

# SPOTLIGHT

August 2025



*visit* [sarrattvillage.co.uk](http://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](http://sarrattvillage.co.uk)

## SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

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New Vicarage, The Street, Chipperfield WD4 9BJ, or [revdsarahcollins@outlook.com](mailto:revdsarahcollins@outlook.com) 07525 491496

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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://sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk)*

Chair	Cllr. Sarah Dobson	07881 500488
Parish Clerk	Mrs Lena Mortimer	<a href="mailto:clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> , 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 <a href="mailto:Philip.hearn@threerivers.gov.uk">Philip.hearn@threerivers.gov.uk</a>
	District Councillor	Mr. Oliver Cooper <a href="mailto:Oliver.cooper@threerivers.gov.uk">Oliver.cooper@threerivers.gov.uk</a>
HERTFORDSHIRE CC	County Councillor	Mr. Phil Williams 07738-293769
SARRATT CofE SCHOOL	Head Teacher	Mrs. N.O'Hare 262003
COMMUNITY BOOKINGS	Village Hall website:	<a href="http://www.sarrattvillagehall.co.uk">www.sarrattvillagehall.co.uk</a>
VILLAGE HALL	Bookings Secretary:	265881 or 07515-452124
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:sarrattvillagehallbookings@live.co.uk">sarrattvillagehallbookings@live.co.uk</a>
SARRATT CARE	Hours: 10am - 12noon Monday to Friday	519975
POLICE	Neighbourhood Watch non-emergency number	101

*Cover photo by Jenny Roberts*

## **View from the Pew:**

### **Flowers and faith bloom together**

Flower festivals in English parish churches are a long-standing tradition, bringing communities together around joy, gratitude, and faith

Our recent Holy Cross Flower Festival embodied that same spirit, drawing in almost 1,000 people from beyond our regular congregation, combining fun with community and worship.

Wandering around Holy Cross admiring the flowers arrangements it is impossible for visitors not to be moved by the atmosphere of our ancient Church.

Founded around 1190 during the reign of Richard the Lionheart, the church's original distinctive Greek-cross layout stands as an enduring reminder of its medieval origins.

Over the centuries the fortunes of Holy Cross have waxed and waned. Surviving Henry VIII's reformation, a murderous vicar and many years of neglect that resulted in the walls becoming green and dangerous and the floors full of holes!

But through all these traumas Sarratt villagers have continued to worship in this special place of peace and calm, receiving comfort and inspiration from within its ancient walls.

The doors of Holy Cross are open daily, and everyone is welcome to come in for prayer, reflection, or simply to enjoy the beauty within the medieval walls. Whether on a quiet weekday or during a festival, you're always welcome at Holy Cross, where flowers and faith bloom together.

**Sue Clark – Holy Cross PCC**

# *PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS*

**Joan and Ted North** of Dimmocks Lane celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup>/Platinum Wedding Anniversary on 30th July with a small gathering in their lovely garden. Our warmest congratulations to this much-loved Sarratt couple.

They met at St, Andrew's youth fellowship, in Watford, when they were 14 and married at St, Andrew's church in 1955. After moving from Kings Langley to Sarratt in April 1996 they quickly became involved in village life, with Joan running the coffee mornings and Ted being a volunteer driver for Sarratt Care.



Joan became very active with Holy Cross Church and Ted with the Village Hall. They both love living in Sarratt and have many lovely friends and neighbours; it's the best house move they ever made!

They have two sons with lovely wives, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren from three months to 15 years old.

Congratulations to Joan and Ted (mum and Dad) on this remarkable achievement - also they both turn 90 years old later this year!



**Steve and Kevin North.**

## Margaret Newman 2033 to 2025

Margaret lived all of her life in Bucks Hill in a house her father built in 1929 at a time when there was no mains water or drainage to the area. A large underground tank was built in the back garden storing rainwater from the house gutters with a pump and hose to the kitchen sink. Margaret recounted how she and her younger sister, Christine, were despatched to clean out the storage tank in the dry summer months.



During WW2, Margaret was age 6-13, Christine about 3 years younger. During the London Blitz, SW Herts was part of the route for returning aircraft to their base airfields in central Europe. Whilst airfields like Bovingdon would be targeted with remaining munitions to reduce weight and preserve fuel reserves for the return journey - dropped across open countryside. Margaret recently recalled a time when she and Christine were playing in the garden and a bomb exploded in the farmland to the rear of their home. The resulting blast lifted both in the air and sent them across the garden fortunately with no serious injury.

Her family were active regular attendees at Holy Cross church. Her father Edwin was church organist for many years and Margaret took over from him when he stepped back with health issues. Both Margaret and Christine were active in the church choir and many other village activities. Christine's life was reported in Spotlight Sept 22 edition.

Margaret's career was as a teacher; we have little detail, but know that she was able to teach pupils with special needs, possibly a rarity then.

Margaret Newman and her sister, Christine, ran for many years the Chipperfield branch of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution. In recognition of their many years of house-to-house collecting and service the RNLI presented both with awards. The presentation took place on 7 June 2001 at a Presentation of Awards Ceremony at Robinson College, Cambridge. The event was attended by over 200 people and was a most enjoyable occasion.

The following recollections are from some of their many local friends.

## **Memory of Margaret from John Guy**

Margaret Newman and her sister Christine helped with the collation, bagging and distribution of many editions of Spotlight and Margaret had her own Spotlight delivery round in parts of Bucks Hill and Penmans Green. Both sisters worshipped at Holy Cross, Sarratt Parish Church, in their younger years and sang in the choir. Holy Cross always had a special place in their hearts.

