

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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The Benefice: http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7595 the Village: sarrattvillage.co.uk

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

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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

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@threerivers.gov.uk

Mr. Oliver Cooper Oliver.cooper@threerivers.gov.uk

HERTFORDSHIRE CC County Councillor Louise Price 0300 123 7481 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

Rector's Ramblings

As the leaves turn to gold and the first hint of crispness fills the air, October marks a turning point in our calendar. Summer holidays are a distant memory and the rhythm of life seems to accelerate. For many of us, the coming months are a whirlwind of activity—Harvest celebrations, Remembrance services, Advent preparations, Christmas festivities, and all the school, work and family commitments that go with them.

It's easy to feel swept away by this rising tide of busyness. We wear it like a badge of honour, a sign that we are productive and valued. But in our haste to do more, we risk losing sight of the one thing that truly grounds us: our relationship with God. The ancient story of Martha and Mary, with Martha bustling about and Mary sitting at Jesus' feet, has never felt more relevant. Jesus' gentle reminder that "only one thing is needed" (Luke 10:42) is a profound challenge to our modern, frantic lives.

This October, let us try to be a little more like Mary. Let us find moments of quiet intentionality, even if they are only ten minutes long. Let us choose to be present rather than just busy, to listen rather than just act.

And what of the wider world? A quick glance at the news headlines can feel overwhelming. Conflicts, political divisions, and the struggles of millions remind us that we live in a broken world. As Christians, it can be tempting to either shut out the news to protect ourselves or to become so consumed by it that we are paralysed by despair.

The Gospel offers us a different path. It calls us not to indifference, but to a prayerful and compassionate response. We are a people of hope, not because the world is perfect, but because we serve a God who is actively at work within it. In the face of global challenges, we are called to be beacons of light—to pray for peace where there is conflict, to show kindness where there is cruelty and to offer comfort where there is sorrow.

As a village church, our ministry is both local and global. Our local Harvest service, with its beautiful display of goods for local Food

Banks, is a tangible sign of our commitment to our neighbours. Yet, it also connects us to the worldwide harvest—to the millions who hunger and to the God who provides. Our Remembrance service, as we honour those who gave their lives for peace, is a sober reminder of the world's enduring need for reconciliation.

So, as we navigate the busyness of the coming months, let us do so with a deeper purpose. Let us find our anchor in God's peace. Let us pray for the world, not with a sense of helplessness, but with the conviction that our prayers and our actions, however small, are part of His grand and loving plan.

Every Blessing Revd Sarah

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:6-7



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**,

6th October, beginning at 1.30pm and finishing at around 3pm.

Please email Fay if you would like to know more fay.dent@live.co.uk





Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan Your Future, Your Plan

On Thursday 6 November 2025, the Sarratt Neighbour Plan referendum takes place. The polling station will be Sarratt Village Hall.

A Neighbourhood Plan is a *planning* document. It sets out what things we, in the parish, would like to be considered as part of any planning application or call-for-sites consultation. The Neighbourhood Plan allows us to have different policies to the rest of Three Rivers, in order to address local needs and concerns in Sarratt. For example, to conserve the historic character of villages and hamlets, edge-of-settlement developments will not generally be supported, thus hopefully preventing urban sprawl into green fields.

The Parish Council started the process to make a Neighbourhood Plan for Sarratt in 2018, but it has taken seven years and five statutory consultations, navigating Covid-19 lock-downs preventing public meetings and the sad death of the Chair of the working group, John Carter, in 2023. We would like to thank all those who took part in the Public Consultations ensuring this plan represents local views.

The independent external examiner has now deemed that the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan meets all legal requirements and Three Rivers District Council have issued a Decision Notice for it to go to a referendum.

If a majority of people vote 'Yes' in the referendum, then TRDC must adopt it. A large turnout gives the result more weight as the voice of the Parish.

The plan does not give us a right of veto, but if adopted it must by law be taken into account in planning decisions.

The Neighbourhood Plan consists of twelve policies and is available, at http://sarrattneighbourhoodplan.org/

Please take a look and don't forget to come to Sarratt Village Hall to VOTE on 6th November!

WHAT'S ON WHEN – October 2025

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...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group: 9.30-11.30am every Monday, term time only, in the Pavilion, KGV Field. 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. Cubs (8-10)and meet Thursday evenings. Enquiries info@sarrattscoutgroup.org

Netherby Bridge Group: 2-4.30pm, Thursdays in the 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

KGV FIELD NEEDS YOU!!

