

SPOTLIGHT

June 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,

SARRATT Revd Sarah Miles

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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

December 1939 was a dangerous and uncertain time for millions of people throughout the world. King Charles III's grandfather, King George VI, in his 1939 Christmas speech included a (now famous) excerpt from a poem written by Minnie Louise Haskins. I quote:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way". So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

The King found great solace and hope in his Christian faith, as did his daughter, the late Queen Elizabeth II.

Today we again find ourselves in somewhat uncertain times and it would be easy to be caught up in the misinformation and misunderstanding that is prevalent especially on social media. Perhaps it would be worth pausing for a moment now and again to reflect on the quote above.

Christians seek, through relationship with God, as modelled by his son Jesus, a sense of certainty in uncertain times. This does not exclude us from challenges, pain and suffering but gives us reassurance and hope that we are not alone. My prayer is that there will be peace on earth and goodwill to all mankind.

Philip Waive, Licensed Reader, St Paul's

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**,
2nd June, beginning at **1.30pm**
and finishing at around **3pm**.

Please email Fay if you would like to know more

fay.dent@live.co.uk



***J.P. Russell, The Lost Impressionist.
What makes an Artist famous?***

Tuesday 10th June in Sarratt Village hall

Lucrezia Walker

The final presentation of our brilliant 24/25 programme examines the art of a fine painter who has been all but forgotten. J.P. Russell was a friend of the Impressionists and was more successful than Van Gogh in his lifetime. The great sculptor Rodin said Russell would be as famous as himself and their friend Monet. Matisse said that Russell had taught him everything he knew about colour. So why is Russell so unknown? How does the history of art work?

Lucrezia Walker is a teacher, author, correspondent and tour guide. She lectures at the National Gallery and teaches the London Art History Programme for the University of North Carolina. She was Lay Canon for the Visual Arts at St. Paul's Cathedral. Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Refreshments from 10.30am and presentation at 11am.

Non-Members are welcome to attend – with suggested donation of £8.

Our Exciting 2025/26 programme starts on 9th September. New members are very welcome and will experience a fascinating and design programme from world class speakers at a fraction of the cost of events offered by major galleries.

Our website offers full details of our work **TASRickmansworth.org.uk**

BUCKS ART WEEKS

I am exhibiting my paintings as part of this year's Bucks Art Weeks at my studio in my garden at home. The address is 'Corndean' Little Windmill Hill, WD4 9DG.



Bucks Art Weeks is on between 7th and 22nd June and I am open all three **weekends from 10am-5.30pm** and on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am-5pm**. Please come along and have a look!

For full details visit <https://www.bucksartweeks.org.uk/>

Barbara Robjant

FREE, LIVE, OPEN AIR MUSIC

JAZZ & BLUES

plus so much more from the fabulous

LOU'S SEXTET

Friday 27th June 2025 - 6.30pm - 9.00pm
Holy Cross Church, Sarratt, WD3 6HE

Bring your blanket and dancing shoes
Kicking the flower festival off in style!

BEERS, FIZZ, WINE &
SOFT DRINKS, BBQ &
FRESHLY OVEN BAKED PIZZAS

Parking available
All proceeds go to charity

See back cover for Sarratt Flower Festival dates and times.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

You will have seen the Electric Umbrella posters all around the village so we asked Mel to tell us about herself and how it all began....

Mel Boda: Why We Started Electric Umbrella — and Why We're Still Here

Twelve years ago, when Tom (my co-founder) and I held our very first Electric Umbrella club night at Watersmeet Theatre in Rickmansworth, we had no idea we'd end up turning people away at the door. We just knew we'd created something special - something joyful, electric, and urgent. That night made one thing very clear: learning disabled people weren't being given the opportunities they deserved. They shouldn't just be surviving, they should be thriving. Creating, performing, socialising, and being seen for the vibrant individuals they are.



My name is Mel Boda, and I'm the co-founder and CEO of Electric Umbrella. I'm originally from Manchester and grew up in a musical family. I studied Interactive Arts at university, which led me to some wonderfully quirky projects like the Bog Standard Gallery (the world's smallest art gallery, housed in a portable toilet cubicle) and a little yellow caravan where *everything* inside - from the clothes in the wardrobe to the Weetabix in the box - was yellow with polka dots.

