

COMMUNITY NEWS

Christmas Eve and Santa's Journey begins...

It won't be long now until Father Christmas and his trusty Elf helper will be travelling around our Parish on his brightly decorated sleigh with festive music and lights. Don't miss out on this traditional Christmas Eve journey.

- 18:00 Hollow Lane Wilton
- 18:15 Marten
- 18:20 Wexcombe
- 18:45 East Grafton
- 19:00 Duck Pond Wilton



Parents: you may be aware that Father Christmas always visits The Swan on Christmas Day and that it is possible to arrange for your child to receive a present from him. Talk to Bill or one of the team at The Swan for more information.



FAMILY NATIVITY WITH CAROLS

20 December

St Nicholas' Church 4pm

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy this wonderful start to the Christmas season.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

All at the Community News team would like to thank all our very willing and able helpers for all their good works in delivering each issue during the year. We hope that you get some useful information from each issue which is put together from all the information contributed by those in the parish. It is only with the support of our advertisers that we are able to distribute each issue free of charge - thank you all too.

It is always good to see so much going on in our small community. In this issue you are invited to consider whether you can spare a small amount of time to join your Parish Council. It is likely, in the near future, that more and more responsibilities will be distributed to more local enterprises and so the Parish Council is anticipating more involvement in local issues during 2016/7.

Meanwhile we wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and all the very best for 2016.

By the way the Coronation Hall has been having a new lick of paint, it's well underway and should be completed by the end of January. With the busy hall schedule finding a couple of days together for the final bits to be done has been challenging. It's looking smart already!



Children's Christmas Disco

At the Coronation Hall on **Friday, 18 December from 6.00pm**

Super party atmosphere, glitter ball and lots of lights, dancing, limbo contest, competitions and Christmas tea (*served promptly at 6.00pm!*) all for £5.00 per child.

... And there's a bar for Mums and Dads to get into the Christmas spirit as well!

Please reserve your tickets now before the event is advertised further afield.

Contact either june.walnuttree@btinternet.com or billandsaraclemence@hotmail.com

Can you spare some time to help to keep our community vibrant?

Your Parish Council is looking for another willing and able member to join its busy and friendly team. No previous councillor experience is necessary, the key is a willingness to give something back to our wonderful Parish! Meetings are held bi-monthly (generally lasting about 1.5 hours) and each member of the Parish Council has delegated tasks to oversee - with another member of the council sharing the responsibilities so that there is always cover/help when it is needed.

Serving on the Parish Council is a very rewarding activity and the Parish Clerk is always there to assist with any procedural requirements which may arise. All meetings are open to the public so you could always "pop in" and see for yourself or if you would like to discuss the position in more detail then let us know and the Chairman will be more than happy to call you.

Give the idea some thought over the Christmas break and see if you can find some time to find out what goes on.

Why not email clerk@graftonparish.com to find out more? This is not a paid post but it is rewarding in many ways and it does ensure that you know what is going on around you!

The next meeting is on Monday 18 January 2016 at 19.15hrs.

Winter Warmers New Year Lunch

13 January 12.30pm

Wexcombe Pie and vegetables

Treacle tart and ice cream

Book your tickets with Liz Hosier 01264 731242 or 07831 545772

On your own or with a group of friends - everyone welcome.

Book early for 10 February Valentine's lunch too!

A very merry Christmas from everyone at Sunflowers at Grafton



Thanks to everyone who came along to our recent Creative Morning at the Coronation Hall. We had a lovely morning of making gifts – with tables for jewellery, pottery, table decorations, candle holders, tree decorations and crackers. There was a lot of glitter and sparkle used! Thanks also to everyone who filled a Bag2School for us. Fundraising this term has raised just over £500 which will be carefully spent on new equipment and resources in the new year.

Wilton Windmill Society news

Kevin Challen has taken over the Chairmanship of the Society and Peter Lemon continues as President. Susie Brew has resigned as Secretary. If you are, or you know anyone who is, able to volunteer to help with the administration within the society then do please contact secretary@wiltonwindmill.co.uk to find out what is involved. The society is extremely good at welcoming new friends and the duties which are involved need not be too onerous, depending on what available time you have.

Youth Activities – A hectic and fulfilling year!

From an inkling of an idea in January and with the help of Karen Brown from the Pewsey Youth Network, we now have funds in place to provide free of charge activities for the next couple of years. Our numbers have grown from the initial 3 intrepid guys in March to over 20 young people who've now taken part in the different activities being provided.

The November session had a great turnout and whilst we had some last minute changes Karen came to the rescue with stacks of plastic cups which turned into an amazing giant snowman!

Dawn Wilson explained about Time Credits, a system which allows young people to earn an hours credit for each hour of volunteering they do and to then spend their credits on doing activities for themselves. Volunteering means doing something for someone else, some of the ideas bubbling around are helping with the litter pick, visiting and helping out with some of the elderly Grafton folk, using a youth activities session to cook a meal for their families to come and enjoy, jumble sales and games swaps. and more! If you have some volunteering ideas do let us know.