The Management Trustees of King George's Field, Sarratt, are trying to raise much needed funds for the re-development of the KGV pavilion, so that it can continue to serve the local community for years to come.

The last time the pavilion was refurbished was when it was rebuilt in the 1980s. The improvements will include new male and female changing rooms, individual shower cubicles, a modernised kitchen/bar area, upgrades to the main hall area and increased storage space.



Following a tender process, we have selected a builder and secured some funding from Three Rivers District Council, but we do not currently have enough for the build!



We're looking to raise an additional £50k from the local community.

Can you help?

If you would like to donate funds - £10, £100, £1,000 *or more* - towards the build or have any brilliant fundraising ideas or have first-hand experience in fundraising for charities, please contact{

Kate Coleman at kate.coleman@ee.co.uk.

We look forward to hearing you!

King George's Field, Sarratt. Charity number: 266708

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

We are pleased to announce the birth of **Noah Richard Gaisford Payne** on 5th August at 4:24pm, weighing 8.6 lbs, to Shannan Gaisford,, lifelong villager. After a long week in hospital, parents Shannan and Joe Payne were able to take him home happy and healthy.



On Saturday, the 26th of July, Annie and Andy Bilko used Sarratt as the backdrop to their wedding day. At 11:45 in the morning, Jenks picked up the bridesmaids and the mother of the bride to take them to the church.

Annie followed them in a VW convertible beetle driven by her father.

It was lovely to see Sarratt Church full of people. Reverend Sarah carried out a lovely service. The Madness song 'It must be love' raised the rafters.

After the beautiful service, Jenks transferred the guests to the Boot pub where they were met by Zoe, who had laid on entertainment, drinks and canapés.

All too soon it was 3 o'clock and we made our way over to the village hall where the wedding breakfast was served and we danced the night away until 11 o'clock.



Such a beautiful happy day

Patricia Fraser was born in Somerset on 7th September 1942. Her parents, who were both actors, moved to Hampstead where Tricia, as a young girl, walked the dogs and babysat the children of many of the well-known actors who lived there. This was to be an advantage later in her life when she held fundraising events for the National Animal Welfare Trust (NAWT), the charity she had founded, as they were only too happy to attend.

Patricia devoted her life to dog rescue and ran the NAWT branch at Watford for many years as well as opening another one in Somerset. Her favourite breed was whippets and she adopted several over the years two of whom, together with an elderly lurcher, survive her.

She lived in Dawes Lane, Sarratt, for many years before moving to Chipperfield a few years ago. She was a member of Sarratt U3A joining several groups and was a keen and knowledgeable gardener.

Patricia died on 11th August and on 9th September her many friends gathered at Chiltern Crematorium to remember her with fondness.

Members of Sarratt WI were very sad to hear of the death of **Breda Tiernan.** Breda played a central role in WI, as WI secretary and walks leader for many years. Sarratt residents may remember seeing Breda on her daily walks around the village.

May she rest in peace. An obituary will follow.

Arranging Harvest Festival in Holy Cross Church

We shall be doing this on the afternoon of 3rd October at 2pm. - not the Saturday as normal, because on Saturday 4th we will be preparing for the Harvest Supper.

Please come along to help with the very lovely casual decoration of Church and bring any flowers, fruit or foliage.

Everybody welcome. We look forward to seeing you.

Sarratt Horticultural Society

AGM

Wednesday 15th October 2025

8pm – Village Hall

Talk by:

James from Shantock Nurseries

Followed by wine & nibbles

All welcome -

Members and non-members *FREE!*

SARRATT CARE

RUN BY THE COMMUNITY FOR THE COMMUNITY

SARRATT COMMUNITY LUNCH

Enjoy a lunch with old friends or make new ones at the community lunch.

Join us in the Village Hall Monday 20th October at 12.30

To book please call Jacky Creed on 519975 or 07769045270

COFFEE CORNER AND TREATMENTS

Hairdressing, chiropody and massage all available in the village at affordable prices or just pop in for coffee and cake.

Available in Village Hall 10.30-12.00 Wednesday 1st 15th and 29th October

To book please call Jennifer Haynes on 590542 or 07743 133736

TRANSPORT TO APPOINTMENTS

Do you have a doctors or hospital appointment and don't know how you are going to get there?

Call 07565 399349 to arrange for one of our volunteer drivers to take you.