Eventually, I moved to London to study for an MA in Art Therapy, and spent a few years as a freelance artist running community workshops. I later took a job at Three Rivers District Council as their Community Arts Development Officer - a role that would change the course of my life.



It was during this time that I met Tom, a musician, on a freelance arts project. I invited him to join me for a 12-week series of music workshops in South Oxhey with learning disabled adults. The sessions were magic. At the end, we wanted to share the music we'd created so we booked Watersmeet Theatre to

showcase what we created and hold a club night for the local learning disabled community. And just like that, Electric Umbrella was born.

Shortly after that first club night, I had my eldest son, Felix, who's now nearly 12. While on maternity leave, Tom and I decided to take a leap of faith and turn Electric Umbrella into a stand-alone organisation. It wasn't easy - setting up the charity took 18 months of back-and-forth with the Charity Commission. The music was the easy bit. The business plans, policies, and fundraising? That was the real work.

We kept going. Our weekly sessions in Watford and Hemel grew, and performance opportunities kept rolling in. We quickly saw how powerful those performances were - not just for our learning disabled performers, but for the audiences too. They were breaking down stigma, building connection, and changing hearts and minds.

Then came COVID. Like everyone, we had to pivot fast. Within days, we were running a full programme of online sessions - daily, and nationwide. That community carried us through the darkest days of the pandemic. In fact, it became such a vital part of people's lives that our online community still meets several times a week.

One of the most exciting developments in recent years has been our work in schools. We now run sessions every week in six schools (including Sarratt School – see page 17) and reach 40,000 children each year. These workshops are co-led by professional musicians and our learning disabled members. The impact is huge, shifting how children see difference and helping build a more inclusive future.

Alongside my husband David, raising our four boys in Sarratt has been one of the best decisions we've ever made. It's true what they say - it takes a village. And ours has shown up in so many ways, most recently by cheering us on during our unforgettable Britain's Got Talent experience. I'm proud to call this place home. I care deeply about community and education, which is why I also serve as Chair of Governors at Sarratt School. I believe in leading by example - showing our children what it means to be kind, inclusive, and to make a difference.

Electric Umbrella has always been about more than music. It's about care - real, radical care. When you witness what happens when people are truly seen, heard, and valued, you understand why we keep showing up, every single day.

Community really is everything. And we are so lucky to be part of this one.



SARRATT CARE

JUNE UPDATE

'SARRATT COMMUNITY LUNCH'

In the Village Hall on **Monday the 16th June 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 11th and 25th June**

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

WHAT'S ON WHEN – June 2025

When?	What?	Page
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<i>Sat 7</i>	<i>Sarratt WI coffee morning</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Sat 7</i>	<i>Bucks Art Weeks begin</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Sun 8</i>	<i>Wildlife Volunteers</i>	<i>23</i>
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<i>Wed 11</i>	<i>WI</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>Wed 11</i>	<i>Charity Pub Quiz</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Sun 15</i>	<i>Village Hall Sunday Market</i>	<i>11</i>
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<i>Mon 16</i>	<i>Pints of View</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Wed 25</i>	<i>Coffee Corner and Treatments - Sarratt Care</i>	<i>8</i>
Fri 27	<i>Sarratt Flower Festival Jazz & Blues</i>	<i>5</i>
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<i>July</i>		
<i>Tues 1</i>	<i>Sarratt Local History Society</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Fri 11</i>	<i>Sarratt School Summer Fair</i>	<i>12</i>

...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

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**

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**

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**

Sarratt Rebels Youth Football Club: Training on Saturdays at KGV Field -
www.sarrattrebels.org

Sarratt WI Coffee Morning

Join us for Drinks, Cakes, Plants, Crafts and more

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Sarratt Village Hall

Saturday 7th June

10am – 12.30

Come and enjoy a relaxing coffee morning

Tombola, Plant Stall, Bric a Brac, Discovery Book stall and much more

Thinking about joining our vibrant group that meet on the second
Wednesday of the month at 2.15?

Come and learn more

CHARITY PUB QUIZ

AT THE COCK INN, SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 11th JUNE 2025, STARTING AT 8pm

Entry **£2** per person,

with a maximum of **six persons** per team.

Cash prize for the winning team with at least
half of entry fees being donated to Sarratt Care.



Additional prize for the funniest and most original team name.

Come along and enjoy a fun evening.

