



I know it's a sign of age, but Christmas does seem to come round earlier and earlier each year – although mince pies in the shops by October doesn't help matters!

This Advent I am going to be reading a book called **Embracing Humanity** by **Isabelle Hamley**, that we used as the focus of our Advent Retreat Day at the end of November.

In it she is helping us to look at what it means to be truly human. And if you listen to Radio 2 you may remember Jeremy Vine had a series on 'What makes us human?' – where he asked celebrities and politicians that same question. (Podcasts still available on the BBC iPlayer if you want to look them up.)

Isabelle is encouraging us to meditate on what it means to be human in the light of God's choice to reach out to us through Jesus. A child born a very humble birth but who came to fulfil what was written long before.

In the busyness of the season, I would encourage you to take some time out, whether to read, listen to a podcast, or some music, and allow the wonder and joy of this very special time to permeate the commercialisation, regardless of your belief.

Time goes too quickly and if we don't stop and reflect occasionally then we miss out on so much.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2025.

With love,

Fi x

PS - there's a free library of books in the North Transept in Church if anyone wants to borrow some reading material.

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 to 9.30

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

House Group

Meets Tuesdays @ 7.30

Contact Pippa

pippahollins1@gmail.com

for more details

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 7th December from 11 til 1 pm at Grayswood Village Hall

Bacon butties from 11.00

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



ADVENT FAMILY SERVICE

Celebrate Advent with songs, crafts and a children's tea

Sunday 1st December
4pm for an hour

All Saints Church,
Grayswood Road, GU27 2DJ

For more info:
allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

www.allsaintsgrayswood.org



SONGS



CRAFTS



CHILDREN'S TEA



BC - AD

This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.
This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.
This was the moment when even energetic Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.
And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.
U A Fanthorpe, from Christmas Poems (Enitharmon, 2002)

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 2025.



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



Christmas Showcase

Saturday 14th December @ 7.30 pm at
SS Peter & Paul, Godalming, GU7 1EW

Music Director Kathy McLeish with Vaughan
Larmond & Band

Adult Ticket £10, Children free

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

Refreshments, raffle and a very warm welcome!

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!



Sunflower Challenge?

Did you see the sunflowers growing on the top plot of the Clammer Hill Allotments?

It was a challenge this year to get the flowers so tall, but sunflowers are fun and rewarding to grow. A small seed can produce a tall plant with a huge flower head. The bright yellow flowers are cheery too.

It would be great to see the village full of sunflowers next summer.

Can Grayswood rise to the challenge of a sunflower growing competition?

Prizes for the tallest and biggest flower. More details to follow, watch this space....





“Follow the Stars”

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for our Advent Windows this year . Do use the map enclosed with the runner to follow the stars around the village as they appear. There are some new locations this year for you to find.

If you're new to the village I do hope that you enjoy locating the houses and that you feel inspired to join in next time. Fi

07769 856343 or revfigwynn@gmail.com

Grayswood Book Club

Join us each month for our wonderful book club! We next meet on Tues 17th December from 8–9 pm to chat about our chosen book

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby van Pelt and on January 21st we meet to discuss

Still Life by Sarah Winman

Contact Angela: awheeler100@gmail.com



Grayswood Village Club



Club Christmas Lights Switch On ~ carols, mulled wine & mince pies

Sun 1st December 4pm

(Bar open from 1pm as normal)

Coffee and Chat

with homemade cakes

Weds 11th December 10-12 noon

Christmas Quiz Night and Raffle

Thurs 19th December from 7.45pm

Bring your Xmas nibbles!

Christmas Eve Bar Open from 7pm

New Year's Eve Party Bar Open from 7pm

Coffee and Chat

Weds 8th January

Quiz Night

Thurs 30th January - from 7:45

Come as a team or join one on the night



For latest details on Club events, & for information on membership and bookings, please visit our website



GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME | NEW MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

Join us for Christmas Craft in December...

DATE: Weds 11th December
TIME: 7:45/8pm
MEET: Village Hall

A celebratory evening to mark the end of another great year for our village WI!

Bring a friend (or two!), tuck into yummy homemade mince pies and mulled wine and try out some easy, fun festive crafts – all arranged by our fabulous WI committee elves.

IN JANUARY...

The WI is famous for campaigning and activism via its Annual National Resolutions.

In January, we present the 2025 shortlist, ready for member voting, followed by a few games.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Email: grayswoodwi@gmail.com
Facebook: [@grayswoodwomensinstitute](https://www.facebook.com/grayswoodwomensinstitute)
Website: [grayswoodwi.wixsite.com/home](https://www.grayswoodwi.wixsite.com/home)

Haslemere's Cards for Good Causes

Shop open at Haslemere Museum til December 24th.

We will be selling **Christmas cards** (many with a religious theme), on behalf of a wide range of over 40 Charities including Cancer Research UK, Mind, Marie Curie, The Alzheimer's Society, GUTS and SSAFA along with some new charities such as RSPCA and WaterAid, **gift wrap, tags** and an extensive selection of **gifts**.

www.cardsforcharity.co.uk
or
call Haslemere Museum on
01428 642112



Church Services in December / January

Dec 1st	10 am	Advent Sunday Service*
	4 pm	Advent Family Service with crafts, songs and children's tea
Dec 8th	8 am	Holy Communion
	10 am	Advent Sunday Service*
Dec 15th	10 am	Advent Sunday Service*
	6 pm	Carol Service
Dec 22nd	10 am	Advent Sunday Service*
Dec 24th	4 pm	Crib with Christingle Service
	11.30 pm	First Communion of Christmas
Dec 25th	10 am	Christmas Day Service*
Dec 29th	10 am	UB St Barts Communion
Jan 5th	10 am	Parish Communion*
Jan 12th	8 am	Holy Communion
	10 am	Morning Worship*
Jan 19th	10 am	Parish Communion*
Jan 26th	8 am	Holy Communion
	10 am	4th Sunday Service*

***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: 2024



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 (days off Thurs & 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 life-long 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 on allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, please visit our website:

allsaintsgrayswood.org

Village Prayer for December and January

We remember those who live and work in Prestwick Lane, Clammer Hill Road, Paddock Way, Muddy Lane; Holdfast Lane, Three Gates Lane & Highercombe Road



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.



Christmas Appeal

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

- * 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

Thank you



Village Hall Bookings: grayswoodvh@outlook.com | **Grayswood Club:** annette.sandom@gmail.com

Grayswood School 642086 | **Grayswood Nursery** 658931