

SPOTLIGHT

July 2025

visit **sarrattvillage.co.uk**

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7595>

ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE

SPOTLIGHT is produced by Holy Cross Church, Sarratt, for the people of the village and hamlets and welcomes reports of ALL village activities HOLY CROSS - making Jesus known - a church for the whole community

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MORE ABOUT

The Benefice: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7595>

the Village: sarrattvillage.co.uk

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

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Friends of Holy Cross	Mrs Sue Clark	sue@suemclark.com or 07850 285471

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR, CHIPPERFIELD

Priest Fr. Richard Mway-Zeng, The Presbytery, 96 The Crescent, Abbots Langley WD5 0DS Tel. 266177

Sunday Holy Mass 10am Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30pm Tuesday/Friday Holy Mass 10am

SARRATT PARISH COUNCIL: [visit sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://visit.sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Chair	Cllr. Sarah Dobson	07881 500488
Parish Clerk	Mrs Lena Mortimer	clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk , or 262025
Parish Office hours	Monday to Thursday 9am – 3pm	

Alternative arrangements will be notified on the Office Door.

THREE RIVERS DC	District Councillor	Mr. Ciaran Reed	07584 430633
	District Councillor	Mr. Philip Hearn	Philip.hearn@threeivers.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Mr. Oliver Cooper	Oliver.cooper@threeivers.gov.uk
HERTFORDSHIRE CC	County Councillor	Mr. Phil Williams	07738-293769
SARRATT CofE SCHOOL	Head Teacher	Mrs. N.O'Hare	262003
COMMUNITY BOOKINGS	Village Hall website:		www.sarrattvillagehall.co.uk
VILLAGE HALL	Bookings Secretary:		265881 or 07515-452124
		e-mail:	sarrattvillagehallbookings@live.co.uk
SARRATT CARE	Hours: 10am - 12noon Monday to Friday		519975
POLICE	Neighbourhood Watch non-emergency number		101

Cover photo by Jeannie Poulton

View from the Pew

We have finally reached my favourite time of the year! The sun is shining and warm (hopefully!) the air is filled with the smell of cut grass and the chatter of children and adults alike as they enjoy some outdoor living. We try to slow down and relax for a while, holidays and day trips are planned friends and families gather and we renew our spirits ready for the next flurry of activities as we move towards the coming season.

But this time of year, is also a time of change for many of us. Our children have finished their academic year and now prepare for new classes and teachers. I especially think of some of our toddlers from our benefice 'mums & tots' group who will be getting ready to start school this year; it has been such a blessing to see these little ones grow and I know the team will be very sad to see you go (mum's the doors are always open to pop in for a cuppa and say 'Hi!'). And of course our year 6 pupils are very much in our prayers too at this time as we celebrate them in our churches and they say their goodbyes to the schools in our villages which have given them such great starts in their academic lives.

On behalf of our churches, I would like to wish all these wonderful young people; the little ones just starting out and the big ones moving on a truly peace filled and happy transition into their new schools. It has been a privilege to meet so many great young people and we all continue to hold you in our prayers. A big thank you must also go to all the great staff in both Sarratt and Chipperfield schools for all they do for our children; praying you all find some time to slow down and rest over these coming weeks!

Change will also come for the families who will come through our doors for weddings and baptisms, it is always such great joy for our churches to be a part of these special and happy occasions in your lives.

For some of us however the changes may be harder, and it may not feel like a time to celebrate if we are adjusting to new ways of living which we may not have chosen or feel anxiety over. Sometimes change also brings feelings of loneliness or fear; worry & trepidation; and we are here for you too.

And indeed, for some of us we may be thinking, "nothing new here", "same old, same old"!

So, I want to say to you that whatever changes you may be going through this summertime there is something important to remember;

there is one thing that will never change. We have a God who is always the same – always constant and always there. Always looking to know you and be in relationship with you because the one who created the season which we can now slow down and relax into will forever choose you and love you every day of your lives.

In the Old Testament book of the prophet Jeremiah, we can read of God's promise to all His people made roughly 600 years before Jesus was born; "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." A promise which declares His eternal love and desires for us from generation to generation for all time. So, as we honour each other and enjoy one another's company at this time let us then be mindful that we are all called to live in the knowledge of this love for each and every one of us.

Furthermore, as Christians we are called to go one step further as Jesus asks us to "love one another as I have loved you". A love which pushes the boundaries in a world that we so often see filled with pain and suffering from one man's lack of love to another. A love which extends to everyone (yes even those we find it hard to get along with) as we too live out that love through kindness, forgiveness and compassion for others.

This is one change that we can all make this season and in turn change the lives and the world we live in. It creates a space for all to flourish and grow as we journey through our lives as individuals and as community in this place. So, this summer may you be blessed as you remember that through all changes you are loved and be the blessing to others as you love in such a way as to be the change.

Revd Sarah

The word "Inspire" is written in a green, serif font on a light green rectangular background.

We invite women of all ages and backgrounds to join us for time away from your busy lives to share and enjoy conversation, talks & activities over tea, coffee and cake as we encourage each other to flourish and grow.

Meeting in **St Paul's Church Parish Room**
on the **first Monday of every month,**
7th July, beginning at **1.30pm**
and finishing at around **3pm**.