Margaret and her friend Joan Grego were part of a prayer group that used to meet regularly in the home of June & Michael Clark. It was an annual event for Margaret to help at the Holy Cross Flower Festival., initially helping Percy Saunders on his plant and bric-a-brac stall under the ancient yew tree, then helping Noreen Tatham when she took over the Yew Tree Stall from Percy, and then helping John Guy when he took over from Noreen.



Margaret Newman (left) & Joan Grego by the Yew Tree plant and bric-a-brac stall, Holy Cross Flower Festival, 30 June 2008.

## **Memory of Margaret from Carol Chorley**

When the Mothers Union closed, the Friendship Club started and Margaret joined as a volunteer and made the tea for many years until she was unable to do so. During these years, the Care Lunch also started and again she volunteered to help, coming along a short while before it started and helping to carry the meals to the diners then helping to clear up before quietly leaving to go home. Eventually health and age began to take its toll but unwilling to join the diners she quietly retired. She was a very private lady who came along and quietly helped with both of these organisations.

**Memory of Margaret from Linda Clough** (widow of David Clough organist at Holy Cross from 1976-2023)

Margaret used to help at Care Lunch setting up and as a server, and she and Christine used to make sandwiches for the Flower Festival lunches and probably cakes. Margaret played the organ until David was appointed in 1976.

The Wake will be at the **Cart & Horses** following the midday funeral, around **1pm on Mon 18 Aug**. It would be appreciated if those wishing to attend the funeral/wake would kindly **text or WhatsApp** attendee names to **07970 519365** to help ensure correct quantities of the order of service in the church and adequate food/refreshments at the wake.

## Inspire

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**,  
**2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:fay.dent@live.co.uk)

**No August meetings for:**  
**Sunday Market – next on 21 Sept**  
**The Arts Society Rickmansworth**  
**Pints of View – next on 15 Sept**  
**CARE Charity Quiz**



# SARRATT CARE

## AUGUST UPDATE

### **'SARRATT COMMUNITY LUNCH'**

In the Village Hall on **Monday 18th August at 12.30**

For contact please ring **Jacky Creed** – details below

### **'COFFEE CORNER' and TREATMENTS**

(treatments including hairdressing, massage and chiropody)

In the Village Hall **from 10.30 a.m. on**

**Wednesdays the 6th and 20th August**

For details please ring **Jennifer Haynes** on **590542** or  
**07743 133736**

### **TRANSPORT TO APPOINTMENTS**

To arrange for a volunteer driver  
please ring **07565 399349**

### **MEALS-ON-WHEELS**

If you would like to receive a lunch on Mondays to Fridays  
delivered to your home

please ring **Clare Bennett** on **260594** (office hours only)

### **ANY OTHER ENQUIRIES or PROBLEMS**

Please ring **Jacky Creed** on **519975**

If no reply, please feel happy to leave a message



## WHAT'S ON WHEN – August 2025

<b>When?</b>	<b>What?</b>	<b>Page</b>
Mon 4	Inspire	7
Sun 10	Wildlife Volunteers	24
Tue 12	Sarratt Parish Council Meeting	37
Wed 13	Coffee Corner and Treatments - Sarratt Care	8
Wed 13	WI	21
Mon 17	Sarratt Community Lunch	8
Wed 26	Coffee Corner and Treatments – Sarratt Care	8
<b>September</b>		
Sat 13	Sarratt Horticultural Show	12
Tues 16	Local History Society	13
Fri/Sat 19/20	Sarratt Festival of Music	14
Sat 20	Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning	14

## ...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

<p><b>Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group:</b> 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: <b>Daphne Tyler 07970 894205</b></p> <p><b>Sarratt Scouts:</b> 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 <b>info@sarrattscoutgroup.org</b></p>	<p><b>Netherby Bridge Group</b> 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 <b>Margaret Stratford 01923 260475</b></p> <p><b>Sarratt Rebels Youth Football Club:</b> Training on Saturdays at KGV Field - <b><u><a href="http://www.sarrattrebels.org">www.sarrattrebels.org</a></u></b></p>
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HOLY CROSS CHURCH

# HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE



**SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER - 9AM**

PLEASE COME ALONG WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO  
ENJOY OUR HARVEST THANKSGIVING  
FOOD DONATIONS WILL BE GATHERED FOR  
THE NEW HOPE TRUST  
THE CHURCH WILL BE DECORATED WITH ARRANGEMENTS  
AND DISPLAYS



Have a question? Email  
[holycrossstpauls@outlook.com](mailto:holycrossstpauls@outlook.com)  
or call 01923 264377

## A DATE FOR THE DIARY!

### Holy Cross Church are inviting you to a **HARVEST SUPPER CELEBRATION**

on **4<sup>th</sup> October 2025.**

Location: Village Hall

Time: **6.30pm start**, Food served at 7.00pm

We want as many people to join us, so we are suggesting a donation of £12.50 per ticket (children under 10 free).

We have guest chefs for the evening to prepare the feast!

Agnes – Quo Vadis - Soho

Daniella – The Ritz - Mayfair

Phoebe – River Café - Hammersmith

*All produce sourced within a 10 mile radius*

Look out for further details of how to book in the next few weeks or email [colin.plummer@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.plummer@btinternet.com)

**BUT IN THE MEANTIME PUT  
THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY!**

## Grey Knights

July was a busy time with Jenks. She transported the choir from Sarratt School to a care home in Kings Langley and they entertained the residents to their excellent singing. A local cricket team was taken by Jenks to Harefield for what turned out to be a hard-fought game. And she looked the part for two local weddings.



Please contact **Alan Milsom** on **07917-800623** if you want to book Jenks for that special, or just fun, occasion.