Heloise, Master Potter, was very disappointed to miss the November session, she is definitely coming along in January. The clay is ordered already! Clay sculpting sounds great fun - you will make animals, figures or just do your own project.

Several young guys and their valiant parents ventured to Tidworth Bike track on the coldest day of the year so far! They had a great time, are mulling over ideas for next steps on bike track plans and excitedly waiting to hear about dates for the Adrenaline Alley trip.

21 December, Ice Skating at Swindon Ice Rink

Leaving the Coronation Hall at 12.00pm and return at 4.00pm. There is no cost for this activity. Parents need to sign and return a consent form and we suggest you either bring a drink and snack or bring some cash for the vending machine at the ice rink. There are 14 places available, they will be given on a first come first served basis, except for over 13's who will have priority. To book your place and get a consent form, email youthactivities@graftonparish.com or contact Annie on 07802 923344. Please return your consent forms by 18 December.

Diary dates – Proposed Activities for Spring 2016

15 January – Clay Sculpting

15 February – Freedog Trip

18 March – Cooking in Coronation Hall (perhaps a Spanish Feast for you and your families to enjoy?)

30 March - Ice skating

04 April - Rifle shooting and/or archery at Oxenwood

Parent volunteers and helpers

We're building our parent volunteer group and can still benefit from more! Why not experience what's involved and come along to a session and take a look. The more volunteers we have, the more we can arrange and accommodate.

Further news will be posted on www.graftonparish.com, Grafton Parish Community News page on Facebook and via our developing network. Please contact youthactivities@graftonparish.com or Karen.brown@wiltshire.gov.uk or 07795 665756 if you have questions or want more details.

Footsteps Podiatry Services

Tidworth Leisure Centre

07881 802386

katie@thepodiatrist.org.uk

⇒ All aspects of footcare undertaken

⇒ Nail Surgery

⇒ Biomechanical review inc plantar fasciitis, heel pain, metatarsalgia

⇒ Orthotics

⇒ Verrucae treatments

* Drop in appointments 9-2 term time excl Wednesday

* Evening and weekends can be arranged

* Home visits available for a fee



Community Speedwatch has now started in our Parish.

With the help of our group of trained volunteers, we will be holding regular Speedwatch sessions starting this month. All drivers that are registered speeding will be logged with Wiltshire Police who will contact offenders directly. Speeding has been a focal issue within our Parish and your support is greatly appreciated in our efforts to encourage safe driving.

If you would like to get involved or require bin stickers, please ask for further details from clerk@graftonparish.com

Our Doctor Writes

The flu vaccination programme has been running for the a few weeks but across the whole of the country the uptake is low this year. There are a number of possible reasons: recent unseasonable warm weather may have had an effect on making people feel that late autumn and winter are not yet here; whilst pharmacies have been given a contract this year to vaccinate people in at risk groups, this has caused some confusion as pharmacists don't have individual disease registers like general practice does; and, probably most significantly, that last year's vaccine proved less effective than usual. The three strains of flu incorporated into each vaccine are chosen around a year before they are due to be given. Last year one of those strains appeared to have mutated between being picked for inclusion and arriving in the UK. This really shouldn't put people off. It was still effective for many people and certainly more effective than not being vaccinated at all.

There is still time to get the flu jab, which is of course free for people over 65 and those of you in at risk groups. If you aren't sure if you qualify ask at your practice.

The pneumonia jab is a once only vaccine and available to all over 65 and most people in at risk groups. The new meningitis W vaccine is currently available. From August 2015, all 17 and 18-year-olds in school year 13 and first-time university students up to the age of 25 will be offered the Men ACWY vaccine as part of the NHS vaccination programme. This includes protection for this W strain. The Men ACWY vaccine protects against four different causes of meningitis and septicaemia – meningococcal (Men) A, C, W and Y diseases. This is being delivered through the school programme but GPs are able to vaccinate those who have missed out for any reason. It is also available opportunistically for anyone off to College or University for the first time. This strain of meningitis is really severe and I implore you and your children to have the vaccination.

Many of you may know that I am currently the Vice Chair of the Royal College of GPs for the UK. Next year I intend to stand for election to become Chair. This role is even more time consuming than my current position. It is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be able to put my name forward to lead the GPs across the UK in the area of quality and standards. This will have significant implications for my time in Bedwyn. I will endeavour to explain more about this in the January edition.

Finally on behalf of the Bedwyn Surgery team may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and especially healthy 2016.

Best wishes, Dr Tim Ballard

Recycling centre consultation

A special joint meeting of **Pewsey and Tidworth Area Boards** to discuss the future of Everleigh HRC will take place on Monday 21 December 2015 at Woodborough Social Club.

Wiltshire representatives in attendance:-
Cllr Toby Sturgis – Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Property, Waste and Strategic Housing
Cllr Jerry Wickham – Portfolio Holder for Waste
Tracy Carter – Associate Director, Waste and Environment

The meeting starts at 7pm, refreshments from 6.30pm

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Dates for your diary

All events take place in the Coronation Hall unless otherwise specified (contact details on page 4).
St N refers to St Nicholas' Church.