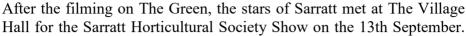
SARRATT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Founded 1888



Autumn Show 2025 Review

Saturday 13th September



Gardeners swapped stories about how the long hot summer had affected their vegetables and the recent heavy rain had ruined their flowers. But despite the grumblings, the Hall looked wonderful as clearly many plants had prospered.

The best roses in the village were displayed by Ian McClelland. The dahlias in Sarratt had clearly prospered in the summer and Sarah Altman and



Steven Booth shared the Dahlia Trophy. The cups for 'other flowers' as well as the vegetables and fruit were won by Steven Booth. The best fruit or vegetable exhibit was the runner beans grown by Peter La Farge.

The cookery prize was collected by Julie Mansi with Sarah Altman winning the Staughton Cup for her lovely blackcurrant jam. Ted North was the clear winner of the Arts and Crafts section and his miniature chest of drawers was an outstanding piece of craftsmanship. Daphne



Clapinson's floral art creations earned her the trophy in a close-fought class. The children's section was shared by Sam and Jack Kiely and Emily Tyler.

There were three newcomers to the show who all exhibited high quality entries. Ron Higgs

was the winner of the Merle Liddy Trophy for best new entrant with some magnificent garlic, onions and shallots.

The overall winner of the show was Steven Booth, who also won the Morton Neal trophy for the most points across Spring and Autumn shows.

Whilst the exhibits were fabulous to see, the main event was meeting up with friends and neighbours over a hot drink and delicious homemade cakes.

October Sunday Market

When to the sessions of sweet silent thought I summon up remembrance of things past, I sigh the lack of many a thing I sought, And with old woes new dear time's waste: Then can I grieve at grievances foregone, And heavily from woe to woe tell o'er The sad account of fore-bemoaned moan, Which I now pay as if not paid before, But if I find the Sunday Mart, dear friend, All losses are restored, and sorrows end!

So come and find the Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday** 19th October, to end your sorrows and see our memorable selection of crafts, bric-a-brac, home-made bakery and affordable antique stalls. Tea and coffee is available with biscuits and/or home made cakes. Start is 10am, til 12.30.

Any enquiries please ring Larry on 265386.

Grey Knights

The Grey Knights – they're brilliant. The Village (thanks to Dennis Jenks) has a lovely 1932 Bedford bus – brilliant.



Jenks' bus is kept in use by subscriptions and donations -brilliant.

All Grey Knights and donators are – brilliant.

If you are not one you can be – brilliant.

Call - Alan Milsom – brilliant.

Now - 07917-800623

THE ARTS SOCIETY RICKMANSWORTH

Charity No. 1102829

In 2025 we celebrate 50 years since the creation of our Society.

'London's Lost Department Stores - Cathedrals of Desire'

Tessa Boase

This month we will learn about an important aspect of social history and architecture. London's sumptuous Victorian and Edwardian department stores changed London and changed many of the city's women. Shoppers from all strands of society were lavishly wooed, seduced and sometimes undone by the temptations laid out before them in these new 'cathedrals of desire'.

In our fully illustrated presentation, fabulous period images display a vanished era of glamour, confidence and style.

Tessa Boase is a social historian and journalist who specialises in bringing to life 'invisible' women from the late 19th and 20th centuries. She is an accredited national Arts Society lecturer.

Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Tuesday 14th October 2025 Sarratt Village Hall

Refreshments from 10.30am and presentation at 11am.

Non-Members are welcome to attend, suggested donation £10.

This is the second lecture of our exciting 2025/26 programme. Join our Society now to experience a fascinating art and design series from world class speakers at a fraction of the cost of events offered by major galleries. Members also enjoy visits to centres of arts and culture and Special Interest study days. To enquire about membership, ring;

Irene Dubuis on 01923 496670.

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

CHARITY PUB QUIZ

AT THE COCK INN, SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 8th OCTOBER 2025

STARTING AT 8pm

ENTRY £2 PER PERSON, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 6 PER TEAM.

CASH PRIZE FOR THE WINNING TEAM WITH AT LEAST HALF OF ENTRY FEES BEING DONATED TO:



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

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**

Stand Up Sarratt

Top Flight Comedy Returns to the Village Hall!!

12 months after the first sell out show in the Village Hall, The Last Laugh Comedy club returns to Sarratt on **Friday 10th October** for their 4th Comedy night in the village – and this one is set to be the best yet!