# SARRATT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## AUTUMN SHOW 2025



**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – Sarratt Village Hall**

**The Sarratt Horti Autumn Show is here!**

Remember entries and payment needs to be in the shop by **6pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September**. Entry forms and the schedule are on the website – [www.sarrathorti.co.uk](http://www.sarrathorti.co.uk) but if you need a schedule or entry forms, please email the secretary on [sarrathorti@gmail.com](mailto:sarrathorti@gmail.com)

**Flower** classes include – Dahlias, Roses and other Annual Flowers.

**Vegetable and Fruit** classes include a variety of types.

Plus we have:

**Flower Arranging** – Going for Gold

- An Autumn Wreath
- An Arrangement Using a Grapefruit

**Cookery** – 3 vegetable samosas

- An individual portion of summer pudding
- 2 individual apple turnovers
- A slice of chocolate courgette cake
- Blackcurrant Jam, Chutney & Honey!

**Arts & Crafts** – Tapestry / Embroidery / Cross Stitch Article; An Article of Jewellery;

Painting / Drawing; Clay / Wood or Metal Article.

And **Photographs** – "Bursting Buds" and "Surprise"

**Children's Classes** – any relative of a member can enter – just put your family name on the entry form – see website or there are copies in the Sarratt Shop

- 5 years and under - An edible necklace
- 6-8 years old – 3 decorated cupcakes
- 9-12 years old - A fat/suet ball to feed the birds
- Any age - A sunflower grown in a pot from seed

**Open to members** – if you want to join, please email the secretary on [sarratthorti@gmail.com](mailto:sarratthorti@gmail.com) – only £3 per person or £5 per household!

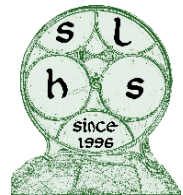
Those entering, please come to the Hall between **8-11am** on the Saturday to put in your exhibits

**ALL are welcome from 2:30pm** to see the great entries, have afternoon tea, buy from the trading stall and win the raffle. We will also have our normal auction of exhibits at the end of the Show – pick up bargains for flowers, vegetables and cookery!

## **SARRATT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

### **The Grove and its Owners 1500 - 1700**

**TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER**  
7.30 for 8.00pm



**Sarratt Village Hall - Refreshments served from 7.30pm**

Dr Heather Falvey is Chair of the Hertfordshire Association of Local History and a Lecturer in Local History at the Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge. Her talk will trace and describe The Grove and some of its owners from the fifteen hundreds to the start of the eighteenth century, prior to the arrival of the Dukes of Clarendon.

**Non-Members welcome - £4 on the Door**

[sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org](http://sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org)

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> September**, we are delighted to welcome **Joe Stilgoe and Liza Pulman**, who will be performing their brilliant show "**A Couple of Swells**".

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

The **classical music stars of the future** will be performing on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup>** 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 27<sup>th</sup>** 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 4 August** and booking forms will be widely available including in the Community Shop. Tickets can also be booked on our website - [sarrattfestivalofmusic.co.uk](http://sarrattfestivalofmusic.co.uk)

## MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING



**10am-12.30 on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**  
**Parish Room, St Paul's Chipperfield**



# Flower Festival 2025

## A Weekend of Colour, Joy, and Community Spirit

This year's Flower Festival embraced the theme of 'Celebrations', and it truly lived up to its name with a weekend full of colour, fun and community spirit.

The church was adorned with what many declared the **best flower arrangements ever**, created by our talented team of arrangers. Each display beautifully captured life's special moments—christenings, weddings, anniversaries—as well as cherished community traditions such as Bonfire Night, Harvest Festival, and May Day. National celebrations, including the Coronation, the Chelsea Flower Show and Crufts, also featured in the stunning floral arrangements. A heartfelt thank you goes to our incredible flower arrangers for their creativity and dedication.

We are also deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to the festival in so many essential ways: baking cakes, serving teas, beers, and burgers, welcoming visitors, managing the car park, running stalls, cleaning the church, and setting up and taking down tents and signage.

A special thanks to **Blue and Green** and **The Jolly Jazzers** for providing wonderful musical accompaniment and to **Lou's Sextet** who made our Friday evening go with a swing.

A particular shout-out goes to the **Friends of Holy Cross Committee**, whose tireless efforts made the festival such a resounding success.

We were especially delighted this year to have the generous support of **local sponsors**. Sincere thanks to: JAF Property Services, Robsons Estate Agents, Adams Nurseries, KIA, Biggerstaff's Garage, VDBM, Motorvation and Chapman's Native Beef & Lamb.

Their contributions helped us raise an incredible **£12,738** to support the ongoing preservation of **Holy Cross Church**, ensuring it remains a place of beauty and community for generations to come.

**Thank you to all who made this year's Flower Festival truly a great success!**



If you missed out, please go to our website  
<https://www.friendsofholycross.co.uk> where you can see pictures of  
 all the flowers and if you wish to make a donation please contact  
**Richard Cawdron -[richardcawdron@yahoo.com](mailto:richardcawdron@yahoo.com)**

*There also some pictures on the back cover of this issue.*

**Sue Clark - Chair of Friends of Holy Cross**

## **Defibrillator at Holy Cross**

Holy Cross PCC felt there was a need to provide a defibrillator, not just for the Church but for the wider community. Therefore, they have installed one on the outside of the toilet building in the Church car park, which is accessible to anyone who may need to use it.

The What3words for this location are: **Organ Fluid Itself.**

The post code is **WD3 6HE**

**This was made possible by kind donations from The British Heart Foundation, Friends of Holy Cross and Sarratt Parish Council.**



## SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

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

### **“My Volunteering Experience at Sarratt Shop & Café” by Clara**

As part of my Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, I've been volunteering at Sarratt Shop and Café - and it's been one of the most rewarding things I've done. At first, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I thought I'd be stacking shelves or washing dishes, but it turned out to be much more than that. From day 1, I was welcomed as part of the team. I learned to work the till, serve customers, make hot drinks and help keep the café tidy.