Please email Fay if you would like to know more

fay.dent@live.co.uk



Holy Cross Flower Festival

Friday 27th, Saturday 28th, Sunday 29th June

Friday 27th June

3.30pm Festival Opens

Sarratt School Choir sings for you

Flower Preview 3.30-5.30pm in the church

Tea & cakes in the churchyard

3.30-5.30pm Children's activities & ice creams

Pizzas served from 4pm

BBQ and Bar opens 4.30pm



6.30-9pm **Free live open air Jazz, Swing and Blues night**

Saturday 28th June

10am-5pm Flower viewing in the church

Produce, plant & bric-a-brac stalls

Sunday 29th June

9.30am Festival Church Service

10.30am-4pm Flower viewing in the church

10.30am-2.30pm Market & Craft stalls

4pm Festival closes



*Throughout the weekend
we're serving coffee, tea, cakes, BBQ, bar.*

Plus free live music from Blue & Green and Jolly Jazzers.

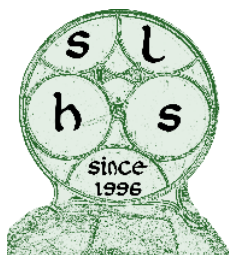
**Look out for JENKS vintage bus rides
from The Green.**



PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Charlotte of Middle Cottage, is pleased to announce the birth of her granddaughter, India Charlotte Mara Delamare on the 2nd May 2025. India is the first daughter for Scarlett and Brand who live in Sydney, Australia.

Our warmest congratulation to Charlotte, Scarlett and Brand.



SARRATT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

History of Hertfordshire Constabulary

Tuesday 1 July 7.30 for 8.00pm

Sarratt Village Hall

Refreshments served from 7.30pm

Andy Wiseman is the Chair of the Hertfordshire Police Historical Society and a serving police officer with the Hertfordshire Constabulary (Chief Inspector of Watford). He is also the author of The History of Police Stations in Hertfordshire. His talk delves into 180 years of policing in Hertfordshire. Interspersed with stories of triumph, tragedy and intrigue, his talk is accompanied by images from the Constabulary's archives, dating back to the 1880's

Non-Members welcome - £4 on the Door

sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org

Do you like reading Spotlight?

Each month we print 865 copies of Spotlight which then have to be put into bags ready for delivery to every home in Sarratt and the surrounding hamlets.

Could you volunteer to help with this once a month?

If so please contact Sonya in the Benefice Office on 01923 264377 to chat about the different roles available.

WHAT'S ON WHEN – July 2025

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...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

<p>Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group: 9.30-11.30am every Monday, term time only, in the Pavilion, KGV Playing Fields. We are a nice friendly group. Please come and join us. Enquiries to: Daphne Tyler 07970 894205</p> <p>Sarratt Scouts: Sarratt Scout Group: For boys and girls. Explorers (aged 14-18) meet Monday evening, Beavers (6-8) and Scouts (10-14) meet Wednesday evening, and Cubs (8-10) meet Thursday evenings. Enquiries info@sarrattscoutgroup.org</p>	<p>Netherby Bridge Group meets from 2-4.30pm on Thursdays in Sarratt Village Hall's Back Room. New individuals and pairs are welcome to join this friendly group of contract bridge players - £2 a session includes teas and biscuits. Contact Margaret Stratford 01923 260475</p> <p>Sarratt Rebels Youth Football Club: Training on Saturdays at KGV Field - <u>www.sarrattrebels.org</u></p>
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SARRATT CARE

JULY UPDATE

'SARRATT COMMUNITY LUNCH' NO LUNCH IN JULY

The next lunch, in the Village hall, is
on **Monday the 18th August at 12.30**
For contact please ring Jacky Creed – details below

'COFFEE CORNER' and TREATMENTS (treatments include hairdressing, massage and chiropody)

In the Village Hall **from 10.30 to 12 noon**
on **Wednesdays the 9th and 23rd July**
For details please ring Jennifer Haynes on 590542 or
07743 133736

TRANSPORT TO APPOINTMENTS

To arrange for a volunteer driver
please ring 07565 399349

ANY OTHER ENQUIRIES or PROBLEMS

Please ring Jacky Creed on 519975 or 07769 045270
If no reply please feel happy to leave a message

July Sunday Market

I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,
Where oxlips and the nodding violet grows
Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,
With sweet musk-roses, and with eglantine:
There sleeps Titania some time of the night,
Lull'd in these flowers with dances and delight;
And there the snake throws her enamel'd skin,
Weed wide enough to wrap a fairy in:
But she wakes on hearing the fairies call:
"The Sunday Market's in the village hall!"



So wake up and go to our poetic Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday 20th July** to see our selection of crafts, bric-a-brac, recycled clothing and affordable antique stalls. Tea and coffee is available with biscuits and home-made cakes. Start is **10am**. Any enquiries please ring Larry on 265386.

NO CHARITY PUB QUIZ IN JULY AND AUGUST

The Sarratt Care Pub Quiz will not be running in July and August. The September date and venue will be confirmed in the August edition of Spotlight. Thank you to all our Quiz supporters.



SARRATT OPEN GOLF DAY

The Sarratt Open Golf Day will take place this year on **Monday 11th August** at **West Herts Golf Club** in Croxley.

The day comprises breakfast, a single round followed by lunch and prize-giving. It is aimed at all golfers who live in and around the parish or have associations with any of the Sarratt sports clubs. Guests are also welcome.