Headlining is the absolutely brilliant Steve Royle – finalist of Britain's Got Talent, regular at the comedy store and with TV credits including Peter Kay's Phoenix nights and Max & Paddy's Road to Nowhere. Steve is a powerhouse performer with a unique blend of stand-up, physical comedy (including juggling!) and show stopping energy. Compere for the evening is Carl Jones, known for his engaging style and quick-fire punchlines. We have Roger Monkhouse, one of most original voices in British Comedy- his material is intelligent, thought provoking & delivered with razor style wit and Justin Panks, delivering big laughs and unforgettable stand up that always makes an impact.

Doors open at 7pm with show starting at 8pm and finishing around 10pm. Cash & Card bar serving reasonably priced drinks all night.

At the time of writing, tickets were selling fast but if still available can be purchased online at <u>lastlaughcomedy.co.uk/Sarratt</u> or by scanning the QR code on the flyer through your door. Or the poster either on the Village Hall noticeboard or at Sarratt Stores.

PINTS OF VIEW – 20 October



Come and join us at The Boot in Sarratt on Monday, October 20th, at 8pm for Pints of View. Rob Hidick will lead our informal discussion on the topic:

Education. How should children be encouraged to question news sources?"

Pints of View is an informal forum in which to exchange views and to explore topical matters, aspects of faith and moral issues over a pint of beer, a glass of wine or a soft drink (there's a 'buy-your-own' drinks policy). Everyone is welcome.

John Guy





QUIZ NIGHT

A fundraising event for the Sarratt Scout Group

Sarratt Village Hall

Doors open: 7pm Quiz starts: 8pm

£10 per head

Raffle (please bring cash!)

Bring your own food – plates, cutlery & glasses supplied (and washed up!)

There will be a bar serving beers, wines and soft drinks at reasonable prices. We kindly request you purchase your drinks from the bar. If you wish to bring your own drinks, there will be a £5 corkage charge per bottle.

Tables of up to 10 people.

So, gather some friends, make up your team, and join us on 8th November for a fun evening in support of your local Scout Group. We can also put individuals together with others to make up teams.

To attend, please email us at: events@sarrattscoutgroup.org



Safeguarding Sarratt and strengthening our community

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Join us on **Wednesday 8 October** at 7pm for a 7.15pm start at the **Cart & Horses marquee**, Quickmoor Lane, Commonwood WD4 9BA; and meet your neighbours to hear about responses to the 13,300 houses proposed for the Three Rivers area.

The pub is offering Fish & Chips or Lasagne for only £9.95. Orders need to be placed directly with them by Saturday 4th October, please call 01923 263763.

How can I join the Residents Association?

All residents of Sarratt Parish are counted as members. We cover Sarratt, Belsize, Bucks Hill, Chandlers Cross, Commonwood and Penmans Green. Register for our e newsletter at:

https://www.sarratt-ra.co.uk/sign-up

Whilst membership is free, we encourage voluntary donations of £5 or £10 to help support our administration costs.

Everyone is welcome at our AGM; bring your family or on your own, it's a great chance to meet friends and neighbours.

At the meeting you will have the opportunity to elect officers and committee members, and hear:

- About sites for new houses and what happens next
- What is likely to replace Three Rivers District Council in 2028
- The brief story of the 170 rocks placed along Croxley Green
- A 15 minute talk on some very local crimes of the 1900s

Need more information? David Zerny 07910 312352 or Stephen Morrill 01923 263182

SARRATY COMMUNITY POST OFFICE STORES

SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

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

As well as pumpkins, parsnips and hot chocolates October will also see a **return of the film crew to Sarratt Post Office Stores** which, on this final visit, will focus on scenes being shot inside the shop. This will take place **on October 15th.** To allow for the interior to be transformed back to the 70s and then returned to present day we have decided that, with the Health & Safety of all customers being paramount, to close either side of this date, meaning:

Sarratt Shop and Post Office will be CLOSED on: Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th October

We apologise for any inconvenience that this will cause and have made this decision on balance of the fact that the fee earned can be invested directly back into our community asset and help make our five year equipment plan a reality – a great start as we enter our FIFTEENTH year as a Community Interest Company!

With many thanks for your understanding and patience with this we look forward to seeing you soon and invite you to follow us:

Facebook: sarratt post office stores
Instagram: @sarrattpostofficestores

Grey Knights

The Grey Knights is very pleased to announce that Dee Gomm has joined the committee and will be the Treasurer. We are delighted to have someone with her expertise and knowledge on the committee. We remember the great work our friend and colleague Andy Todd did for the Grey Knights, and other organisations, for many years.