The best part has been the people. I've met so many friendly faces—locals who pop in and volunteers who give up their time to keep the place running, and visitors who are always happy to have a chat. It's been lovely getting to know everyone and realising just how important the shop and café is to our community.

Volunteering here has taught me responsibility, teamwork, and confidence. I've really enjoyed working collaboratively with everyone and my confidence has increased as I've learned how to be more patient and how to communicate with people that I've never met before.

The Sarratt cafe has become a very popular place for people to sit, chat and socialise whilst they enjoy the high quality, delicious refreshments of coffee, tea, bacon baps and pastries. Not only that, there is also freshly grown fruit, veg and flowers grown in the cafe garden run by community volunteers.

Overall, it's been a really worthwhile experience doing my volunteering for The Duke of Edinburgh Award and I'm grateful for being made so welcome by everyone at Sarratt Shop and Cafe. I look forward to seeing many of you again soon as you enjoy the delicious refreshments on offer and come to socialise with friends old and new.

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

# Sarratt Horti Visit to RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival 2025

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 49 “Sarratt gardeners” set out on the coach driven by Andy (our regular summer outing driver!) for the Garden Festival at Hampton Court.

After sitting in traffic and admiring the sewage treatment works for some time, we finally arrived and went into the Festival. Lots to do, see, eat, drink and buy!

The floral marquee provided an array of flowers and plants with lilies, dahlias, alliums, salvias, agapanthus and much much more. Across the Long Water was the Home and Lifestyle Market and an array of stands and small gardens to look at and enjoy with the Rose marquee providing an amazing scent. You could buy anything from the practical (shears & tools) to the completely impractical – hot tubs big enough to swim in and sculptures of all shapes and sizes.



The gardens were all very different – curious, allotments, balcony, RSPB, Alan Partridge... the list goes on – all giving ideas of what we could do.

A hot day so Pimms and ice cream were high on the agenda with an array of tasty options to eat.

A long walk back past the magnificent Palace to the coach with an assortment of plants and purchases in hand. The M25 did not disappoint but an air-conditioned coach with Andy at the wheel made it feel better – with a few snores being heard!

A great day for all – and thank you Jennifer Haynes, Chairman of the Horti for organising.

# Sarratt CE Primary School



On Monday 7th July, we had the pleasure of taking part in a Paralympic Roadshow delivered by the Herts Disability Sports Foundation. The children thoroughly enjoyed participating in inclusive games such as Wheelchair Basketball, Boccia and sitting volleyball.



special to celebrate these through one of our shared passions—sport.

It was a fantastic event filled with fun and lasting memories. A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored our Fun Run—your support made this experience possible!



That same week, we also held our School Summer Fair—and what a day it was! The sun shone brightly as our entire community came together to support the school. The event was filled with lively stalls, fun games, inflatables, performances, and of course, plenty of singing!



It was a joyful celebration that perfectly capped off a hugely successful year for our newly formed PTA. The dedication and teamwork of its members have been truly invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for their efforts.

# Sarratt Community Garden

It's been a long while since we last gave an update, but having finished a first draft of my thesis, I have been able to take a breath, and take stock of the garden.

The hot dry spring created near perfect conditions for pollination – lots of pollinating insects were out and about, it wasn't very windy in a way that blows off fruit tree blossoms, and there wasn't a severe late frost. As a result, we have had fruit-set like never before, including APRICOTS, plums, greengages, apples, pears and quinces – very exciting.

But then came a prolonged dry spell – until 18 July, there hadn't been any significant rain since February, and it was getting desperate. Our methods are very water-conscious – we mulch heavily, never leave bare soil, and collect rainwater (18,000 litres at the Community Garden), but even then, the garden was suffering. The relief when the heavens opened, not just for a paltry hour or two, but for days, was palpable!

This year's volunteers are incredible – always cheerful and hard-working, whether attacking bindweed, thinning apples, watering, manning the stall, making up flower bouquets or doing the accounts. I have been forced to delegate this year, due to my full time MSc, and they have more-than risen to the challenge of keeping this wonderful project alive and thriving.

Find us every **Saturday, 10.30-12.30** behind the shop for beautiful fresh fruit and veg, and cut flowers.

## PINTS OF VIEW

Our first get-together after the summer break will on **Monday, 15th September**, at **The Boot**, beginning at 8pm. Sue Clark will lead an informal discussion on the topic *"Challenge to Democracy. Does the democratic process work in the age of digital media?"*

Pints of View is an informal forum in which to exchange views and explore topical matters, aspects of faith and moral issues over a pint of beer, a glass of wine or a soft drink. Everyone is welcome.



# Sarratt WI

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Our usual meeting in Sarratt Village Hall was replaced in July by a very enjoyable outing to Waterperry Gardens in Oxfordshire. Waterperry was previously a horticultural school and we all enjoyed the fabulous colours of the flowers within the eight acres of ornamental gardens. The current custodian is the educational charity, The School of Philosophy and Economic Science. Some of us went on the Philosopher's Trail along the river path where there are oak plaques hand carved with thought-provoking words such as self-control, goodwill, forgiveness, endurance, goodness and compassion.

After lunch, we gathered for a tour of Waterperry House, a historic country house with 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century additions. The highlight, however, was the frescoes completed in 2006 which cover a large interior area of the house extending to three floors. The project involved re-discovering the art of fresco, painting directly into wet plaster, and took 12 years to complete. It is one of the largest frescoes of its type in the UK. We were highly entertained by our guide as he recounted the



stories depicted on the walls. Our grateful thanks to Diane Wade for organising the trip.

