



## Time in Northumbria

I am writing this having just returned from a retreat at The Northumbria Community which is located near Alnmouth. It's obviously quite a long way north, but I have wanted to go there for many years and this year the date of their retreat finally matched my availability.

I have used the Northumbria Community resources for many years, and we use their Morning Prayer every Wednesday morning in Church. Their strapline is 'A dispersed, worldwide, network Christian Community, committed to a new way for living' and their worship is very much focussed on the Celtic Saints. Do check out their website which provides much more detail about who they are:

[www.northumbriacommunity.org](http://www.northumbriacommunity.org)

But what is a Retreat? A 'Retreat' simply means to withdraw. In the Christian tradition, retreating is seen as vital for spiritual growth—setting aside time away from daily demands to focus on God in a quiet environment. Evelyn Underhill described this as "loitering with intent".

And Nether Springs, the name of the Retreat House, was the perfect place to do that.



The community provides a regular rhythm of prayer, Morning, Midday, Evening and Compline, plus simple home cooked meals so that you don't need to think about anything.

The weather was better than expected, and whilst it was cold, wet and windy at times, the surrounding views were wonderful, and the house itself was warm and cosy. There is a tiny lean-to chapel, labyrinth and various places to sit and enjoy the views. A library and craft room complete the set up so that there is something for everyone.

After the busyness of the Christmas season, it was the perfect time to step away and rest, ready to step into Lent on the 18th February.

With love, Fi x

PS Thank you to Sarah for allowing me to write this past the deadline!

## Church Services

### 8 am Services

2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays

### 10 am Sunday Services:

In Church | On zoom

Every Sunday

[allsaintsgrayswood.org](http://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)



## Toddler Group

Wednesdays

9-11 am

during term time in the  
Village Hall

£3 per family

includes drink and snacks for  
children and tea/coffee &  
cake for accompanying  
adults.

Lovely sociable group



# Eco Church Silver Award

We've done it! After four years, we have achieved our Silver Award. We've changed to LED lighting, adapted our churchyard maintenance to encourage wild flowers, held pet services and prayed for creation; we've planted trees, built bug houses and reduced our carbon footprint.

Nicola, who has been leading the team said, "We're pleased to have our Eco Church Silver Award. It's a real recognition of our progress over the last few years as we've looked after the our land and embedded sustainable values in church life. We're already thinking about next steps to improve the environment around the churchyard for our native wildlife.

## A plum job

Our new plum trees have arrived. The varieties, a Victoria and a Marjorie's Seedling, will fruit in the late Summer to early Autumn. Feel free to pick a plum to eat as you walk past!

## Whipping the churchyard into shape

Delivered as part of our wildlife booster pack, 50 whips have now been planted around the church. There's a mixed hedgerow along the boundary wall with Church House comprising hawthorn, blackthorn, elderberry and dogrose; and at the East end of the churchyard is a small coppice with silver birch, hazel and mixed hedging.



## Practicing The Way

Following Jesus has been likened to a life long spiritual journey. Practicing the Way is an eight session course that invites us to learn how to be with Jesus, become like him, and do as he did.

This brief video on YouTube will give you an idea of what to expect: <https://tinyurl.com/ptwjmc>

We plan to start the course during the week starting 9th February. We are flexible over timings and will try to find a day of the week and a time that suits everyone. We intend to meet every second week up until Easter and then we can reassess how best to continue.

Please contact Fi or Peter & Hilary if you are interested.

c.peter.donaldson@gmail.com  
07919401492



## Village Ceilidh

The village Burns Night social event is likely to become an annual event if Peter Donaldson can be persuaded to run it again. Sold out, leaving many would be dancers disappointed, the evening was a hit from the word go.

At the first dance the floor was full, with hopping, clapping, laughing individuals. 8 year olds danced alongside those in their eighties. A splendid meal of haggis, neeps, tatties and Cranachan was served in generous portions.

We danced with abandon and nursed our aching limbs the next day!

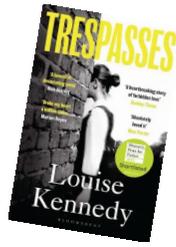
Thank you to the All Saints catering team and Peter for a fabulous night - we really must do it again.



## Grayswood Book Club

Join us each month for our wonderful book club!

We meet to chat about our chosen book on Tues 17th February at 8pm:  
Trespases by Louise Kennedy  
Contact Angela: awheeler100@gmail.com



## Are you a winner?!

Draw date: January 5th

First prize - £33.60 - number 10  
Second prize - £9.60 - number 13  
Third prize - £4.80 - number 1

Want to join our 100 Club? More details on the website, at Coffee and Chat or message Jackie (07730 304102) / Di (07769 971720)



# Grayswood Village Club

## Coffee and Chat

With homemade cakes  
Wednesday 11th February noon

## Quiz Night

Thursday 26th February from 7.45pm  
Come as a team or join one on the night!