Alan Milsom - Chairman 07917-800623

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

If you would like to donate at our Harvest Thanksgiving Service, here are some of items that New Hope need:

Baby and Child
Aptamil formula
Branded
nappies from
size 3 onwards
e.g. Pampers
Jars of baby
food with
long shelf life
Nappy sacks
Wipes -
sensitive or
water based
Drinks
Cans of fizzy
drinks
Coffee
Individual
cartons and
large cartons of
long-life juice
Instant hot
chocolate
Long-life milk
Small bottles of
water

Dahu and Child

Squash Tea Groceries Baked beans BBQ sauce **Biscuits** Breakfast cereals/ porridge pots Brown sauce Cereal bars Chocolate spread Chutney/pickle Cooking oil (not olive) Cup a Soups Dried herbs. (chilli, oregano, thyme, parsley, mint) Individual bags of crisps Individual chocolate

bars/biscuits Dishwasher Jam Ketchup Marmite Mayonnaise Mug shots Pasta Pasta sauces Peanut butter (smooth) Pot noodles/ super noodles/ pasta pots Salad cream Salt and pepper Stock cubes Sugar Supermarket vouchers Tinned tomatoes Tinned tuna Household Air freshener Antibacterial

cleaner Dishwasher tablets Kitchen foil/clina film Kitchen rolls Scourers/cloths Washing powder Washing up liquid Wooden disposable cutlerv **Toiletries** Brushes Combs Conditioner Paper towels Pump soaps Sanitary towels Shampoo Shaving gel/foam Toothpaste

multi-purpose

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' <u>achurchnearyou.com</u>

Sunday 5 HARVEST THANKSGIVING 16th Sunday after Trinity

	9am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service	Holy Cross		
		Food donations will be gathered for	or New Hope		
	10.45am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service	St Paul's		
		with Communion			
		Food donations will be gathered for	or DENS		
	12.30pm	Benefice Lunch	St Paul's Parish Room		
	•				
Sunday 12 17th Sunday after Trinity					
	9am	Morning Worship	St Paul's		
	10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross		

OCTOBER 2025

9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	All Together Service with Agape	St Paul's
6.30pm	Compline (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross

Sunday 26 Last Sunday after Trinity

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

NOVEMBER 2025 (first part of month)

Sunday 2	ALL SAINTS' DAY	(Sunday nearest 1 November)
9am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's
4.30pm	All Souls Service	St Paul's
6.30pm	All Souls Service	Holy Cross

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

Sarratt CE Primary School



Our first full five-day week of the new academic year has been bursting with energy and enthusiasm as children dive into exciting new areas of learning. From Sea Farers and Ancient Egypt to Ocean Habitats and the Mayan Civilisation, pupils have been thoroughly engaged—discovering fascinating facts and developing fresh skills.



Beyond the classroom, it's been a hive of activity. Our new temporary classroom is nearly ready, and we're thrilled to welcome our youngest learners into their new space next week.

Meanwhile, the village has been buzzing with excitement as The Green has been transformed into a film set! We're aware this has made drop-off and pick-up a little more challenging, and we truly appreciate the patience and understanding shown by our whole community.

Mrs Nicola O'Hare, Head of School



SARRATT SCHOOL BINGO NIGHT

Join us for a fun evening of Bingo! Tickets £12 (includes three games)

FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER SARRATT VILLAGE HALL, WD3 6AS 7PM DOORS OPEN

Sarratt PTA registered charity number 1095298

Scan here to buy tickets or visit www.ticketebo.co.uk/sarratt-schoolpta/bingo-fundraiser



Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers

On Sunday September 14th, we were again at Commonwood. As we are all realising, autumn had come early, and the morning was quite



chilly but dry, the threatened rain fortunately not appearing until later in the day.

This time we were working down near the lower road near Dellfield. There is a triangle of grass there and an interesting area of chalk grassland, on a slight slope where the underlying chalk is nearer to the surface than in some areas. This results in a different and precious range of flowers which love the chalk.

Each year, we have the grass cut on both sections in early September and rake it up for our September task. The grass has to be cut and cleared away if we want the flowers to flourish, as wild flowers thrive in low-nutrient soils.