Our July walk was in Chalfont St Giles, finishing with lunch at Rowans Garden Centre.

In August we will be meeting for Afternoon Tea at Blue Diamond (Van Hage) in Chenies.



From September, we will meet as usual 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. New members are always very welcome.

## **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:**

9am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,

10.45am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

### **St Paul's Services:**

10.45am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,

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](http://achurchnearyou.com)



## CHURCH CALENDAR

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

**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](http://achurchnearyou.com)

### AUGUST 2025

#### **Sunday 3      7th Sunday after Trinity**

9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's

#### **Sunday 10      8th Sunday after Trinity**

9am	Morning Worship with Baptism	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross

#### **Sunday 17      9th 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 24      10th Sunday after Trinity**

9am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross

#### **Sunday 31      11th Sunday after Trinity**

8am NB time	Eucharist (Book of Common Prayer)	Holy Cross
10.45am	5th Sunday of Month Benefice Service	St Paul's

### SEPTEMBER 2025 (first part of month)

#### **Sunday 7      12th Sunday after Trinity**

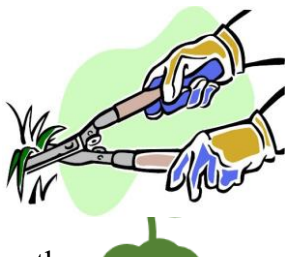
9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's

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

# Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers



It was a very hot morning on Sunday July 13<sup>th</sup> for the Wildlife Volunteers task. We were raking up the cut grass down at the far end of Sarratt Green near Morton's Pond. Andrew



had cut this earlier in the week, and due to the heatwave and lack of rain, the grass had not grown as tall as sometimes, so there was less to rake. Even so it was a very hot job, but thank you to all the volunteers who turned up as usual with hats and water bottles.

The cutting of The Green is done to a plan, this far end is left until the beginning of July to allow the flowers and grass to mature, then the next section is left until October to allow later flowers such as Harebells and Lady's Bedstraw to flourish - look out for them around the Old Pump. We are fortunate to have special wooden hay rakes which make the task much easier, and we are also grateful that we now have a few more volunteers. Andrew takes the hay in his trailer to the allotments where it eventually becomes compost. It was a sociable occasion too as we all went over to Gordon and Brenda's, who kindly provided coffee and biscuits to enjoy in their beautiful shady garden.

Next time we shall be back at Penmans Green. Meet there at the top of the hill from Belsize at **10am on Sunday August 10th.**

If you would like to join us, do just turn up, or for more details about the Wildlife Volunteers, contact

**Dawn, 01923 267071 or [dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com](mailto:dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com)**

## Sarratt Tennis Club Finals Day

Well, with Wimbledon gone and a new set of champions in place, Sarratt Tennis Club is working through its rounds of matches in time for Finals Day on **Sunday 7 September**, starting approx. 11.00am.

The day should be packed full of exciting games from Men's singles, Men's and Women's doubles and mixed doubles. It would be great to see as many people as possible from the village come along and support the event - bring a picnic, enjoy the barbeque and perhaps a chilled glass of wine or beer, we can almost guarantee sunshine!

# Sarratt Football Club



Pre-season is in full flow at King George. We have a full set of friendly fixtures at the Pavilion, culminating in the annual SarChip Cup on 2nd August against neighbours Chipperfield Corinthians.

Jack Maynard, Perce Bowler and Dave Marsh remain at the helm of our First Team for the 2025/26 season. They begin their Spartan South Midlands Division Two league campaign on Saturday 9th August, welcoming Milton Keynes Irish Reserves to WD3.

Our Reserves will shift into gear throughout August, when a set of friendlies against Chipperfield Reserves, Old Manorians, Tring Corinthians U23s and Oxhey Jets A will build to opening day of the Herts Senior County League Division Three, on Saturday 6th September. Russ Fardon continues to lead the team, whilst a vacancy remains open for a co-Head Coach position.

You can keep up to date with all the latest Sarratt FC news on social media. Find us at:

**@SarrattFC on X/Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.**

Admission to King George V Playing Fields on matchday is FREE!

Draught beer, tea, coffee, cold drinks and snacks are all available to purchase in the KGV Pavilion.

**We look forward to welcoming you soon!**

## **Upcoming Home Fixtures (Subject to Change)**

22nd July – Friendly vs. Chesham United U18s (6:30pm)

26th July – Friendly vs. Great Missenden (3:00pm)

2nd August – Friendly vs. Chipperfield Corinthians (3:00pm)

9th August – 1<sup>st</sup> Team vs. MK Irish Reserves (3:00pm)

# Sarratt Scout Group

Gavin Daly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



Dear Readers, we are once again on the lookout for new adult volunteers!

Our **Training Advisor** is stepping down in a few months time and we need someone to take over from her. The Training Advisor doesn't actually deliver any training, rather the role is about monitoring the adult volunteers' training and ensuring everyone is up to date.

We also need an **Assistant Treasurer** to help with bank payments and other admin bits. You don't need to have any accounting experience.

Both jobs can be done from home and take no more than an hour a week. No prior experience of Scouting is needed.

