

Graveley Matters

April 2020



Graveley Village Support Available

If anyone needs help or support in these difficult times (e.g. shopping, collection of medication, accessing online resources or just someone to talk to), there is a group of volunteer villagers who are willing to try and help you out.

Please contact by phone, text, email or WhatsApp either:

Helen Lumley tel: 07583 867696, email: helenconnor2@btinternet.com

Gill Shenoy tel: 07990 584678, email: gillshenoy@hotmail.com

We will do our best to try and find someone who can help.

If there are other villagers willing to be on the village list of helpers, please send your details to the above.

See page 3 for information about amended Church activities.



Take away service from Waggon and Horses.

Becky and the team are pleased to offer an extensive take away menu from the following menus.

Becky is happy to deliver to houses and leave on doorsteps at a prearranged time, if that is helpful to those that are not able to leave home at all.

Card payments will be taken over the phone to avoid handling cash.



****MONDAY – BURGER NIGHT****
2 BURGERS AND CHIPS FOR £11.95
(choice of Aberdeen Angus/Cajun Chicken – additional toppings included)

MEAL DEAL: 2 BURGERS AND 2 BOTTLES OF BEER/CIDER (£17.95)

****TUESDAY – CURRY NIGHT****
2 CURRYS, RICE AND NAAN FOR (£10.95)
(choice of usually a chicken and a beef option – please ask on the day)

BOTTLE OF HOUSE RED/WHITE WINE (£15.55)
MEAL DEAL: BOTTLE OF HOUSE WINE AND 2 CURRYS (£24.00)

****FRIDAY – PIE AND PUD NIGHT (£10.95)****
(choice of chicken or steak pie and selection of desserts on the day)

****SUNDAY – ROAST DINNER (£9.95)****
(choice of CHICKEN, LAMB, BEEF or Vegetarian option available – please ask)
£14.95 for 2 course (inc. dessert)

OTHER LIMITED DAILY SPECIALS ARE AVAILABLE – PLEASE ASK WHEN YOU CALL

PLEASE CALL TO ORDER 01438 367658

ABOVE AVAILABLE BETWEEN 5-8PM ON DAYS MENTIONED, HOWEVER, SUNDAY ROASTS
AVAILABLE ONLY ON SUNDAYS BETWEEN 12-3PM



WAGGON AND HORSES
TAKEAWAY LUNCH MENU: BETWEEN 12-2PM

BAGUETTE/CIABATTA (£5.45)

- Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato
- Chicken & bacon
- Cheese
- Cheese & tomato
- Cheese & pickle
- Cheese & onion
- Tuna Mayo

JACKET POTATO (£5.45)

- Chicken & Bacon
- Tuna Mayo
- Chilli
- Cheese
- Cheese & Beans
- Cheese & Coleslaw
- Curry of the day

SCAMPI, CHIPS & PEAS (£7.95)

ABERDEEN ANGUS/CAJUN CHICKEN BURGER & CHIPS (£7.95)

extra toppings 50p each – cheddar cheese, bacon or chilli

ADDITIONAL CHIPS (£1.95)

PLEASE CALL TO ORDER 01438 367658

LUNCH MENU AVAILABLE MONDAY TO SATURDAY 12-2PM



WAGGON AND HORSES
TAKEAWAY DINNER MENU: BETWEEN 5-8PM

The following is served with a choice of; mash/chips and veg/peas (£9.75)

- STEAK AND MUSHROOM SUET PUDDING
- HEARTY TRIO OF CUMBERLAND SAUSAGES
- MINTED LAMB SHANK
- SOMERSET CHICKEN BREAST
- VEGETABLE & CHEESE WELLINGTON

- SCAMPI, CHIPS AND PEAS (£7.95)
- BEEF LASAGNE WITH GARLIC BREAD (£7.95)
- SPINACH AND RICOTTA CANNELLONI WITH GARLIC BREAD (£7.95)
- SPINACH & MUSHROOM LASAGNE WITH GARLIC BREAD (£7.95)

- CURRY OF THE DAY WITH RICE OR CHIPS (£7.95)
- CHILLI CON CARNE WITH RICE OR CHIPS (£7.95)

ADD GARLIC BREAD OR NAAN BREAD FOR £1.50

LIMITED DAILY SPECIALS ARE AVAILABLE – PLEASE ASK WHEN YOU CALL

PLEASE CALL TO ORDER 01438 367658

LUNCH MENU AVAILABLE MONDAY TO SATURDAY 5-8PM

St Marys Church, Graveley

As you will imagine, we've had to close the Church and all associated groups and gatherings.