DECEMBER

18	18.00	Christmas Cracker disco	
20	16.00	Family nativity with carols	<i>St N</i>
21	12.00	Youth activity ice skating	
22	11.55	Mobile library	
25	11.00	Holy Communion	<i>St N</i>
27	09.30	"Cluster" Holy Communion	<i>Little Bedwyn</i>

JANUARY

03	11.00	Church service	<i>St N</i>
08	24.00	Closing date for January issue	
10	18.00	Evensong	<i>St N</i>
13	12.30	Winter warmer New Year lunch	
15	18.00	Youth activity clay sculpting	
17	11.00	Family Worship & Baptism	<i>St N</i>
18	19.15	Parish Council meeting	
24	16.00	Family Worship	<i>St N</i>
31	11.00	Cluster service	<i>Little Bedwyn</i>

Christmas bin collection schedule

Plastic / Card / Blue Bin / Black Box - 24 Dec / 8 & 21 Jan
Household Waste - black bin - 17 Dec / 2 & 14 Jan

email news@graftonparish.com with contributions for the Community News.
Deadline for the next issue 8 January.
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MONDAY

CIRCUIT & FITNESS Henrietta MacKinnon  09:15 to 10:15 Monday

YOGA  11:00 to 12:30 Monday

TUESDAY

ZUMBA  09:30 to 10:30 Tuesday

Marlborough Multiples 15:00 to 16:30
Alternate Tuesdays


YOGA  19:30 to 21:00 Tuesday

WEDNESDAY

CIRCUIT & FITNESS Henrietta MacKinnon  09:15 to 10:15 Wednesday

C.A.P Dance & Fitness  Various classes for all ages between 15:30 and 19:00

THURSDAY

GRAFTON GOBBLINGS  Baby and toddler group
10:00 to 11:30 Thursday

FRIDAY

Mobile library at the Coronation Hall
22 December, 19 January 11.55am to 12.25pm

pilates  09:30 to 10:30 Friday
10:45 to 11:45 Friday
Beginners and gentle work

KARATE CLASS Children only 16:30 to 17:00

Useful contacts

Societies/Clubs/Organisations: 1 line free entry

Church flowers/clean	01672 810072 Patricia Knowles
Circuit/fitness Training	01672 810266 Hen Mackinnon
Community News	news@graftonparish.com
Coronation Hall	07479 281809 hall@graftonparish.com
County Councillor	01672 810285 Stuart Wheeler
Cricket Club	wiltoncc@yahoo.co.uk
Crofton beam engines	www.croftonbeamengines.org
Dance and Fitness	07746 479345 Charlotte Price
Grafton Goslings	graftongoslings@yahoo.co.uk
Horticultural Society	01672 810364 Marijke Craig
Junior cricket club	wiltoncc@yahoo.co.uk
Karate	07775 510143 Darren Pettifer
Link Scheme	0771 7006787
Marlborough Multiples	07967 835831 Amber
Member of Parliament	01380 729358 Claire Perry
Parish Council	clerk@graftonparish.com 01672 811335
PCC Secretary	01672 870266 Millie Lemon
Pilates	07796 225942 Tracey Rich
Police emergency	999 or 112
Police non emergency	101 Jonathan Mills
Salt/sand bags	07910 637 634 David Lemon
St Nicholas' church	www.savernaketeam.org.uk
Sunflowers at Grafton	01672 810478 Lyndsey Turner
Wiltshire Good Neighbours	07557 110418
Windmill Society	secretary@wiltonwindmill.co.uk
Winter Warmers	01264 731242 liz Hosier
Yoga	01672 841553 Lizzy Hawnt
Zumba	01672 484464 Joanna Bury

Local commercial listing

B&B West Grafton	Angie Orssich	01672 810339
Baby sitting/odd jobs	Tom Nield	01672 870196
Builder	Sam Sanchez	07887 991249
Builder & roofing	Dan and Co	07936 586228
Cake making	www.faysfairycakes.co.uk	
Car washing	wiltonwashers@gmail.com	
Disco and Karaoke	Pete Vallis	01672 811326
Disco and Party	Steve	01672 811109
Dog training/walking	Carrie Holborow	07546 941709
Double glazing repairs	David Willcocks	01672 811979
Furniture	Holgate & Pack	01672 870887
Gardening	Sue Upham	01672 810526
Grafton Garage	Tony Gilbert	07845 006890
Hair and Beauty	Katherine Le Bon	07770 945307
Hat Hire	Victoria Frost	01672 810386
Homeopathy	Emma H-Byass	07540 773531
Logs/tree surgeon	Jeremy Hawkins	07980 536156
Painting & Decorating	Neil Anderson	01264 731362
Pest Control	Julie Wilson	01672 811479
Printing clothing/signs	www.SCSigns.co.uk	
Reflexology	Jacquie Gibbons	07724 676569
Swan Inn	Bill Clemence	01672 870274
Usborne Books	Trish Highnett	07775 941646

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Business based in the Parish: 1 line listing – Free

Business based outside the Parish: 1 line – £1/issue £10/pa

For larger adverts: 1/12 page £5 1/6 page £10 1/4 page £15

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References available on request.

07990 512342 Jasonlewis08@aol.com



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