Phone: **01923 282908** to book a table

Email: **info@cockinnsarratt.co.uk**

PINTS OF VIEW

POV will meet at **The Boot in Sarratt** on **Monday 16 June at 8pm**. Clive Percival will lead our informal discussion on the topic **“What is stopping the UK from getting a world-class health service?”**



This will be the last POV before our summer break.

Autumn POV dates for your diary are Monday 15 September,
Monday 20 October and Monday 17 November. Everyone welcome.

June Sunday Market

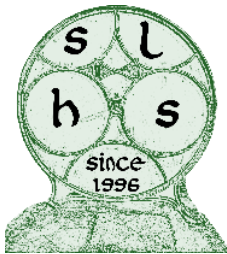
Three things there are more beautiful
Than anyone could wish to see:
The first, it is a full-rigged ship
Plying with all her sails set free;
The second, when the wind and sun
Are playing in a field of corn;
The third; the Market in the Hall,
With stalls laid out on Sunday morn.



So sail to our beautiful Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday 15th June** 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.

Sarratt Flower Festival Bric-a-Brac Stall

As in previous years your friendly Village Hall Sunday Market Team are running the Bric-a-Brac stall at the Sarratt Flower festival in aid of the Friends of Holy Cross – and we will be very happy to receive any donations of saleable items for the stall. Please call Larry on 265386 if you would like to donate – we can collect!



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



Sarratt School

Summer

Fair

Friday 11th July

3.30 – 6.00pm

BBQ, Bar, Bouncy Castle, Games, Crafts,
Plant Sale, Tombola and lots more!

Come and support our lovely school.

Sarratt PTA registered charity number 1095298

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 in August** and booking forms will be widely available including in Spotlight. Tickets can also be booked on our website nearer to the time.

sarrattfestivalofmusic.co.uk

 **MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING**

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

Remembering and Celebrating VE Day on Sarratt Green



At 9am on Thursday May, we gathered at the war memorial for a short service led by Angela Coakley. We were joined by some of the children from Sarratt School.



In the afternoon, we met on The Green again for a family picnic.





A chance to chat in the evening sunshine.

The children enjoyed playing Tug of War



Rides round The Green on Jenks' bus were popular with young and old alike.



We all gathered round for the lighting of the VE Day Beacon before everyone drifted home.





SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

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

We thoroughly enjoyed being part of the village's VE Day Celebrations on the Green and as summer approaches and other outdoor events take place, especially BBQs, we encourage you to place your order for our organic, pasture-fed beef and meat selections from Native Beef.

Raised locally with the highest standards of animal welfare, the beef is tender and perfect for grilling. Whether you're flipping burgers, searing steaks or slow cooking ribs, you can taste the difference that quality and care make.



It's not just beef – the range also includes delicious lamb, chicken and pork all sourced responsibly and full of natural flavour. Orders placed by midday Monday will be ready for collection on Wednesday or feel free to come and browse.... though it does go quickly!

You can also pre-order your fruit and veg, choose from a large selection of wines, beers and local ales, crisps & dips and pick up a Father's Day card which are now in stock ready for June 15th.

All your treats and essentials for summer in Sarratt.

We look forward to seeing you soon and thank you for your on-going support.



**Facebook: sarratt post office stores
Instagram: @sarrattpostofficestores**



Grey Knights

Jenks was busy at the VE celebrations giving rides around the green. There was much excitement especially from the children some of whom had 5 or 6 rides. She looked extra special with the Union Jack flag on her bonnet. She is, of course, from that era.

The Grey Knights held its AGM and the following were elected. Alan Milsom - Chairman. Roger Dudley - Vice Chairman. John Lyons - Scribbler. Andy Todd - Treasurer. Committee. Kevin Biggerstaff, Graham Peiser and a new member, John Griffith.

Please consider using Jenks for special events from birthdays, local trips out to weddings. Please call Alan Milsom on 07917800623

Celebrating Diversity, Creativity, and Inclusivity at Sarratt CE Primary School!



On Thursday 1st May, Sarratt CE Primary School had the distinct honour of welcoming the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Robert Voss, to our school. During his visit, Mr. Voss presented us with a special certificate in recognition of our outstanding collaboration with the local charity, Electric Umbrella.



Mr Voss with Mo Serby and Mel Boda, CEO of Electric Umbrella.