And we are also looking for **adult volunteers to assist the Section Leaders**, by helping at our weekly meetings - but this doesn't need to be every week, and a couple of meetings each half term would be a huge help. Or perhaps you would like to come along to a meeting to talk to the young people about a particular interest or hobby that you have. If you would like to find out more about any of these roles please get in touch at [gsl@sarrattscoutgroup.org](mailto:gsl@sarrattscoutgroup.org)

The Beavers have enjoyed the activities we have organised during the last few weeks of the Summer Term. A highlight was their Charity Walk which started on Chipperfield Common, down to Apostles Pond, across to Commonwood and up the hill past King George V Playing Fields. Songs were sung along the route, but the children were grateful to end the walk at The Boot, Sarratt, where they celebrated their accomplishment with medals, a certificate and a well-deserved ice lolly. The Beavers' chosen charity, Playskills, is a brilliant local organisation that originated in Chipperfield. Donations are still welcome on our [justgiving.com](http://justgiving.com) page - "1st Sarratt Beaver Group - Fundraiser for Playskills".





We are so grateful for all those who help with Cubs in one way or another, whether that be guiding us through sessions, taking us paddleboarding or teaching us life skills. This term we were privileged to have Richard, one Cub's grandfather, join us for Pond Dipping at Sarratt Beach, teaching us all he has learnt as a biologist and worker for [bugdiversity.co.uk](http://bugdiversity.co.uk). Sarah Dobson kindly delivered us an excellent



paddleboard session (but not without getting rather wet!) and local volunteer Jan delivered a fascinating session at the Sarratt Community Garden. And as with all terms, this one

ended with some fond farewells and some congratulations; farewells as we said goodbye to those Cubs moving on to Scouts, and also to Elfrieda who has been an excellent warranted leader this past year. Big congratulations to Persephone Clarke for achieving her Chief Scout Silver Award. We wish all our Cubs and their families a wonderful, adventurous summer!



Scouts have had an amazing June/July, lots of stand up paddle boards, rafting, and adventures. But we must focus on our emotional last meeting of the scouting year as we said a farewell to Charlie and Greta (and Jacob, Sam and Lottie although they were not there!). Charlie and Greta were in charge for the evening, they organised all the games and activities, pretty much a greatest hits games compilation/all the things I won't let them do normally! Charlie and Greta's parents arrived at 8.30 for our farewell ceremony, some "wise" words from the Leaders, some top tips on how to enjoy scouts from them both and a compilation of photos from their time in Scouts. Charlie, Greta and Lottie have attended almost all possible meetings and camps, they have enthusiastically joined in everything and over the last few months have shown some amazing leadership skills guiding our youngest members through all sorts of activities including navigation, rafting, the famous Green Beret weekend to name but a few. We'll miss them hugely and our remaining Scouts really do have something to live up to, they have



set a high standard to follow. Our loss is the Explorer Unit's gain and we look forward to hearing their tales of adventure as they move onto their next Scouting stage.

Explorers have been outdoors every week this term. Since the last edition of Spotlight they've toasted marshmallows and chocolate bananas over open fires at the Chorleywood Campsite and spent another evening on paddleboards down at the Aquadrome where the water temperature was like a bath! They've also visited Restore Hope, a charity based in Latimer, that focuses on inspiring, training and equipping people to fulfil their potential, through a wide range of fun activities, events and courses for children, young people and families. The Explorers learnt about bee-keeping, and all the people the charity supports as well as discussing some fund-raising ideas the Explorers could get involved with.



However the highlight of the term was our trip to Dorset, staying in a bunkhouse at Butchers Coppice campsite near Bournemouth. On the Saturday morning they braved the Power Fan - basically jumping off a very high pole in free fall but then a fan clicked in to bring them gently back to earth - they were braver than me!

Our plans to sail and kayak in Poole Harbour on the Saturday afternoon were cancelled due to the windy conditions, but the organisers came up with a Plan B - high speed 8 metre Ribs around Poole



Harbour (where they all got chance to drive the Rib) and then a high speed dash out on the open sea (thankfully instructor led).....possibly the best Plan B I've ever come across (!!)

followed by fish & chips. The Explorers had a blast!! Sunday was a ferry boat ride to Brownsea Island, home of the first ever



campsite and the resting place of one of our Explorers great, great grandfathers. A fabulous weekend all round!

The last meeting of term was another paddleboard session at the Aquadrome, where we said farewell to several of our Explorers - Katie and Imi who will be 18 before we re-start in September, the age when they need to leave Explorers. All being well Katie is off to university in September, whilst Imi has another year to go in Sixth Form and we are delighted that she is going to continue her scouting journey by becoming an Assistant Leader with Cubs during that time.

We also said farewell to Daisy, Isla, India and Bella who have decided to focus on their GCSEs for next summer's exams. Some of them have been with Sarratt Scout group since they were Beavers - over 10 years ago. It has been a pleasure to see them pass through Cubs when I was the Cub Leader and then to guide them through their adventures when they joined me in Explorers a few years later. We wish them all the very best in the future.

There was also another goodbye, this time to Gareth, one of the leaders. Gareth is also leading the complete refurbishment of the Chorleywood Scout Hut, and needs to free up time to manage that on top of his full-time day job. Gareth has been a huge help over the last couple of years for which we thank him, and again we wish him all the best.

Finally, if you would like to get involved helping with the Scout Group in any way please contact us at [info@sarrattscoutgroup.org](mailto:info@sarrattscoutgroup.org) and if you have a child who would like to join the Scout Group please contact us at: [admissions@sarrattscoutgroup.org](mailto: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 8 July**.