For further information and entry form please contact Trevor Church 07831 619734 or email trevor.church@brasierfreeth.com



SARRATT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Safeguarding Sarratt and strengthening our community

Did you know that Sarratt has a Residents' Association?

We were formerly known as Chandlers Cross Residents Association and have been active for over 20 years, dedicated to serving the residents of Sarratt in protecting and improving our local environment. We decided to change the name last year to better reflect the entire parish of Sarratt. All residents are automatically members for free however we do encourage donations to support our work.

So, what do we do?

We are a voluntary group who are dedicated to safeguarding the interests of our local residents in areas such as planning, environment, infrastructure and other local affairs. We work with the Parish Council and other adjacent residents' associations to strengthen our voice on community matters. Some of our recent work has been in the area of planning and in particular the local plan.

Three Rivers Local Plan.

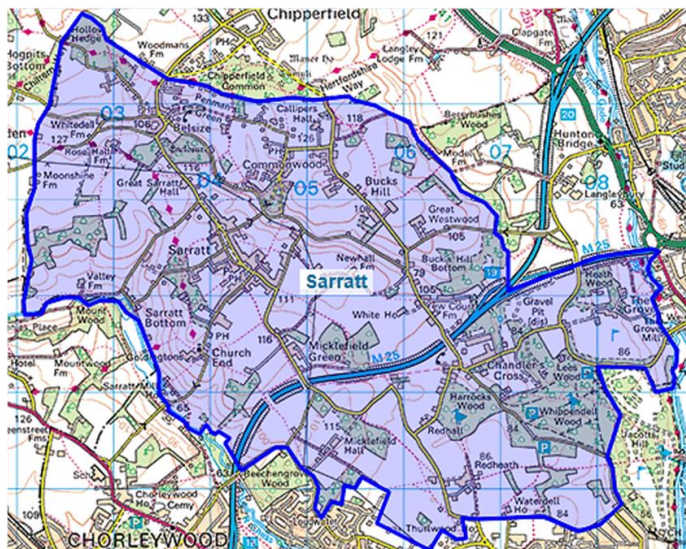
Three Rivers District Council are preparing a new public consultation this summer, in the face of increased Government housing targets. It is the final opportunity for residents to make their voices heard in a process that will shape our area's future; Sarratt RA will be sharing news and information about this important process.

In 2023, we contributed to the costs of professional legal advice about whether the decision to allow building on a Green Belt, or previously undeveloped, site at Sarratt could be contested. We continue to fight for the protection of our beautiful natural environment from over-development.

In addition, we organise social events to bring our community together and keep residents informed of local issues and provide a platform for residents to have a voice in local matters. It is a fantastic opportunity to meet your neighbours socially and you will have the chance to hear about local issues that affect our area. Come on your own or as a family, you will be warmly welcomed. Details will be available in future issues of Spotlight.

All residents are automatically members however if you wish to follow updates on what is happening in the area and join our social events please head to our website <https://www.sarratt-ra.co.uk/> and sign-up for our updates. Volunteers are always welcome or if you have any specific questions, please do get in touch sarratt.ra@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you!

The areas covered by Sarratt Residents' Association



KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS

The Management Committee for the KGV Playing Fields need to recruit a new **TREASURER** and **SECRETARY**.

The KGV playing fields and pavilion are a valued community resource, home to the Sarratt Adult and Youth Football Teams and the Tennis Club, as well as the playground and fields being a recreational facility enjoyed by many in the parish.

The Management Committee is responsible for the overall maintenance and upkeep of the playing fields and pavilion, which is due to be refurbished next year.

The Committee meets for approximately 1 hour 4 times a year. Full handovers will be provided from the existing Treasurer and Secretary.

If you are able to help with one of these important but not hugely time-consuming roles, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk at clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk or call on 01923 262025.

Sarratt Festival of Music 2025



Please make a note in your diaries for this year's Festival of Music, which will take place in the Village Hall with four unmissable evenings in September.

Starting on **Friday 19th September**, we are delighted to welcome **Joe Stilgoe and Liza Pulman**, who will be performing their brilliant show "**A Couple of Swells**".

Saturday 20th sees the **Carducci String Quartet** playing Schubert, Fanny Mendelssohn and the mighty piano quintet by Shostakovich, marking the 50th anniversary of his death.

The **classical music stars of the future** will be performing on **Friday 26th** when we welcome some of the finest young musicians from the world-renowned Purcell School of Music. The concert will feature an extraordinary Ukrainian violinist, who was in the recent BBC Young Musician of the Year Final along with a solo pianist and a guitar duo.

Bringing the Festival to a swinging close on **Saturday 27th** will be the irrepressible **Chris Garrick and his band** with a programme dedicated to the memory of Stephane Grappelli.

The box office will open on 4th August. A booking form should be enclosed in this copy of Spotlight and will also be available in the Village Shop and local pubs and churches.

Tickets can also be booked via our website:

sarrattfestivalofmusic.co.uk

 **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING**

10am-12.30 on Saturday 20th September
Parish Room, St Paul's Chipperfield



SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

**Serving our community 7 days a week
(A Community Interest Company)**

As the warm embrace of summer approaches, Sarratt Post Office Stores are getting ready with all your **seasonal treats and essentials**. Whether you're planning a laid-back picnic, a sizzling BBQ, or simply looking for ways to cool off under the sun we're planning to have everything you need - and if we don't, please let us know by popping your ideas in our suggestion box!