For the past seven years, our school has proudly partnered with Electric Umbrella, a charity dedicated to working with learning disabled adults to bring the joy of music into schools. This partnership has been instrumental in promoting diversity, creativity, and inclusivity within our school community.

We are also thrilled to share our recent success with Britain's Got Talent, where we supported Electric Umbrella with an original song, "Acceptance," written

alongside Electric Umbrella members. This achievement highlights the

incredible talent and dedication of our students and the Electric Umbrella community. Joining them in the semi finals on the 10th May was an extra win and was enjoyed by everyone involved. The thrill of performing to such a large - and loud - crowd was phenomenal but even more exciting was the huge sense of community and support from everyone around us - in Sarratt, Watford and beyond. We have all been smiling since our success.

The certificate presented by Mr. Voss celebrates the positive impact of our ongoing efforts to unite the world through music and create a better, more inclusive environment for all. Sarratt School is proud to be 'Heroes' of Diversity, Creativity, and Inclusivity and we are incredibly grateful for the

recognition and look forward to continuing our work with Electric Umbrella to inspire and uplift our students and the wider community.



Mr Voss presenting an award to one of the children involved in the Britain's Got Talent performance.



Thank you to everyone who has supported this initiative over the years. Together, we are making a difference.

Mo Serby Deputy Head Teacher Sarratt CE Primary School

Spotlight on: Sarratt Tennis Club



Sarratt Tennis Club held a social event at The Boot on Thursday, 24th April. Our regular and occasional players enjoyed getting together for a sociable drink and a chat. It was also an opportunity to hold our AGM - a brief but formal requirement as we are a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).

The AGM celebrated some positive achievements and offered the opportunity for the club to thank some key contributors:

- The re-painting of our courts. They look fantastic. A big thank you to Paul Olney for organizing the contract and overseeing the work.
- A well-organized summer tournament (thanks to Paul Olney and Kath Curtis for organizing the men's and women's competitions). Our finals day was a big success due to the entertainment on court, the support of the spectators, and a great BBQ (thanks to Kath Curtis, Nick Ratliff and Simon Hammett).
- Our participation in social/fun competitions, local derby matches, and Herts winter league fixtures (thank you Nick Turner for "herding the cats" and providing the gong!)
- The fabulous coaching experience provided by our club professional for our members as well as the children at Sarratt School (thank you Ed Harwood).

The event was also a chance to say "thank you" to three long-standing members of the club's committee who had decided to stand down. Shirish Chauhan (Chair), Paul Olney and Nick Turner have all made a significant contribution to the committee over many years and we will miss them. Rob Hildick, Jackie Youell and Simon Hammett were re-elected. The club duly elected three new committee members: Simon Ashby, Paul Curtis and Judith Wildgoose.

We are a friendly, sociable and relaxed tennis club, and we welcome new members of all ages and abilities.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jackie Youell for more details info@sarratttennisclub.co.uk.

Sarratt Tennis Club Committee

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 1	Sunday after Ascension Day	6th Sunday after Easter Day
9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's

Sunday 8	PENTECOST - Whit Sunday	
9am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
11.45 am	Benefice Grand Draw	Holy Cross

Sunday 15	TRINITY SUNDAY	
9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	All Together Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's
6.30pm	Compline (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross

Sunday 22	1st Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross

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 (first part of month)

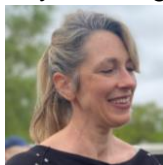
Sunday 6	3rd Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's
12.30pm	Benefice Lunch	St Paul's Parish Room

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

Sarratt WI



Our meeting in May was the AGM and our Secretary, Lynn Mason, gave us an entertaining round up of the year's events, which included excellent speakers, craft days, outings and walks. Jackie Youell, our Treasurer, presented the



annual accounts and we expressed our thanks to all the members of our Committee for everything they do to make WI enjoyable and especially to our President, Leone Ashby, who was unanimously re-elected for another year.

Members brought items to be won or bought at our **Coffee Morning** which will be held from **10-12am** on **Saturday 7th June** in **Sarratt Village Hall** (see page 10) and signed up to make cakes or to help serve on the day. We hope to see you there!

We have a walk every 4th Wednesday of the month followed by a pub lunch. Our May walk and pub lunch was around Little Missenden.

Why not give us a try? See you at **2.15pm** at **Sarratt Village Hall** on the **second Wednesday** of the month.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 11th June** when we will be welcoming a speaker from 'Mercy Ships', a charity which uses hospital ships to provide medical support to countries where it is most needed. You will be given a warm welcome with tea and cake! A lovely friendly way to spend an afternoon - or phone our President Leone on 07894 421748 for more information.