In past times when meadows and commons were full of flowers, sheep would have eaten the grass and kept it very short. This allowed the more delicate flowers to thrive. Hedge Bedstraw and Ladies Bedstraw grow here, an Field Scabious, Wild Basil and Wild Marjoram, and plenty of Knapweed, all these attract bees and butterflies. Do go and have a look at this little area in the height of Summer, it's buzzing!

Around the glade area there are also berries for the birds to fatten up on – the dull red of hawthorn, bright scarlet of rose hips, blackberries, sloes and elderberries, a delicious feast.

On **Sunday October 12th**, we shall be working at Dawes Common, on our favourite task of Bramble Bashing to allow yet more bluebells there to appear. Please help if you can, **10am there**, tools provided.

Contact **Dawn**, <u>dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com</u> or **07985-492501** for more information about the Wildlife Volunteers.

Sarratt WI

Our excellent speaker this month was Annie Brewster, High Sheriff of Hertfordshire 2024-25. Annie took us



through the history of the office of High Sheriff which is the oldest royal appointment in the UK. The role dates back to Saxon times when each Shire had a representative of the crown called a Reeve. Over time 'Shire Reeve' became 'Sheriff'. Annie mentioned that she was pleased to discover that Sheriffs in the US have their origins in this country.

The High Sheriff was originally appointed to maintain law and order in the county and later to collect taxes on behalf of the King. The role included being in charge of hangings! They had to agree to the hanging, be present, check the noose and sign it off. High Sheriffs became very powerful and 20 of the 63 clauses of Magna Carta were designed to curb their power!

A nomination panel approached Annie four years before she was appointed but she had to keep it secret. In 2024, she received a Royal warrant asking her to be High Sheriff and she had to promise to behave herself (although she did confess to two speeding offences whilst she was in office!) Her name was written on velum which the King pricked with a bodkin to ensure that it couldn't be removed.



Annie is only the 14th woman to hold the title of High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, two others being Lady Joanna Staughton of Sarratt and Lady Shelagh Nichols of Bucks Hill. The uniform of the High Sheriff was standardised in 1869 and whereas most female Sheriffs would wear a skirt.

Annie chose to wear breeches like the men, which also allowed her to wear a sword. Her hat was made by a lady in an upstairs room in Luton, the traditional home of hat-



making, and is topped by a magnificent ostrich feather. Pam volunteered to try it on!

As High Sheriff, one of Annie's roles was to proclaim the new monarch at County Hall. Another was to be a returning officer at the election. She chose to go to Welwyn Hatfield and after standing for 5 hours (glad that she was wearing comfortable shoes and grateful that there wasn't a re-count!), she

announced that Grant Shapps had lost his seat. The papers the next day made a lot of comments about the ostrich feather on her hat!

Today's High Sheriffs often focus their year on a particular local issue and the theme Annie chose was Sport for Good. As a former runner, she is very aware of the benefits that being active has in promoting well-being in all sorts of ways. Of all her engagements during the year, a third were related to this theme. She gave over a hundred awards to people who have been in the background as volunteers at local sporting events – the people who would be least likely to put themselves forward. Charities do a huge amount of work for the benefit of local communities and this is an opportunity for them to be thanked. She particularly enjoyed seeing the way that physical activity has been hugely beneficial in the lives of young people who have experienced trauma as children.

When asked to speak to young people, Annie's advice has always been, "Try and do your best in everything you do and see where it takes you." Annie's own experience has clearly been a great example of this.

Julie won this month's competition for 'an interesting hat'. Her hat had a lot of badges on it but it was the Blue Peter badge that swayed it!

Our meetings begin at **2.15pm** on the second Wednesday of each month in **Sarratt Village Hall**. New members are always very welcome. On **Wednesday 8th October**, Kay Goddard will be speaking to us on The Pattern Path to Freedom.

We also organise a **walk on the fourth Wednesday of each month**, ending with lunch at a local pub. There is the choice of a short or a long walk – usually about 4 miles. In August we walked around Bovingdon, finishing at The Bell with a delicious lunch. On Wednesday 24th September our walk is in Croxley Green.



Sarratt Football Club

We've continued to make steady progress after a lightning start to the new Spartan South Midlands Division Two season, remaining within the top four spots. We quickly rebound after defeat at home to



Aston Clinton by securing a point in a hard-fought draw at Newport Pagnell Town Development.