Where it is possible to do so, we are going online.

So, if people missed it, folks could watch last Sunday's service (recorded in St Mary's) on the St Nicholas YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzRGAaIRTsJuKFRBvkJjAtQ>

I've also put link on the Graveley Church Facebook page and all the details and links will be on the church website.

This week's service will be available on Sunday morning at 10am (God willing) and following there should also be a family-friendly service uploaded in the next couple of days.

The Facebook page also has links to the various notes and letters that have gone out to the church family.

If anyone does have practical or spiritual needs, that we might be able to help with, do please ask them to contact me

Phone: 01438 213587

Email: revdmbrown@gmail.com

Grace and peace.

Dave Brown.

<http://www.stmarysgraveley.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/st.marys.graveley/>



Currently all regular village activities are suspended in line with Government advice to minimise the spread of Coronavirus. This includes Parish Council meetings, the preschool, book swap and Church services.

Please note, the village hall is currently closed to all bookings.

Hertfordshire Library Service

Libraries across the country are closed but they remain available via the internet.

If you are not already a library card holder, you can join online.

Browse the catalogue for eBooks and eAudiobooks. Periodicals are also accessible online and free of charge.



<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/libraries-and-archives.aspx>

Graveley contacts and organisations

Graveley Village Website: www.graveley.org.uk

MP for Hitchin and Harpenden: Bim Afolami.
bim.afolami.mp@parliament.uk

County Councillor: Mr Steve Jarvis.
steve@stevejarvis.org.uk. 26 High Street, Graveley, Hitchin, SG4 7LA. 01438 727122

North Herts District Councillors: Mr George Davies, George.Davies@north-herts.gov.uk. Mr Terry Tyler, 07868 016401, terry-tyler@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council Chair: Martin Griffin,
Martin.Griffin@finedata.com

Parish Clerk: Danielle Galvan,
Parishclerk@graveley.org.uk

Graveley Cricket Club Secretary: Mrs P Logan, 01438 355089

Bell Ringing: Peter Bracey, Tower Captain, 01438 350082

Report fly tipping: Call Urbaser 0800 3286023

Graveley Village Hall bookings: Beverley Dean,
deangvh@mail.com, 07543 610908

To report a crime, dial 999 for emergencies and 101 for urgent matters to discuss over the phone.

Area sergeant: Guy.Westwood@herts.pnn.police.uk

PCSO (rural): Becki O'Driscoll,
Becki.odriscoll@herts.pnn.police.uk, 01438 757645

Notes from the Countryside

Wildlife report

For the last couple of years, I have had a nest box with an interior camera that Sarah gave me. Last year it was not occupied and earlier this year I mentioned to Tim Hayward Smith of Community Development Action that it was not being used. The entrance hole had been abused by a woodpecker and Tim told me that was the reason for it being unused. He kindly sent me a stainless-steel plate to cover the entrance with a 25mm hole in it as that is the critical size for a Blue Tit. I was very pleasantly surprised to see that a Blue Tit had immediately taken up residence and I look forward to watching them have young ones this year.

Farming report

The rain has significantly delayed our drilling of spring crops. In the meantime, our Oil Seed Rape (OSR) is being ruined by pigeons. I attack with rockets, Annabel attacks with our laser but as soon as we depart, back they come and peck out any new shoots. I think that part of the reason is that normally at this time of year farmers would be drilling barley but this year the weather has kept everyone off the land and the starving pigeons are staying on the OSR. There is always some seed left on the surface at drilling time and they much prefer that to OSR. I think that this will be the last year that we will grow the crop which is a pity as it gives a very good start to the following crop of Winter Wheat. Beans are equally good so we may have to increase our acreage of them. Our Winter Wheat crops are suffering badly from the very wet weather. Alongside the Walkern road where the land is light and chalky, the Wheat crop is looking very well. In other fields on the farm where the land is heavy and sticky, the crop is really struggling in places and the fields are looking thin and patchy. Andrew, when he does the budget for the coming year, calculates on a basic yield of 7 tonnes per hectare (2.45 acres) for wheat. I think that we shall be lucky to get 5 tonnes per hectare. The signs are that there might be some compensation in higher prices, but not

enough to compensate for such a large reduction in yield.

As I write, the wind is blowing strongly and the sun is out so the land will be drying out a bit. We are lucky that we have our seed barley in stock as there is no more available now. If we can get started sowing the seed during the second week of March, things could start to look up and this Farmer will be a bit more cheerful!