SPLAT Pantomime



We are delighted to say that we're planning a pantomime for 2026 (late Feb) – yes, it's been too long, but we're back!! So now we'd like to know from you all that you'd like to join us (in principle at least). And then we need to choose a panto, of course...

As ever, we need people for backstage, helpers for costumes, make up and scenery and front of house as well as on stage performers, so please spread the word and let's involve as many people as we can.

Please let us know you're interested.

Pam Hildick 267927 pamelalynhildick@gmail.com

Anne Griffiths 265386 griffithsam@gmail.com

Tony Bond 261941 familybond@live.co.uk

Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers

We were very fortunate with the weather again on Sunday May 11th when we were again working at Penmans Green in beautiful Spring sunshine. It was a pleasure to be there amongst the newly leafy trees with so many different green shades. Blackbirds and robins were singing and were very busy looking for food for their nestlings. We were also busy, removing yet more brambles to allow more useful wild plants to thrive.



We were very encouraged to see dozens of foxgloves about to burst their flower buds in areas where we had worked before. These will be a feast for bumblebees. It is a never-ending task as brambles seem to grow faster than anything else, but we are winning, at least in some of the common. Bluebells were just going over, there was Herb Robert, Wood Sorrell and Garlic Mustard. All these will bring insects, and then birds to eat the insects. So it is a very worthwhile job that we do.

On **8th June** we shall be at Commonwood , searching out and destroying the Small Balsam, a non-native plant which threatens to take over the Common if we are not vigilant! Meet in the **car park at Commonwood at 10am**, tools and gloves provided. More volunteers are always needed so do just turn up if you would like to join us, or contact Dawn, 267071, dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com for more information.

NEWSPAPER DELIVERIES

When our lovely shop decided they could no longer deliver newspapers, they kindly organised a national scheme to continue the deliveries. Unfortunately, this has not been very successful. Papers are often delivered very late or not at all, and supplements and parts of the papers are sometimes missing. I have contacted the Paper Shop at Chipperfield, they would be willing to deliver papers to Sarratt as long as there is enough take up to make it worth their while. This sounds to me a good idea to use a local business. At the moment papers come from Slough via High Wycombe - an environmental nightmare!

If you are interested in the above, please let me know and I will again contact the Chipperfield shop and we will go from there.

Dawn Pitts : dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com

07985492501 – text or message 01923 267071 or leave a message.

Sarratt Scout Group

Gavin Daly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



A fairly short article this month, as at the time of writing the Scout Group has only been back for a couple of meetings since the Easter holidays, although we were pleased to be part of the VE Day event on Sarratt Green and be able to organise some activities for those attending.

Beavers have enjoyed a good start to the term, fire lighting on Dawes Common, tent building and a charity talk. We had our first Beaver District Fun Day, with some really good activities organised by ourselves and the other groups that joined us.



We will soon be holding a charity car wash and have planned den building and other outdoor activities for the Summer Term. We are also looking forward to our first camp at the end of June.



With the warmer weather, the Cubs have been enjoying the outdoors this month. They got a roaring fire going at Chorleywood campsite and cooked their own tea of baked potatoes, cheese and beans with Eton Mess for pudding. Yum! They enjoyed participating in the VE Day celebrations, making paracord bracelets and getting to join activities with the other sections of Sarratt Scout Group. Last week they worked on their Artist Badge which involved learning a new knot and creating some beautiful paper lanterns.

The Scout Troop expedition is complete!! We set off from Ley Hill in overcast conditions on the Saturday morning. The Scouts had maps and compasses in hand, and lunch and water on their backs as they set off for Chorleywood campsite. The hike was around 11km in theory but subject to navigation skills!!

Henry took the lead in Group 1, and apart from a small mistake in the first kilometre, successfully led the group to the lunch spot at Latimer. Group 2 mixed their leader up and were hot on their heels until the



outskirts of Latimer when they added 40 mins onto their hike with a random diversion! Group 3 were struggling with multi-tasking, George and Dylan were unable to walk and talk, each time they spoke they stopped! Lunch came at the perfect time for Isaac who was on his knees as we came into Latimer, and was desperate for some re-fuelling. Our two scouts who chose to wear TRAINERS fell foul of the boggy ground just outside Latimer. Both managed to plough straight through the boggy ground and soaked their feet. Isaac's white trainers are now a shade of light brown.