We closed August with back-to-back victories. Harry Foot's brace was added to by Ebou Joof and the Evans brothers (Ollie & James) finding the net in a 5-2 demolition of Caddington. Ollie found himself on the scoresheet three days later, when further goals from substitutes Charlie Kindell and Roman Pirani wrapped-up a 3-1 win over Padbury Village. Despite losing at Milton Keynes College in September, Ollie notched his fourth goal in as many matches for the win.

Our Reserves are fighting hard to gain their first points in the new Herts Senior County League Division Three season, but are focused on the upcoming first round match in the Hertfordshire FA Saturday Junior Cup, the county-wide trophy we lifted in 2024.

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!

Upcoming Home Fixtures (subject to change)

4th October - First Team vs. Eynesbury United (3:00pm)

18th October - First Team vs. Tring Corinthians (2:00pm)

25th October - First Team vs. Chipperfield Corinthians (3:00pm)

Tom Scarborough

Club Secretary & Welfare Officer, Sarratt FC

Sarratt Tennis Club

Finals Day was held on Sunday 7th Sept. Matches commenced with the Men's Plate Final contested by Shirish Chauhan & Dominic Curtis, a new member this year. After many close games, Dominic won 6-3, 6-1. The Men's Singles Final took place between Craig Bennett & Simon Ashby. Craig had a flying start and took an early lead, but then Simon found his rhythm and both of them battled it out with many long and tense rallies. In the end, Simon was victorious with a final score of 6-3, 6-1.

The Mixed Doubles Final was next, with Jo Horwood & Mike Rogers vs Emma Dickins & Simon Ashby (who was allowed a short break after his previous match!). Simon & Emma ,who were a strong new pairing, won the first set 6-3 but then Jo & Mike's combination of solid net play and coverage at the back of the court came into play and they took the second set 6-1. This gave us a thrilling tie break (accompanied by a variety of noises) and ending in victory for Jo & Mike at 10-7.

The last match was the Men's Doubles Final, Simon Ashby & Mike Rogers vs Shirish Chauhan & Paul Curtis. After a short break, as this was Simon's third match in a row & Mike's second, play commenced with the well warmed-up pair taking the first set 6-3. Chauhan & Curtis then rallied, taking the second set 6-2, so another Championship tie break was played. This went to the wire with many exciting passages of play; eventually Chauhan & Curtis managed to win 12-10.

We had many close matches, fine weather and a great crowd to watch the games and enjoy the BBQ. Many thank go to Kath Curtis for arranging the food & refreshments, to Nick Ratliff and Simon Hammett for their BBQing skills & for all others who helped tidy up afterwards.

Training has already begun for 2026! Come and join us. Sarratt Tennis Club comprises local players of all levels who enjoy meeting up and playing social tennis so if you'd like to consider picking up a racket again or for the first time you'd be very welcome.

If you are interested please contact:

Jackie Youell - membership@sarratttennisclub.co.uk

Parish Council Report

Sarah Dobson



The following report covers the key points arising from the SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 9th September 2026

Announcements

SPC was very sad to accept the resignation and retirement, of the Chair of Sarratt Parish Council - Sarah Dobson. She had held the position for 6 years and been a Councillor for the Parish for 9 years.

Sarah was an extremely hard working and efficient Chair, and Sarratt has benefited from many projects, guided by her hand – such as the New Playground, the Millennium Walk and many more.

We wish her every happiness for a long and healthy and – knowing Sarah – busy retirement in beautiful South Devon and look forward to seeing her on her visits to Sarratt, to fulfil her commitments with Scouts and other organisations.

The new Chair of the Council is Lee Farman, our existing Planning Lead. We are very grateful for him generously 'stepping up' to fill the demanding role.

As mentioned last month – I (The Clerk) am on Jury Service from the 15th to the 25th September. I will, however, have my diverted phone on me and my laptop, so that I can keep up with emails during quiet times. I will endeavour to reply to anything urgent.

We need your help with...

- Casting *your vote* at the Village Hall Polling Station for the Sarratt Neighbourhood Plan. 6th November 2025
- If you have not done so already submitting your comments to the now formal consultation document from Hertfordshire County Council on ROW 34 (cycle path). Please email DMTRO@hertfordshire.gov.uk Your comments matter!