## Potluck Tapas Supper

Saturday 21st February 7 - 11 pm (see advert)

## Winter Opening Hours:

Friday 5pm - 11pm  
Sunday from 3pm  
Last Thurs of month: 7.15pm - 10.30pm  
Saturday events as advertised

## Members only Club but easy to join!



For events & how to join visit  
[grayswoodclub.co.uk](http://grayswoodclub.co.uk)

The Club can be booked for parties & family celebrations, & by local Clubs / individuals for regular daytime use  
[grayswoodclub@gmail.com](mailto:grayswoodclub@gmail.com)



## Tapas Potluck Supper

Join us for a relaxed **Spanish-style tapas night**—bring a small dish to share and enjoy a table full of flavors inspired by Spain.

Grayswood Club  
21<sup>st</sup> February  
7pm - 11pm

✦ Bring a tapas-sized dish (savory or sweet)

✦ Everyone welcome

# GRAYSWOOD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

1920 - 2026

GUESTS ALWAYS WELCOME | NEW MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

## POTTERY PAINTING



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

Join us for a fun, easy pottery painting session.

Grayshott Pottery have supplied perfect cake plates ready for us to personalise, before they go back for firing.

Guests welcome - let us know so we make sure we have a plate for you!



## SAY HELLO & FIND OUT MORE

**EMAIL:** [grayswoodwi@gmail.com](mailto:grayswoodwi@gmail.com)  
**FACEBOOK:** [@grayswoodwomensinstitute](https://www.facebook.com/grayswoodwomensinstitute)  
**WEBSITE:** [grayswoodwi.wixsite.com/home](http://grayswoodwi.wixsite.com/home)

## Lent Resources

We aren't running a separate Lent Course this year but will be exploring different themes during the Sunday Service instead. Do come with an open mind as we explore this special season together.



## Church Lending Library

There are also a few Lent books available to borrow from our library (on the left as you enter the church). No need to sign the books out - either return when you're finished or pass on to someone else who you think may benefit from reading it.

## Online resources

There are many options but we recommend:

Brian Draper, who in the words of Clare Balding has an "extraordinary gift for providing nourishment for the soul" has a Lent 2026 email series, visit [www.briandraper.org](http://www.briandraper.org) for more information

This year's Church of England's resources have at their heart the theme of a 'rhythm of life' - habits and patterns which help us grow as disciples of Christ day by day, especially as we prepare to celebrate the great mystery of God's saving love at Easter.

Visit [www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/draw-near-life-giving-habits-lent](http://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/draw-near-life-giving-habits-lent)

## Church Services

<b>Feb 1st</b>	<b>10 am*</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
<b>Feb 8th</b>	8 am	Holy Communion
	<b>10 am*</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>
<b>Feb 15th</b>	<b>10 am*</b>	<b>Parish Communion</b>
<b>Feb 18th</b>	<b>6. 30 pm</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday Service at St Barts</b>
<b>Feb 22nd</b>	8 am	Holy Communion
	<b>10 am*</b>	<b>4th Sunday Service</b>

### \*Join us on Zoom

Sunday Services (in bold\*) are set as a recurring meeting on zoom. just go to join.zoom.us

Meeting ID: 816 3187 4033  
Passcode: 2025



**Join us for Mothering Sunday**  
**15th March @ 10 am**  
**in the Village Hall**



**Village Contacts**  
Village Hall Bookings  
grayswoodvh@outlook.com  
Grayswood Club:  
grayswoodclub@gmail.com  
Grayswood School  
info@grayswood.surrey.sch.uk  
Grayswood Nursery  
info@grayswoodnurseryschool.co.uk

## 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

Working days Sun - Weds (other days by prior appt)  
Tel 07769 856343 (calls only) Email: revfigwynn@gmail.com

Revd Elaine Collins works part-time

Tel 07543 083178 Email: revelainecollins@icloud.com

### Pastoral Team

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

Daphne Bleach - ring or message - 07950 785051

### Baptism? Wedding? Funeral?

Contact the church office: 01428 656504 (Mon & Thurs am)

or email allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

### Do you need more information?

Email general enquiries to our church administrator Sarah on allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com or visit our website allsaintsgrayswood.org

### Village Prayers

#### We pray for worshippers who live in:

Prestwick Lane, Paddock Way,

Muddy Lane, Clammer Hill Road,  
Holdfast Lane, Three Gates Lane and  
Highercombe Road.



## Haslemere Food Bank

*Thank you as always for your donations*



If you, or anyone you know is in need please do not hesitate to obtain a voucher for the Food Bank from

**Rev Fi Gwynn: 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.

**Tins and jars:** meat, fruits, vegetables, potatoes, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti hoops, ravioli, soup, rice pudding, custard, marmalade, jams

**Dried foods:** oats, rice, pasta, couscous, noodles

**Drinks:** coffee, tea, UHT milk

**Other:** biscuits, sweet & savoury snacks, packet puddings

**Non food items:** Toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, bar soap, sanitary products, cleaning products, toilet roll, pet food