### **PLANNING**

- **Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan** - The Examiner has requested a few minor changes, which the NP sub-committee will work with TRDC on. It will then go to the TRDC Planning & Resources Committee to approve moving to a referendum. All being well the referendum should take place early in the autumn. SPC will encourage all parishioners to vote at the referendum and ideally in favour of adopting the plan.
- **Right Of Way Footpath 34 Consultation** - An email with details on the consultation encouraging parishioners to participate will be sent out on the SPC email distribution list and flyers placed in the Village Shop. Responses need to be made to Herts County Council (HCC) before 21 July. The proposal is to turn footpath 34 along the tarmac track to John Adam's Nurseries into a combined pedestrian and cycle path as this is a pre-requisite requirement from the Burlington Property Group planning permission appeal, that requires it to be agreed before the next stages of the development can progress.
- **Clovercourt Development: 25/1028/FUL - Houses to the rear of 76 to 78 Church Lane:** A Full Planning Application has now been submitted for this. Church Lane residents from homes close to the site attended the meeting to express their concerns over the development. Cllr Farman explained that as Outline Planning Permission had been granted on Appeal, the development would likely go ahead, but comments could be made on the details now presented in the Full Planning Application. Parishioners wishing to view the application should type the reference number 25/1028/FUL into the search field on the TRDC Planning Portal:  
<https://www3.threerivers.gov.uk/online-applications>

Looking at what is being proposed by the developers in this application, concerns are now emerging that conditions placed on the initial outline permission being granted have been altered:

- The initial 20 homes defined as affordable and shared ownership has been reduced to 10 market priced and 10 affordable.
- No community amenity is included - required if the new homes are not all affordable.
- The mix of 2, 3 and 4 bed homes has also altered with more of the larger properties.
- Sufficient parking allocation in the light of the alteration of the type of homes.

Cllr Farman asked the residents for copies of any information relating to the above or any other aspect that may challenge the proposed plans for the site to be shared with SPC to support their response to the application.

- **TRDC new Local Plan** - The TRDC Full Council approved a further Reg 18 Consultation at their meeting on 8 July. The consultation will last 6 weeks from 16 July to 31 August. Parishioners can view this here: <https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/news/local-plan-regulation-18-consultation> There are 9 sites in the Parish which parishioners may wish to comment on. SPC is concerned over the size of some of the developments on these new sites, and that they may be being assessed in isolation without consideration of their proximity to other sites in this consultation or sites already approved for development in the Parish. In addition, TRDC are only required to consult on the new sites arising from their recent call for new sites, which went out in order to increase the number of new homes they need to build in the district over the next 16 years to meet the new target of 13,500 homes by 2036 set by central government. They may also decide to put previously rejected sites back into the plan to meet or get close to the target number of houses. SPC's concern is because these previously rejected sites have already been consulted on (of which there were some in Sarratt), they do not form part of this latest consultation. So SPC has no visibility of the full list that could go through to Reg 19 in the Autumn, by which time it is very hard to change the proposed sites. SPC is working with the other Parish Councils and the Residents Associations to raise their concerns with TRDC.
- **Government's new Planning and Infrastructure Bill**

This new bill currently going through parliamentary consideration includes changes that aim to speed up planning decisions, such as:

- Small planning developments of between 9 to 50 dwellings may be overseen by Planning Officers with no comments being taken. This

could mean Councillors cannot review Officers' decisions by reviewing them at Planning Committee meetings.

- Changes to the statutory consultee process may well streamline the process but may have negative unintended consequences.

Chris Berry at CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) is to ascertain key details for Cllr Farman.

### ***Planning Applications reviewed:***

- **25/1123/PDE: Tarn, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD4 9DQ - Prior Approval: Single storey rear extension (depth 8.00 metres, maximum height 4.00 metres, maximum eaves height 2.75 metres)**

*SPC: Noted. Although this represents a sizeable expansion, we welcome investment in this property. It is a shame that the previous, smaller scale and aesthetically preferable application for this site was refused. We encourage the applicant to use the opportunity of these changes to improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling beyond what is required by building regulations.*

- **25/1146/PDT: Tarn, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD4 9DQ - Prior approval: Enlargement of the dwellinghouse by the construction of one additional storey (2.65m height) and raising of roof ridge to result in an overall height of 8.33m (Class AA)** *SPC: same comments..*
- **25/1109/NMA: Sarratt School - Non-materials amendment to planning permission 24/0990/FUL to allow alterations to external materials from timber cladding to brick.** *SPC: Noted*

### ***Recent TRDC Planning Decisions:***

- **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. TRDC: Approved (note: no decisions on the other applications for this site yet)*

- **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. TRDC: Refused

- **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 TRDC: Approved
- **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 TRDC: Approved
- **25/0735/FUL & 25/0736/LBC: The White Cottage, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BL** - Replacement windows including bays SPC: No objection TRDC: Approved
- **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, has no impact on neighbours and would result in a better, more in keeping development compared to using permitted development options TRDC: Approved
- **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. TRDC: Approved
- **25/0438/FUL: The Grove Hotel, WD3 4TG** - Erection of golf academy building with associated infrastructure and landscaping works. SPC: No objection TRDC: Approved
- **24/1950/FUL: Cottage Farm, Redhall Lane, Chandlers Cross, WD3 4LT** - Demolition of existing buildings and construction of four dwellings including terraces with associated landscaping and parking provision. SPC: We welcome the intention to redevelop the underutilised and deteriorating existing buildings and the aim to bring biodiversity net gain to this site. As the site is in Green Belt, exceptional circumstances are needed to override policies to allow building of new dwellings. Unfortunately, we do not believe that 4 bedroom houses match the local needs and as such do not qualify as

*exceptional circumstances. We would like to also note that it is understood that most of the current vehicle traffic enters the neighbouring site, so the result of this application may lead to an increase in vehicle traffic on the application site.*

*TRDC: Approved [restrictions added to the permission that remove rights for permitted development and further class changes, as well as prevention of external lighting without further planning permission]*

- **25/0784/NAC: Land at Berrybushes Farm, Langleybury Lane, Kings Langley - Temporary planning permission for use of land for film making for 18 months to include construction of temporary set pieces storage, stationing of support services and parking. Dacorum Borough Council 25/01039/MFA TRDC: No objection**