To keep the whole family entertained during sunny days, we have introduced a new range of **outdoor toys** from frisbees to footballs and bubbles, there's something for everyone to enjoy in the great outdoors.

Just behind the shop, **Sarratt Green Café** is embracing new summer flavours to be enjoyed accompanied by a coffee or refreshing iced drink. **Open 10.30-12.30 Thursday, Friday and Saturday** when Sarratt Community Garden joins us with its stall of fresh produce.

If you're travelling further afield, Jane at the Post Office is ready to help you with all your travel money needs. Euros and dollars are kept in stock (though ordering over £400 from the Post Office online gets a better rate) with all other currencies also available to order online, do before 1pm for a convenient next day pick up.

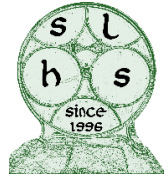


Stop by, stock up, and let's enjoy our summer in Sarratt!

Facebook : sarratt post office stores

Instagram: @sarrattpostofficestores

Digging for Gold(ingtons) Sarratt Local History Society 13 May 2025 Pam Turner Memorial Lecture



Pam Turner's niece represented the family and, as we have happily come to expect, the turn-out for the Memorial Lecture was great. The speaker, Dr Wendy Morrison, has become known to many of us, originally from her previous lecture on the Hill Forts, but mostly for her presence last summer on the hill below Goldingtons. Here, in blazing sun more usual in Middle Eastern sites, she directed, with enthusiasm as well as knowledge, the exploratory 'dig' to investigate the likely date and purpose of the distinctive 'ridges' or 'Lynchetts' that run across the field. (102 volunteer 'human' diggers in 11 days, aged from 12–80 years!)

Last summer's results from the highly sophisticated 'LIDAR' (*Light Detecting and Ranging*) technology, involving lasers, and some additional information from another technique, magnetometry, had been sent off for analysis. Their interpretation, relayed to us by Dr. Morrison, seems to have at last demolished the long-held idea that the lynchets might have been the remains of Roman vineyards. It now seems clear that they are of medieval origin, almost certainly created to grow grain. This would make sense of their position relative to the medieval watermill ((Sarratt Mill) designed for grinding grain to produce flour for the village bread.

However, an unexpected find by the traditional hand-diggers, revealed an area unrelated to the form of the lynchets and suggesting a possibility of some kind of 'Roman' road. While its features do not fit neatly with the textbook diagrams of such roads, it does suggest the possibility. It is known that the Chess Valley was the site of small Roman (Romano-British?) settlements and it has long been thought that there was almost certainly a Roman road connecting Verulamium (St Albans) and Silchester(Hampshire).

In the 1950s, after RAF planes had flown over this area during a drought period, the resulting series of aerial photos seemed to show a fairly clear line that fitted with such a Roman road. The distinguished archaeologist, I.D. Margary, the then leading authority on Roman-British roads, not only concluded from various finds along the route, and particularly from the aerial photography, that this was the route of the Roman road from Verulamium, but was convinced enough actually to number it as **Viares163**, using his then widely accepted system.

This route runs locally from the east of Goldingtons, across and down through Sarratt Mill Orchard, crossing the river at the present site of Sarratt Mill Bridge, and re-appearing near Green Street. But now the new information from last summer's dig regarding the possible Roman Road area found directly below Goldingtons' house, has thrown up doubts and questions. Only further on-site investigations will help towards deciding the answer to this new puzzle. Let us hope that money will be available for further research. It seems unlikely that Thames Water, who, while polluting this reach of the River Chess due to failure to invest in a new sewage-works upstream, managed at the same time to find money to fund last year's 'dig', will have any spare cash.

So, while the mystery of the Goldingtons lynchets is solved, that of the Roman Road's route in this stretch of the Valley is re-opened. I suspect that Dr Morrison would say that that is the fascination of Archaeology!
Angela Colman

Sarratt WI

Sarratt WI gathered as usual on 12th June in the Village Hall. Our President, Leone, extended a warm welcome to Leigh, our newest member, and to Janis and Noreen, visiting us from the recently closed Chorleywood WI group. Seven of our members celebrated their birthdays and were each presented with a small bouquet of roses and sweet williams.



Dates for the Diary:

- **9th July:** A trip to Waterperry Gardens, Oxfordshire (our next monthly meeting)
- **13th August:** Afternoon tea at the former Van Hage in Chorleywood

Our recent Coffee Morning on Saturday 7th June was a great success. Many visitors came along to enjoy a delicious selection of homemade cakes and explore the member-run stalls. A heartfelt thank you to all who contributed.

Continued overleaf/

This Month's Speaker

We were delighted to welcome **Ken and June Brazier**, who gave an inspiring and moving talk about *Mercy Ships*, a global non-governmental charity that operates the world's largest hospital ships. One of our members has a friend who has worked aboard one of these ships, adding a personal connection to the presentation.



Mercy Ships has been serving African countries for over 30 years, offering surgical care, medical training, mental health programs, agriculture education, and palliative care. Ken and June shared powerful stories from their own experience in Sierra Leone—of children and adults once shunned for disfigurements who were treated and given new hope by the ship's medical teams.