We are now on the final run of calves being born and I am glad to say that we have had no more trouble. As I mentioned last month, we are waiting for our next TB test with some trepidation. If we have no more cows in question, then we will be back to normal which would be a huge relief. We have enough food and bedding in stock to last until turning out time, so that is one less worry.

Garden report

The vegetable garden is still very wet like the farm and I have done no work in it yet. My seed potatoes are out in the greenhouse growing a few shoots which should get them off to a good start when the beds dry out a bit more.

**Harry Bott
Benington**





Film review

Emma.

Dir. Autumn de Wilde

Being keen on period dramas, the news that Amazon Prime - and others - have early release rental as part of their code of entertainment response to coronavirus was as good excuse as any to sit down and watch this film from my wish-list. And, without having to burden David with a trip to the cinema, especially as he has no interest in costume drama other than the opportunity they provide for a nap.

Well, I must admit my initial reaction was disappointment. Perhaps in part because 'Emma' (Anya Taylor-Joy) was possibly even more supercilious than perhaps Jane Austen herself intended of her leading lady. Austen allegedly said of her novel, "I am going to take a heroine whom no one but myself will much like". That's hard to be said of the romantic, care-free young women portrayed in other screen adaptations, but it would seem here that Director, Autumn de Wilde has taken this statement to heart!

However, after convincing myself that this version reflected much better Austen's intent, I enjoyed the film more. Yes, the 'Emma' character grates, but she is meant to. She's a strong-willed, busy body, used to getting her own way. In stark contrast is Knightley (Johnny Flynn). All sweetness and consideration and annoyingly insipid. Knightley, I thought, was supposed to be Emma's moral compass. It is he that shapes her from the over-indulged juvenile she was to a person humbler and more empathetic. De Wilde's Knightley is a let-down.

Wins come in the form of Callum Turner, who oozes mischief as Frank Churchill and the clumsy Miranda Hart puts in a cameo appearance as her alter ego, Miss Bates. Add Bill Nighy's, loveable but oh-so-needy, Mr Woodhouse to the mix and the comedy that was Austen's vision is achieved.

In terms of coronavirus escapism, this film ticks a lot of boxes. For starters, it is long, so easily consumes a couple of evenings and the locations and costumes are splendid. Happy viewing!

GRAVELEY'S BIN SCHEDULE

**31st March, 15th and 28th April = GARDEN WASTE AND RECYCLING (including blue box for paper).
7th and 21st April = REFUSE BIN**

- The BROWN FOOD CADDY bin is collected each week.
- Please dispose of old batteries in specialist bins located at shops and supermarkets or you can place them in a bag on top of the recycling bin.
- Textiles, such as old clothes, paired shoes, towels and bed linen will be collected if placed in a carrier bag next to your recycling on collection day
- Extra recycling: You may place additional recycling out for collection next to your grey bin in a recyclable cardboard box or reusable plastic storage box.

Dear Neighbours,

Nuclear submarine mariners aside, this “lockdown” existence is alien to most. Whether you are working from home, home-schooling children, or simply existing, the challenge for most of us is likely to be filling the monotony whilst trying to keep a semblance of normality.

Just a few days in, and aside from feeling very glad that we have views from our windows and a friendly village around us, I am baking my way through my wide selection of obscure and largely out of date ingredients that I have collected over the years. The addition of some vintage spelt flour is hardly detectable in a batch of muesli biscuits!

Socialising and the means to stay in touch with friends and family has changed overnight. There are lots of useful suggestions online and new trends in video-chat apps have been quick to emerge. House Party App seems to be the favourite with our children, but also check out Zoom and Google Hangouts as well as the better-known Skype and Facetime. If someone in the know would be kind enough to write a user-guide, I would be very happy to distribute it.

Stay safe and healthy and please contact Helen Lumley or Gill Shenoy, who are masterminding the village support network, if you need any form of help or support. Below are some good home-schooling links a teacher friend of mine posted.

Emma Hogg.
emmafc@hotmail.com



PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube

Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.



Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook

Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.



Science with Maddie Moate on YouTube

Weekdays 11am. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!



Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook

Every day at 11.30am but children can view the class at any time.



Maths With Carol Vorderman

Free access to the her maths website:
www.themathsfactor.com



Music with Myleene Klass on YouTube

Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



Storytime With David Walliams

Free story everyday at 11am on his website:
www.worldofdavidwalliams.com