloud.com

#### Pastoral Team

#### Daphne Bleach - ring or message - 07950 785051

If you need support, someone to listen or a helping hand—whether you're new to the village or a lifelong resident—call our Pastoral Team

## Baptism? Wedding? Funeral?

Please contact the church office on 07769 856343 (01428 656504 on Mon and Thurs am) or email allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com.

## Do you have a general enquiry?

Email our church administrator Sarah Bennett on allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, please visit our website: allsaintsgrayswood.org

#### VILLAGE PRAYER

In December, we pray for those who live and work in Prestwick Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Paddock Way



## **Christmas Appeal**

We are appealing for items that can support families and children over the festive period:

- \* Festive treats, including mince pies, small Christmas cakes and puddings (400g)
- \* Small boxes of biscuits and chocolates
- \* Pringles, bags of nuts, and 6-packs of crisps
- \* Cranberry sauce, stuffing mix, bread sauce etc
- \* Soft drinks
- \* Christmas Crackers

Please check that any best-before dates are AFTER Christmas



Village Hall Bookings grayswoodvh@outlook.com ~ Grayswood Club: 07808 474147 ~ Grayswood School 642086 ~ Grayswood Nursery 658931