We were especially touched by the transformation these ships bring - not only through medical care, but by empowering local communities with education and sustainable development. Donations were generously given at the end of the meeting in support of the charity

June Walk

Our monthly walk began at The Red Lion in Chenies, with a lovely route through Latimer House before returning for lunch. A shorter route around the village was also enjoyed by some members.

Fancy joining us?

We meet on the **second Wednesday of each month**, 2.15–4.15pm at **Sarratt Village Hall**, where you can enjoy an engaging talk followed by tea and homemade cakes.

We also organise a **walk on the fourth Wednesday** of each month, ending with lunch at a local pub.

Coming up in November:

We're excited to host **barrister and crime novelist Simon Michael**, who will be talking about his *Life in Crime*. An excellent and intriguing speaker not to be missed!

Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers

The morning of Sunday June 8th was like most of our days lately, sunny and warm, perfect for our task at Commonwood. We were on our annual mission of seeking out and destroying an alien plant, the Small Balsam.



By alien we mean that it is not native to this country, but is rapidly taking over woodlands if not carefully monitored and destroyed. It is quite insignificant to look at, usually about 30 centimetres or so tall, with a tiny yellow flower. But don't be fooled – this plant can throw its seeds up to a metre around it! So it spreads quickly and efficiently, covering acres of woodlands. Whippendell Woods have huge areas of it, as does the Plantation Woods towards Flaunden. Where this covers the ground, none of our native wild plants can get a foothold and flourish. We could have Small Balsam Monoculture! But I am pleased to say that we seem to be winning at Commonwood. We carefully searched the area to the left of the car park where we have seen it before, and removed quite a few plants.

After refreshments, there were only three volunteers able to stay and we went across to the middle section of the Common, where we again have seen it before. Walking along the path, we spotted and removed several plants. Then, to our amazement, we saw a large area of these plants hiding under bracken. We removed as many as we could but time did not allow us to complete the task. However, one of our team did not like to be beaten, so has been back during the following week to clear the ground – she definitely deserves a Gold Star !

Our next session will be on **Sunday July 13th** when we shall be raking up the cut grass from the North end of the Village Green. This area is not cut until July to allow the grasses and flowers to thrive.

Do please come and help if you can, if only for a short time. Meet there at **10am**, tools provided but please bring your own refreshments. Contact Dawn, dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com, 07985492501 for more information.

The Church of the Holy Cross, Sarratt, and St Paul's Church, Chipperfield

The Church of England Benefice of Sarratt and Chipperfield

Rector: Revd Sarah Miles

Church Administrator: Sonya Tolmie

holycrossstpauls@outlook.com 01923 264377

Holy Cross Services:

start at 9am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,
and at 10.45am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

St Paul's Services:

start at 10.45am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,
and at 9am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

Everyone is welcome to attend any service in the Benefice

For the most up-to-date information,

see our Benefice Weekly News Sheet.

You can find us on 'A Church Near You' achurchnearyou.com



Sarratt Flower Festival

Friday 27th – Sunday 29th June

Holy Cross Church

including

Free, Live, Open Air Music

Fabulous Flower Arrangements in Church

Hot Food, Coffee, Tea, Cakes and a Bar

See page 5 and the back page for full details.

We look forward to giving you a warm welcome to Holy Cross.

All proceeds go to Friends of Holy Cross. Charity number 1018891

CHURCH CALENDAR

The Church of the Holy Cross, Sarratt, and St Paul's Church, Chipperfield

For the most up-to-date information, see our Benefice Weekly News Sheet.
You can find us on 'A Church Near You' achurchnearyou.com

JUNE 2025

Sunday 29 2nd Sunday after Trinity (Sarratt Flower Festival w/e)
 8am Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer) St Paul's
 9.30am Flower Festival Service Holy Cross
Note start times

JULY 2025

Sunday 6 3rd Sunday after Trinity
 9am Morning Worship Holy Cross
 10.45am Benefice Eucharist with Baptism St Paul's
 12.30pm Benefice Lunch St Paul's Parish Room

Sunday 13 4th Sunday after Trinity
 9am Morning Worship St Paul's
 10.45am Benefice Eucharist Holy Cross

Sunday 20 5th Sunday after Trinity
 9am Morning Worship Holy Cross
 10.45am All Together Benefice Eucharist St Paul's
 6.30pm Compline (traditional night prayer) Holy Cross

Sunday 27 6th Sunday after Trinity
 9am Morning Worship St Paul's
 10.45am Benefice Eucharist Holy Cross

AUGUST 2025

Sunday 3 7th Sunday after Trinity
 9am Morning Worship Holy Cross
 10.45am Benefice Eucharist St Paul's

Please continue to pray for the health of our nation and for each other

Sarratt Scout Group

Gavin Daly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



Beavers have enjoyed some good events over the last few weeks. We had a great day at our charity car wash, and I would like to thank all the people who came out to support us. We have also worked on our Sports Badge with some great races. We then did a spot of den building in Commonwood which was also a great evening as the children came up with some good ideas. We have our charity walk, from Chipperfield back to Sarratt coming up, along with a camp in June and also more outdoor

activities for the last few weeks of the term.