The scouts were then sent off to navigate to the watercress beds at Sarratt Bottom - what could go wrong? Well Izzy and Amelie managed to continue straight past them which caused a certain amount of alarm. The boys, of course, were throwing stones into the river and as predicted, one of them got a rock behind his ear. Out came the first aid kit with an ice pack - thankfully no permanent damage. We ploughed on along Sarratt Bottom, Isaac was now running low on energy. Group 1 and 2 were disjointed, of the 8 of them only 4 arrived at camp. Search parties went out and all were quickly accounted for. Group 3, still struggling for speed, rolled in 40 minutes later.

Tents were set up. Isaac quickly went into his tent for a snooze. Dinner was cooked. Each group had planned their own meals. These ranged from pot noodles (boo!), pasta and pesto, pasta and microwave sauce (no power at the campsite!) and pasta bolognese. I think I cooked all of them!! The leaders had sirloin steak and asparagus, BBQ-ed over the campfire, sauteed potatoes and vegetables. Silly games in the evening, sleep, bacon rolls for breakfast and pancakes stuffed with marshmallows and chocolate brownies. This is what happens when 13 year olds design menus !!!



Explorers started the term back at Rickmansworth Aquadrome with the first of our forays out onto the water this summer. First up was a spot of rafting. The weather was glorious despite the water still being a chilly 10°C, not that it stopped several of our Explorers going for a dip! But the rafts all held together and returned to the shore in one piece, along with the Explorers!!

Next up was ticking off another Treasure Trail from treasuretrails.co.uk this time around Chesham. For the rest of the Summer Term we have lots of 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 6 May**.

ANNUAL STATUTORY MEETING MATTERS

As the SPC meeting on 6 June was the Annual Statutory Meeting, the positions held by Councillors for the forthcoming year were approved as follows:

- Chair – Cllr Sarah Dobson
- Vice Chair – Cllr Angela Coakley
- Policy & Resources – Cllr Michael Lowry
- Planning – Cllrs Lee Farman and James Alder
- Environment & Sustainability – Cllr Flo Garvey
- Highways – Cllrs Simon Diggins and David Zerny

The following were appointed to represent SPC at organisations where SPC has membership:

- KGV Management Trustees – Cllr Sarah Dobson
- Sarratt Village Hall Committee – Cllr Michael Lowry
- Days Charity – Cllr Michael Lowry
- London Green Belt Council – Cllr David Zerny
- TRDC Joint Committee of Parish Councils – Cllrs Sarah Dobson and Angela Coakley
- Herts Association of Parish & Town Councils – the Parish Clerk, Lena Mortimer

The schedule of SPC meetings for the forthcoming year was approved. The monthly meetings of the Parish Council take place at **7:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Rear Room of the Village Hall**. These dates can be viewed on the SPC website: www.sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk

Another element of the Annual Statutory Meeting is a review and re-adoption of SPC's Standing Orders (which govern many of the Council's processes), and its Financial Regulations. Updated copies of these are now available on the SPC website.

Also available on the website is a copy of the 2025 Annual Report. This document reflects on the achievements of SPC during the previous financial year (April 2024 – March 2025). This was prepared for the Annual Parish Meeting which took place on 22 April with short presentations on the Council's work being delivered by the Councillors. The Annual Parish Meeting is also an opportunity to recognise the fantastic work carried out by so many in our community and to formally award the SPC grants for the year. This year SPC has provided £17,374 in grants to 9 organisations in the Parish, accounting for ca. 15% of its annual budget.

PLANNING

Planning Applications Reviewed:

Current Planning Applications reviewed by SPC at the meeting with its responses are as follows:

- **25/0735/FUL & 25/0736/LBC: The White Cottage, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BL** - [Replacement windows including bays, alterations to fenestration, single storey rear extension and side canopy projection; internal alterations.](#)
SPC: No objection.
- **25/0726/FUL: Doggetts, Penmans Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DJ** - [Partial demolition of existing dwelling and construction of part single, part two storey rear extensions.](#)
SPC: Although this proposal is a large increase in floor space compared to the original building, we have no objection on the basis that this proposal is a minimal increase in footprint, no impact on neighbours and would result in a better, in keeping development compared to using permitted development options.
- **25/0576/FUL: Lamington House, Penmans Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DJ** - [Single storey extension to existing detached garage](#)
SPC: No objection on the basis this would result in a minimal increase in footprint of an existing building.
- **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 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 cooling requirements often associated with conservatories.
- **25/0597/FUL: Land Adjoining Westwood End, Bucks Hill, WD4 9AS** - [Change of use to a residential caravan site, for occupation by Gypsies/Travellers, comprising the siting of 2 static caravans with associated access and hardstanding.](#)

SPC: *We strongly object to this application. If officers are minded to approve we ask that this application is called into the Planning Committee. We object on the basis this is a new development without any special circumstances on undeveloped Green Belt land. This site is not a sustainable location for travellers pitches due to its limited access location and no public transport service. This proposal would impact biodiversity on this site as well as impact the local setting which is in proximity to listed buildings. There is a lack of site access information in this application which raises significant concerns that resulting access needs would lead to further development and damage to this green field site.*

- **25/0541/FUL: King George V Playing Fields, Sarratt - [Construction of single storey rear extensions to existing clubhouse](#)**

SPC: *No objection. This is a sensible adjustment to the already approved plans that make these essential improvements and benefits to the community more affordable*

TRDC Recent Planning Decisions:

TRDC decisions on recent planning applications are as follows:

- **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*

- **25/0551/PDE: Tarn, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD4 9DQ - [Prior Approval: Single storey rear extension \(maximum depth 8 metres, maximum height 2.8 metres and maximum eaves height 2.5 metres\)](#)**

SPC: *Noted: We find it disappointing that the previous, smaller scale and aesthetically preferable application for this site, was refused.*

TRDC: *Refused*

- **25/0361/RSP: Jalna, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BH - [Retrospective: Construction of a side pergola.](#)**

SPC: *Insufficient information provided to comment on the structure in question.*

TRDC: *Approved*

- **25/0352/PDT: Toledo, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BS - [Prior approval: Enlargement of the dwellinghouse by the construction of one additional storey \(2.7m height\) and raising of roof ridge to result in an overall height of 8.6m \(Class AA\)](#)**

SPC: *Noted*

TRDC: *Approved*

- **25/0351/PDE: Toledo, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BS - [Prior Approval: Single storey rear extensions \(depth 8.00 metres, maximum height 4.00 metres, maximum eaves height 2.40 metres\)](#)**
SPC: Noted
TRDC: No objection
- **25/0349/CLPD: Dellfield House, Plough Lane, Sarratt, WD3 4NL - [Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of a detached outbuilding and associated hardstanding.](#)**
SPC: Although this a certificate of lawfulness application, we have concerns that this will continue the overdevelopment of this site. A swimming pool can be a large energy user so we strongly encourage the applicant to apply as many energy reduction and efficiency options as possible. If approved, we ask that a restriction is applied to ensure that this building is for ancillary use to the main building only.
TRDC: Approved
- **25/0328/CLPD: Doggetts, Penmans Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DJ - [Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of rear dormer window.](#)**
SPC: Noted
TRDC: Approved
- **25/0262/CLPD: Doggetts, Penmans Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DJ - [Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of a single storey rear extension.](#)**
SPC: Noted
TRDC: Approved
- **25/0316/FUL: The Mulberry Bush, Moor Lane, Sarratt - [External alterations to buildings including the insertion of rooflights, windows and doors, alterations to openings, addition of external balustrade and re-cladding of the exterior walls](#)**
SPC: The approach over the many years taken by the applicant has alienated the local community and lost any local good will to support a rural business. We object to this application on principle, on the basis that the applicant has used a series of planning loopholes to achieve the outcome of new use building, that will increase vehicular traffic to the site. If officers are minded to approve, then we request restrictions are put in place to ensure these buildings remain in keeping with the existing site, which is in the AONB.
TRDC: Approved
- **25/0205/FUL: 28 Dawes Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6BB - [Erection of a single storey side and rear extensions; first floor front extension; construction of a rear dormer; alterations to fenestration.](#)**
SPC: SPC is 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.

TRDC: Approved ("match existing" requirement clause added to the permission)

- **25/0170/FUL: The Grove, Grove Mill Lane, WD3 4TG** - Erection of a temporary building with external accesses for use as a conference centre within the Walled Garden (build period of 39 days to start on 22/04/25 and to be removed by 30/05/25)

SPC: No Objection on the basis this is a temporary building, and it appears a high-quality approach is being applied. We request that the application continues to protect the biodiversity of the wider site.