### ***Planning Appeals:***

No further updates to report on the following:

- [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

### **ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY**

- Plans are being made now for further work to be undertaken in the Autumn on the Woodland Management Plan. There should be additional government funding for this.
- Morton's Pond is once again being cleared (in an ecologically sensitive way) by the Chiltern Society at no cost. Huge thanks to them.
- Ongoing thanks to the Wildlife Volunteers who continue to enrich the ecosystems, particularly in Commonwood where their work has enabled perennial and annual flowering plants to flourish and benefit local biodiversity.
- Likewise, thanks to the litter pickers, who make a huge difference to the appearance of the Parish.
- Please note, the watering of any young trees in the parish is open to all – please do throw a bucket of water onto any tree you are passing – they will appreciate it!

- CPRE petition on ‘Saving the Green Belt’ – Parishioners can read more on this and sign up to the petition here: <https://www.cpreherts.org.uk/news/save-our-green-belt-our-campaign-for-amendment-of-grey-belt-definition>
- Gate repair on path across Dawes Lane to Dawes Woods - Julian Thornton from the Herts RoW Team has asked his works team to get the gate re-hung on a new post as soon as possible as it has been outstanding since February.
- Re-routing footpath 34 onto the bend on Sarratt Road - The Clerk advised this was now with the HCC RoW Team.
- Oak tree on the track leading to John Adam’s nurseries - The Clerk advised the fence had adjusted so it no longer abuts the tree.
- Land asset register and maintenance schedule – currently being updated by the Clerk, Andrew Whitewood and Jo Deacon.

## **HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Zerny gave an update on his progress on Highways issues with our new County Councillor Louise Price. Cllr Zerny advised:

- Cllr Price had been very pro-active in answering Cllr Zerny’s requests for information and action.
- Gulley clearing in Buck’s Hill, that a resident spoke about at the last SPC meeting, should be completed by September.
- The flooding episodes at Bucks Hill have been addressed by the Officers.
- North Hill and Bucks Hill resurfacing is not in the 2025/26 planned maintenance schedule. Cllr Zerny had hoped some of the less critical roadworks proposed could be deferred to the following year to create space to address North Hill and Buck’s Hill, but this is unlikely. He will work with Cllr Price to ensure they are included early in the 2026/27 programme of work.
- Parishioners should continue to report all road faults and flooding on the HCC Highways portal.

## **POLICY AND RESOURCES**

- **June payments & receipts** – these were approved, together with the bank reconciliations

- **Q1 Budget** - Cllr Lowry presented the Q1 summary showing spend year to date against the budget was ca. 30%. This is to be expected due to the payment of the 2025/26 Grants in April and the summer months requiring more groundwork (mainly grass cutting) compared to the Autumn and Winter months.
- **CCLA Public Sector Fund** - Cllr Lowry will ask the internal auditor if she has further recommendations at this stage, before opening the account and transferring £54,000 (equivalent to the 50% of Precept that SPC needs to hold in Reserves) agreed at the last SPC meeting in June. The CCLA account will generate a higher level of interest on monies held in Reserves than the existing SPC bank accounts.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

### **KGV Pavilion and Playground Update**

- The work on the pavilion refurbishment has now gone out to tender with 6 contractors requested to submit their quotations within a month. The shortlisting and assessment will be undertaken by Spicer Surveys who will make a recommendation to the Project Team. It is hoped to appoint a contractor in September.
- Cllr Alder has forwarded the recent ROSPA report on the playground to the equipment installer, who will attend to make the repairs, including addressing the height of the roundabout from the ground. Thanks were given to former Cllr Mortimer and Andrew Whitewood for undertaking the more minor repairs.

### **Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**

Cllr Farman shared the latest information received from various sources on the LGR process:

- This process, mandated by Government is to reorganise the current 11 councils in Hertfordshire (10 District Councils and the County Council) into unitary authorities that cover all the services provided by the councils. These unitary authorities will be part of a wider economic development area that has an elected mayor, a budget and strategic level remit for some services. It has not yet been determined which other areas Hertfordshire will be joined by for the economic development area.
- Hertfordshire have ruled out a single unitary authority option for their proposals due to be submitted to the Government in November, in part due to the fact that the population is too big (ca. 1.2 million

today). 500,000 or less is the recommended guideline. They are proposing options for the consultations for splitting Herts into 2, 3 or 4 Unitary Authorities.

- The parishes and existing town councils' structure will not be changed by these proposals.
- Consultations will move from private to public soon, where they will be seeking feedback on their proposals.

The next meeting on the LGR within the Three Rivers district with the Parish Councils is on 28 July.

#### **Various Other....**

- **Defib at Holy Cross Church** - This is now on SPC's asset register, registered with the National Defib Circuit, added to SPC's insurance and added to Catapult defib maintenance schedule.
- **Sarratt School** – the Village Hall have kindly donated their table tennis table, quick cricket and legs for a badminton net to the School. Thanks to Andrew Whitewood and Nick Mortimer for transferring the equipment from the hall.
- **Doctors' Surgery in Church Lane** – the Clerk has contacted the Practice Manager at New Road to arrange repairs / painting. Awaiting outcome / action.
- **VJ Day 80th Anniversary, 15 August 2025** - Cllr Diggins to look into holding a small service to mark the date.

**The next meeting of Sarratt Parish Council** will be held at **7:30pm on Tuesday 12 August** 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](mailto:clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**‘Dear Mrs Mortimer, I would like to join the Village Email Service. This is my email: .....’**

**Lena Mortimer – Clerk to SPC**

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