The highest award the Cubs can earn is their Chief Scout Silver Award. In order to achieve this, the Cubs must have completed at least 6 Activity Badges and all 7 Challenge Badges, one of which is the Skills Badge. Last week, we met in the hall and with the help of some fearless parent helpers, rotated the Cubs round 5 different stations: sewing on a button, ironing a Cub scarf, peeling & chopping veg, making a cup of tea, and making and unmaking a bed (one being distinctly easier than the other!).



The Cubs all did well and some are well on their way to achieving their Silver Award before the end of their time with us. This term we are joining the local Sarratt Community Garden to learn about Gardening and enjoying outdoor craft in Chipperfield Woods.

The Scouts spent one evening crafting with paracord to get them used to tying knots in preparation for our trip to the Aquadrome when knots will be essential as they will be building rafts! We've been to the Aquadrome for an evening on sit-on-top kayaks. We spent the evening working on some paddling skills, races and finished up with a game of kayak polo and then some launches down the "seal launch" ramp, a quote from Charlie "that was cold, and wet! But fun, can I do it again".



And we've upgraded our chip shop hike to a summertime, warm weather hike to Kings Langley for ice cream. I'm not sure the Spar manager was expecting such a run on Oreo ice creams (other ice creams are available!!). This week is more knot work before the rafting evening, look in the next Spotlight to see if any of our knots worked and how long the rafts stayed together!

Explorers have been out and about making the most of the light evenings since returning after Easter for the Summer Term. Following our Treasure Trail round Chesham, we have completed a 'chip shop' hike from Latimer to Amersham, and completed 2 more sessions on the water at Rickmansworth Aquadrome -



'sit on top' kayaks and stand-up paddleboards. For the rest of the Summer Term we have lots more outdoor activities planned, and are looking forward to our Dorset weekend in July when we will be sailing and

kayaking in Poole Harbour and taking a trip over to Brownsea Island - site of the first ever Scout Camp in 1907.

Finally, if you would like to get involved helping with the Scout Group in any way please contact us at info@sarrattscoutgroup.org and if you have a child who would like to join the Scout Group please contact us at: admissions@sarrattscoutgroup.org

All our Sections are open to both boys and girls.

Beavers:	Age 5¾ - 8 years - Meets Wednesday
Cubs:	Age 8 - 10 years - Meets Thursdays
Scouts:	Age 10-14 years - Meets Wednesdays
Explorers:	Age 14-18 years - Meets Mondays

Parish Council Report

Sarah Dobson



The following report covers the key points arising from the SPC Meeting held on **Tuesday 9 June**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As an Agenda item carried over from the Annual Statutory Meeting last month, Angela Coakley confirmed she would be happy to continue as Vice Chair and as the 2nd SPC representative on the KGV Committee. Cllr Garvey confirmed she will continue as Lead Councillor for Environment & Sustainability and as the SPC representative on the TRDC Environment Forum.

PLANNING

- TRDC new Local Plan – TRDC's housing target over the next 16 years is 13,500 new homes (842 per annum). This is based on the 2024 update to the government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). This is an increase from 12,600 homes under the previous NPPF. TRDC has recently put out a Call for new sites. A Regulation 18 consultation on those selected as possible development sites by TRDC is likely to take place over the summer following ratification at a TRDC Full Council Meeting on 8 July. TRDC's hopes to get agreement to a reduced number of new homes based on green belt considerations and the poor transport infrastructure in the District. TRDC then hopes to move to Regulation 19 in November which will be the final draft of the plan including sites for new homes and the associated policies. Assuming the plan clears this stage, it will be reviewed by the Examiner and TRDC hopes the plan will then be adopted in early 2026. SPC will scrutinise the sites in Sarratt included in the Reg 18 Consultation and those rejected by TRDC and comment accordingly.
- At a recent meeting with the other Parish Councils in Three Rivers, Chorleywood Parish Council advised TFL has increased the daily parking charge at the Station to £10 per day. This has resulted in some commuters using neighbouring roads that is causing a hazard to motorists trying to pass the parked cars.
Rightly or wrongly, there is a school of thought to say the price hike has been implemented to deter commuters from using the car park

and so enable a claim that the car park is not well used and therefore could be used for the development of 195 flats.

- Cllr Dobson and the Clerk recently met with the Chair of Croxley Green Parish Council and their Clerk regarding a proposal put forward to TRDC by the Croxley Green District Councillor to move the boundary between Sarratt and Croxley Green that goes along Little Green Lane such that the proposed development for 600 new houses at this location falls within Croxley Green Parish.

Both Councils agreed that should the development go ahead, this would be a sensible adjustment as the residents of the new homes are more likely to feel part of Croxley Green and use their amenities and services. However, no change should be made if the development does not go ahead which is currently only at the Outline Planning Application stage. This agreement was supported by the TRDC Policy & Resources committee at their meeting on 9 June.

Planning Applications Reviewed:

The following planning applications were reviewed and comments made as follows:

- **25/0943/FUL: Barn, Potten Farm, Chandlers Lane** - [Change of use of barn to studio unit \(Use Class E\); addition of fenestration and internal alterations](#)

SPC: No objection

- **25/0949/CLPD: Toledo, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BS** - [Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Erection of an outbuilding](#)

SPC: We support investment into this property but are concerned that the combination of this and the other two current separate applications will result in overdevelopment of this site.

Also for Toledo:

- Erection of single storey side and rear extensions

25/0992/CLPDSPC:

SPC: We support investment into this property but are concerned that the combination of this and the other two current separate applications will result in overdevelopment of this site.