TRDC: Approved

- **25/0111/CLED: Holly Hedges Farm, Olleberrie Lane, Belsize, WD3 4NU** - [Certificate of Lawfulness Existing Use: Continued use of the land for a single-unit mobile home within the residential curtilage for ancillary use to the main dwellinghouse.](#)

SPC: Noted

TRDC: Approved

Planning Enforcements:

The latest update from TRDC on the Enforcement Cases they are currently progressing can be found on the SPC website.

Planning Appeals:

- [APP/P1940/W/24/3346997](#) & [APP/P1940/W/24/3349084](#) - land to the rear of 47 Church Lane, Sarratt WD3 6HN - Jon and Chris Adams - [Demolition of existing structures and construction of five detached dwellings with associated parking, bin and cycle storage, landscaping and access improvements.](#) Ref. No: 24/0023/REF - **Appeal allowed and planning permission is granted**
- [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 – **No further update**
- [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 – **No further update**
- [APP/P1940/C/23/3327887](#) - The Grove Lodge, Fir Tree Hill, WD3 4LY - Enforcement Notice Appeal - [Unauthorised works \(erection of fencing\) in the Green Belt](#) - 20/0077/COMP - **Appeal allowed in**

regards to the deposition and spreading of hardcore aggregate, appeal dismissed in regards to the erection of close boarded fencing adjacent to the highway

ENVIRONMENT

- Tree works at the Cricketers Pond completed successfully and with the minimum of inconvenience.
- A request has been received for selective cutting of grassland on Dawes Common over the next couple of months to encourage Butterfly breeding which SPC is supportive of.
- Allotments – just one plot is now vacant
- Dead deer and badger on Sarratt Green – thanks to Andrew Whitewood for dealing with their removal.

POLICY AND RESOURCES

Cllr Lowry circulated the report from the Internal Auditor prior to the meeting. Whilst there are a few actions to be completed, overall it was a successful audit with the Internal Auditor comfortable that SPC has the necessary controls in place. Cllr Dobson thanked Cllr Lowry and the Clerk for their time and effort closing the 2024/25 financial year and for working with the Internal Auditor on the preparation of her report. The External Audit will be completed in June.

HIGHWAYS

Cllr Zerny detailed his reporting and follow-up of three large fly tips in the area. The largest of which was in Langleybury Lane, which has been successfully traced back to the source who will be prosecuted.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Dist. Cllr Reed reported that TRDC will be undertaking another Reg 18 Consultation for its new draft Local Plan. This will only be on the new sites put forward in the recent call for new sites, not those already included in the current draft plan.

OTHER MATTERS

- District Cllr Reed reported that following the County Council elections earlier in the month the Liberal Democrats had retained their seat for Chorleywood and Sarratt. This was now held by Louise Price who had stood in place of Phil Williams following his decision not to stand

again. Louise has asked Ciaran to arrange a meeting so she can meet representatives of SPC and in particular she is keen to help SPC in its campaign to get the state of the roads in the Parish improved by HCC Highways. A meeting has now been arranged for 4 June.

- There will be a meeting of the Parish Councils within Three Rivers on 22 May. This meeting takes place every 6 months, and on this occasion the main topic on the Agenda is the Local Government devolution. Looking at what might be transferred from the District Council to Parish Councils as a result of a Unitary Authority being formed, it would appear Sarratt may not see a huge amount of change as assets such as common land, car parks, playgrounds and community centres are already owned by SPC and the maintenance of these and footpaths is already undertaken by SPC, which is not the case elsewhere in the District where many of the assets are owned and maintained by TRDC. But there may be some other services that could be transferred to SPC from TRDC. Hopefully more will be learnt at the meeting on 22 May.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Sarratt Parish Council will be held at **7:30pm on Tuesday 10 June 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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Festival closes 4.00pm

*Throughout the weekend we're serving
coffee, tea, cakes, BBQ, bar and free live
music from Blue & Green and
Jolly Jazzers.*

**Look out for JENKS vintage bus
rides from the Green**

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, SARRATT, WD3 6HE

All proceeds go to PCHC charity. Charity number 1814891



DEADLINE for July is Sunday 15 June