Councillors attending meetings on behalf of SPC

- Meeting with Cllr Steven Giles Medhurst and Cllr Louise Price, plus filmed an interview with Sarah on the function of Parish Councils which can now be views on the TRDC website.
- Discussed- inappropriate planning; disproportionate numbers of new homes; destruction of unique infrastructure and inadequacy of infrastructure such a roads.
- **Joint Parish Meeting** meeting comprises Cllrs and Clerks from the surrounding Parishes. Discussed Local Government Reorganisation and move to Unity Authorities.
- Have your say on the Future of Local Government in Hertfordshire by 30th September. See www.hertfordshire-lgr.co.uk for information and to have your say. SPC will circulate material on Local Area Forums to which you can go to learn more and decide how you will register your views.
- **KGV quarterly meeting** featured the Pavilion refurbishment plan. Cllr James Alder is to take over responsibility for this on behalf of SPC. A grant from TRDC and hopefully one from the Football Foundation, will leave the project with £50,000 still to find for the £400,000 total cost.
- This is an area for public benefactors to give generously to a local project.

Planning Applications considered:

York House School Sarratt Road WD3 4LW (25/1218/FUL) and Listed Building Consent (25/1219/LBC) Installation of solar panels on the roofs including flat and pitched roof forms

SPC: No objection: We support the effort to minimise impact and investment to making heritage site more sustainable. We cannot see any reference to required bat survey in the application, so would encourage the applicant to make sure this is included.

Silverfields Bucks Hill WD4 9AT (25/1465/FUL) Construction of single storey rear extension

SPC: No Objection

The White Cottage The Green Sarratt WD3 6BL (25/1417/FUL) & Listed Building Consent (25/1418/LBC) Replacement of existing

windows and existing bay doors; construction of rear orangery and side/rear porches; installation of new side/rear doors

SPC: No objection

Land Adjoining Sarratt Lane Loudwater (25/1294/FUL) Construction of 9no. residential dwellings (Use Class C3), with associated rerouting of public footpath, access, parking and landscaping works

SPC: We object to this application on the basis of the following: It is a development on the edge of a settlement on greenbelt land without any justifiable very special circumstances;

It is not a sustainable location due to the narrow single-track access, existing traffic issues in the area, before any additional traffic volume. This application would add the lack of viable sustainable transport options to this site;

Loss of local green space, a well-used public right of way, biodiversity and proximity to sensitive ancient woodland.

We recognise that the immediate local area is made up of large dwellings and the proposed 5-bedroom dwellings fits this context, however, there is not an identified local need for this size of housing. If the officers are minded to approve, we request this application is called into the planning committee.

Recent TRDC decisions:

Tarn Dunny Lane Belsize WD4 9DQ (25/1146/PDT) 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: 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.

TRDC: Approved

Tarn Dunny Lane Belsize WD4 9DQ (25/1123/PDE) 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.

TRDC: No Objection

King George V Playing Fields George V Way Sarratt (25/0541/FUL) 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: Approved

Appeals

15 Church Lane (APP/P1940/W/25/3358883) Subdivision of site and construction of detached bungalow with associated access and car parking. Ref. No: 25/0002/REF

Appeal dismissed - "The proposal would fail to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of The Green, Sarratt Conservation Area and does not make contributions towards affordable housing"

Member of the public at the SPC meeting connected to this appeal mentioned that a required report for the appeal was late and no accommodation was made possible to include the report information.

Highways

- When works are scheduled, the Clerk is able to forewarn the Village by posting the information on the website. If they are emergency works by, Cadent; UK Power; or Affinity Water – there is no warning given.
- North Hill is to be patched on the 27th September.

- Speeding concerns given to Cllr Price re the speed of cars travelling on Sarratt Road into Sarratt on Dimmocks Lane.
- More signage is requested to protect horses and riders.
- M25 nighttime closures have affected the lanes, filling them with diverted heavy vehicles and resulting in damage to walls and fences. As this is neither a Police or Herts Highways matter, The Parish Council will investigate signage, restricting weight and dimensions of vehicles in the lanes.
- There has been an increase in fly tipping. On no account should members of the public approach the criminal tippers just take a photo if possible and **call the Police.**

Environment and Sustainability

The Clerk guided the Councillors through the detailed report by Jo Deacon of HARBRO, on the quotations received by her on SPC's behalf for the works to be undertaken at the Cricketers Pond.

The works will be funded, in part, from the fees received from the recent filming work; a grant from the Countryside Management Service and SPC's reserves.

A quotation has been accepted and SPC looks forward to the work commencing later this month.

Policy and Resources

The bank transactions for August were reviewed and approved.

Signatories signed the formal paperwork to activate the CCLA account.

Next meeting

Tuesday 14th October 7.30pm, held in the rear room of the Village Hall. Members of the public 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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