- Construction of one additional storey 25/0993/CLPD

SPC: We support investment into this property but are concerned that the combination of this and the other two current separate applications will result in overdevelopment of this site.

- **25/0940/FUL: Sunchat, Penmans Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DJ - Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey rear extension; alterations to side fenestration and rooflights.**
SPC: *No objection*
- **25/0921/PDNE: New Model Farm, Sarratt Road, WD3 6AJ - Permitted Development Notice: Installation of solar panels on agricultural barn**
SPC: *No objection. We support the installation of solar panels on existing structures.*
- **25/0902/FUL: The Old Cattle Shed, Red Lion Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6BN - Erection of stables and change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian/agriculture.**
SPC: *We are not opposed to the fields being used for equestrian, but we object to this application on the grounds that it will result in a new permanent building on a Green Belt site*
- **25/0839/FUL: The Old Gate, Bucks Hill, WD4 9BR - Demolition of existing detached garage; construction of part single, part two storey rear extension; front porch; alterations to fenestration.**
SPC: *No objection*
- **25/0815/PDA: Great Sarratt Hall Farm, The Green, Sarratt - Prior Notification: Change of use of existing agricultural building to two residential dwellings with operational works and extension to building and associated curtilage and parking.**
SPC: *While we would welcome the addition of three bedroom properties in Sarratt, we do not believe this is a sustainable location, as highlighted by Herts Highways response and recommendations. We object to this application on the grounds that the barn has not been in agricultural use for many years and due to its adjacent location, this application will result in an impact to the conservation area.*
- **25/0800/CLPD: 6 Belsize Cottages, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD3 4NP - Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Loft conversion including rear dormer with juliet balcony and front rooflights**
SPC: *Noted*
- **25/0797/FUL: 6 Belsize Cottages, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD3 4NP - Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single-storey rear extension**
SPC: *No objection*

- **25/0791/FUL: 28 Dawes Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6BB** - [Construction of a single storey side and rear extension; first floor front extension; construction of a rear dormer and alterations to fenestration](#)
SPC: *We are concerned that this application represents an increase of 70% over the original dwelling size and would represent overdevelopment in Green Belt. We also note that this application is a 15% increase in volume compared to the current building and a moderate increase in footprint. On balance, we have no objection as long as the application maintains the historical character of the connected buildings and the applicant uses this opportunity to improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling.*
- **25/0741/RSP: The Woodlands, Penmans Green, WD4 9AY** - [Part Retrospective: Construction of outbuilding](#)
SPC: *No objection*

Recent TRDC Planning Decisions

- **25/0571/FUL & 25/0572/LBC: Bucks Hill Bottom Cottage, Bucks Hill, WD4 9AE** - [Proposed single-storey front extension and front rooflights](#)
SPC: *No objection on the basis that this is a modest extension, on the newer part of the building. We encourage the applicant to maximise the energy efficiency of this extension, to minimise heating and cooking requirements often associated with conservatories.*
TRDC: *Withdrawn*
- **25/0552/PDT: Tarn, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD4 9DQ** - [Prior approval: Enlargement of the dwellinghouse by the construction of one additional storey \(2.65m in height\) and raising of ridge to result in an overall height of 8.33m \(Class AA\)](#)
SPC: *We find it disappointing that the previous, smaller scale and aesthetically preferable application for this site was refused.*
TRDC: *Refused*
- **25/0453/FUL: 1 Alexandra Road, Sarratt, WD3 6AX** - [Erection of front porch, single storey side and rear extensions and internal alterations.](#)
SPC: *No objection*
TRDC: *Approved*
- **25/0447/FUL: Cranbourne, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BH** - [Demolition of existing rear conservatory and construction of part single, part two-storey rear extension; loft conversion including rear dormers and construction of detached outbuilding](#)
SPC: *No objection*
TRDC: *Approved*

- **25/0162/RSP: Coltspring Farmhouse, Coltspring Riding Stables, Sarratt Road, WD3 4LR** - [Part Retrospective: Change of use of existing ancillary use outbuilding to dog day care; additional hardstanding at frontage.](#)
SPC: No objection
TRDC: Approved

Planning Appeals:

Two appeals are still pending outcomes:

- [APP/P1940/W/25/3358883](#) - 15 Church Lane - [Subdivision of site and construction of detached bungalow with associated access and car parking.](#) Ref. No: 25/0002/REF
- [APP/P1940/C/24/3349464](#) - Ravenswood Farm Church Lane - Enforcement Notice Appeal - Use of building as an independent dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) - 22/0031/COMP

TRDC Enforcement Cases

A list of the current TRDC Enforcement Cases can be found on the SPC website.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

- **ROSPA inspection of the KGV playground:** This was completed in June. There are some small works to be done which Andrew Whitewood and former Cllr Mortimer will undertake. There was only one potentially significant issue, that being the height of the roundabout. Cllr Alder will ask Caloo for their thoughts on the ROSPA recommendations.
- **New Model Farm – Right of Way (RoW) 34:** The owner of New Model Farm would like get the path route altered. This would mean the footpath would exit onto the bend on Sarratt Road before re-entering the field. This needs to be very carefully considered as it is potentially very dangerous. The Clerk will liaise with the HCC RoW Team on what agreement was reached previously when the footpath was originally diverted away from the road,
- **Oak tree on the RoW going to Jon Adams Nursery:** Complaints have been received about the oak tree being trapped into the fence and being nailed into place. Details have been passed onto Julie Rees, the Tree Officer at TRDC.
- **Letter to builders re parking on the Green:** Agreed with TRDC a paragraph to explain the byelaws relating to parking on the Green and penalties for failure to comply.

- **Leak at Wheatsheaf Cottages:** Affinity should have fixed this on 14 June.
- **Chiltern Society with reference to felled timber:** Unfortunately, the parish timber is not suitable for their purposes, so there is no possibility of passing it on to them.
- **Updating the National Defibrillator Circuit:** The Clerk must make monthly visits to ensure the defibs are in working order to comply with The Circuit requirements. It was agreed this was good practice anyway.

HIGHWAYS

- Cllr Zerny and Cllr Dobson attended a meeting with our new County Councillor, Louise Price, to discuss the state of the roads in the Parish. Our District Councillor, Ciaran Reed also joined the meeting. Cllr Price was able to share the planned maintenance schedule for 2025/26. Unfortunately, 2 major roads currently in need of urgent attention (North Hill and Buck's Hill) are not on the list. Cllrs Dobson and Zerny said they would like to review the maintenance schedule with a view to deprioritising less urgent work currently on the list in order that works could be undertaken to North Hill and Buck's Hill in the next 12 months. Cllr Zerny has also sent Cllr Price a map with the flooding hot-spots in the Parish – typically flooding occurs due to drainage or embankment issues. Cllr Price has agreed to set up a meeting with the new Lead Councillor for Highways at HCC in the next few weeks to progress both these issues. This is Cllr Stephen Giles-Medhurst who is also the Lead Councillor at TRDC and therefore knows Sarratt well. Making the whole of the parish a 30mph speed limit was also discussed, but Cllr Price noted this would take much longer to implement.
- A resident from Buck's Hill spoke of his concerns about the effect of ever-worsening flooding, including to his own property. He has repeatedly taken photographs as evidence and sent them to HCC Highways, but nothing has happened. Although gullies are in place, they have not been kept to a standard where they can effectively carry away the wastewater. Boreholes were drilled previously but are no longer effective. SPC asked the resident to forward the photos to the Clerk and will advise him on what they might be able to do to help.
- On Sunday 1 June at around 8am, there was a serious accident outside Prime in Chandlers Cross; a head-on collision between two vehicles. Both drivers were hospitalised: one by air ambulance. The Police, Fire and Ambulance services were in attendance; the Police investigation is continuing.

POLICY AND RESOURCES

- Payments and the bank statements and reconciliation since the previous meeting were approved.
- The Annual Governance and Accounting Return (AGAR) paperwork was approved by the Council. This will now be posted on the SPC website and on the Council Notice Board. This includes an invitation to Parishioners to view the Council's Annual Accounts for 2024/25. The paperwork will also be scanned to the External Auditor explaining movements on the accounts and the increase in asset value compared to 2023/24 due to the new playground.
- Following a recommendation by the Internal Auditor last year SPC has agreed to invest 50% of its Annual Precept (the minimum amount SPC must hold in Reserves) with CCLA. This will be £54,000. CCLA manage investments for many charities and Parish Councils. It was agreed their Public Sector Fund would be most appropriate for SPC as it is low risk with investments being made into banks rather than equities or more risky investment options. Interest is typically 4% p.a. and the account is instant access. This will also reduce the amount SPC currently holds with the Co-Op Bank so reducing SPC's exposure with the Co-op as well as earning a greater level of interest that can be reinvested in Parish services.
- Cllrs Dobson and Farman and the Clerk have recently attended meetings with TRDC and the other Parish Councils in the District regarding **local government devolution**. This will see a change from a County Council for Hertfordshire with 11 local (District) Authorities to either 2 or 3 Unitary Authorities for the County. Parish Council boundaries are unlikely to change.

The 11 local authorities are required to submit their proposal on the number of Unitary Authorities for Herts and how these will work by November 2025. Once a decision is made on the new local government structure for Herts, it is likely elections will be held for councillors to the new authorities in May 2027. There would then be a transition process for 11 months with the new authorities coming into effect on 1 April 2028.

Part of the devolution process may see assets and services managed by TRDC transferred to the Parish Councils. SPC currently owns all council assets in the Parish with the exception of the doctor's surgery on Church Lane, and the garages on Downer Drive and behind Alexandra Road and Deadman's Ash Lane. A decision will need to be made by SPC on who should own and manage these in future.

All common land in the Parish is owned and managed by SPC with the exception of the rectangle of grass on the corner of Dawes Lane and Downer Drive which SPC would be happy to take ownership of. The next meeting to discuss the implications of devolution on the TRDC parish councils is on 16 June.

OTHER MATTERS

- VE Day 80th Anniversary - Both the Commemoration Service and Celebratory Picnic were well-attended and appreciated by all. Cllr Diggins would like to thank all those involved in making these events successful; a worthy way to mark this important anniversary.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Sarratt Parish Council will be held at **7:30pm on Tuesday 8 July in the Rear Room of Sarratt Village Hall**. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

To contact SPC please telephone Mrs. Lena Mortimer, the Parish Clerk, on 01923 262025 or email her at clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk

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