

SPOTLIGHT

MAY 2026

visit sarratt.village.co.uk

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

ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE

SPOTLIGHT is produced by Holy Cross Church, Sarratt, for the people of the village and surrounding hamlets. We welcome reports from all village organisations and also items of general interest. Please note that the views expressed in the content of SPOTLIGHT, including any inserts, are not endorsed by Holy Cross Church.

HOLY CROSS - making Jesus known - a church for the whole community

EDITOR	Vacancy	sarrattspotlight@googlemail.com
ADVERTISING	Tony Bond	familybond@live.co.uk , 261941
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Tony Bond	familybond@live.co.uk , 261941

MORE ABOUT

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

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, SARRATT Revd Sarah Miles

New Vicarage, The Street, Chipperfield WD4 9BJ, or revdsarahcollins@outlook.com 07525 491496

Readers	Mrs. Angela Coakley	angelac3000@aol.com or 07584 240661
	Mr. Philip Waine	268904
Churchwardens	Mr. Neil Altman	neiljaltman@aol.co.uk or 07958 515506
Administrator	Anita Ayrey	holycrossstpauls@outlook.com or 264377
Friends of Holy Cross	Mrs Sue Clark	sue@suemclark.com or 07850 285471

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

Priest Fr. Richard Mway-Zeng, The Presbytery, 96 The Crescent, Abbots Langley WD5 0DS Tel. 266177 Sunday Holy Mass 10am Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30pm

Tuesday/Friday Holy Mass 10am

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

Chair	Cllr. Lee Farman	can be reached via the Parish office	01923 262025
Parish Clerk	Mrs Lena Mortimer	262025 or in case of emergency	07967 505590
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	00
	District Councillor	Mr. Philip Hearn	philip.hearn@threerivers.gov.uk	
	District Councillor	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:	01923-265881		
		e-mail: sarrattvillagehallbookings@live.co.uk		
SARRATT CARE	Hours: 10am - 12noon Monday to Friday	519975		
POLICE	Neighbourhood Watch non-emergency number	101		

Cover photo by Phil Mitchell

Rector's Ramblings

News from our Churches

Dear All. It has been a wonderful time for myself and my family getting to know so many of you in the community in what will be the past three years this coming July and we have felt very much welcomed and at home here. I am very grateful to all those in the community who have been so supportive in all we have been doing during this time; from our wonderful schools, cafes and community shop, along with all the smaller groups and individuals who have housed Nativity scenes for 'Walking Nativities' or joined in the knitting of hundreds of chicks and thousands of poppies!

As churches, we have tried to offer services and events which are inclusive to all in our villages and now, we feel the time is right to adjust our services so we can be more creative and offer more to our local families.

From the beginning of May, Holy Cross and St Paul's churches will have a new service pattern which will allow us the space to be creative and introduce new services to run alongside those we already offer. Below is our new service pattern. We look forward to welcoming you and getting to know new faces as we journey together through 2026.

Every Blessing

Revd Sarah

1st Sunday in the month

- 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion at Holy Cross church
- 3.30pm Forest Church St Paul's (coming soon)

2nd Sunday in the month

- 9.30am Morning Worship at Holy Cross Church
- 10.30am Holy Communion at St Paul's Church

3rd Sunday in the month

- 9.30am Book of Common Prayer at St Paul's Church
- Coffee and croissants served between services
- 10.30am All Together Informal Worship at St Paul's Church
- 6.30pm Compline at Holy Cross Church

4th Sunday in the month

- 9.30am Morning Worship at St Paul's Church
- 10.30am Eucharist at Holy Cross Church
- 6.30pm Prayer and Praise service at St Paul's Church

5th Sunday in a month

- 9.30am Book of Common Prayer at Holy Cross Church
- 10.30am Informal Benefice Service which will alternate between the two churches

Women Inspiring Women




Change of date!

May meeting will be on May 11th
1-30 pm due to the bank holiday

Have time away from your busy lives
with activities, conversations and
inspiring talks over tea, coffee & cake

We would love you to join us



May 11th we will be
meeting in the garden
at the Old Swan House,
The Common, WD4 9BY.

At 1-30pm to hear
about the history of
some of the surrounding
houses.

For more info contact
fay.dent@live.co.uk.

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. Three courses for a £7 contribution.

Join us in the Village Hall Monday 18th May at 12.30.

To book please call Jacky Creed – Details below

COFFEE MORNING 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 10.00 - 12-00 Wednesday 13th and 27th May.

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 between 10.00 and 12.00 weekdays to arrange for one of our volunteer drivers to take you.

Any other queries or to become a volunteer please call Jacky Creed 519975 or 07769 045270

Talk on Moor Park Mansion

What a tour-de-force we were treated to on Tuesday March 24th when speaker Alison Wall told us of the History of Moor Park Mansion. Alison is a guide at Moor Park so well placed to do a whistle stop tour through the many changes of building and owners over the centuries.

The Manor of The More was first mentioned when King Offa of Mercia gave the land and manor to the Abbey of St Albans about 795, about the same time he gave the manor of Sarratt too. There was no house then, this came about 1366, but by 1416 records show it as being a substantial brick house with a moat, lived in by one William Flete, a rich London merchant.

In 1521 Cardinal Wolsey, at this time a firm favourite of Henry V111 was made Abbot of St Albans and lived at The More. He upgraded it into a significant Tudor Palace at vast expense. Catherine of Aragon spent some of her retirement there, and Catherine Howard stayed there for a time. On Wolsey's death the house was taken over by the King, who installed John Russell of Chenies Manor as Steward and Ranger. One little story was of a bear kept at More Park for Bear Baiting, which was moved to Chenies as the house became unoccupied. The magnificent house eventually fell in to ruin and was demolished, but of course this wasn't the end of More Park.

In 1678 a new house was built for James, Duke of Monmouth, illegitimate son of Charles 11, some way from the original building, and this Palladian Mansion, much altered and modified is what we see today, with a subtle name change to Moor Park. Many rich and famous owners have come and gone – Benjamin Haskyns Styles who made a fortune in the South Sea Bubble fiasco, remodelled the house to make it eleven bays wide and five deep. Lord Anson, First Lord of The Admiralty had Capability Brown to remodel the grounds, one owner employed Robert Adam the renowned architect, the Grosvener family were there, and then Lord Leverholme of soap fame bought it in 1919. Over the years beautiful paintings and sculptures were installed, many of which remain to this day. It became a Golf Club in 1923 and is now owned by the Club, Three Rivers District Council who owned it for a time having sold it on in 1994.

Alison is a naturally fine speaker and we all came away knowing much more about an estate so near to us, which Royalty and famous names have made a habit of visiting through history.

SARRATT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

“Half a Pound of Tuppenny Rice”



Sarratt Shops and Businesses

in the 19th and 20th Centuries



Dawn Pitts – President of SLHS

TUESDAY 12 May 7.30 for 8.00pm

This year’s Pam Turner Memorial Lecture will be given by Dawn Pitts, who will describe the shops and businesses that traded in Sarratt over the last 200 years.

Sarratt Village Hall – Complimentary Refreshments served from 7.30pm

Non-Members welcome - £4 on the Door

sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org

FUN WITH FLOWERS

Four new workshops to get started with up your skills to be held in the main part of

at 7pm on **Monday 11th May.**

£5 per session. Bring your own flowers.

Very informal with coffee and chat too.

marilyn@justwebs.co.uk



arranging flowers/or keeping the **Village Hall**

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

It would be great to have some happy events to announce in Spotlight. Our coverage of births, marriages and other celebrations has been a bit limited recently.

We are always pleased to receive copy – particularly when it includes pics...

Please email us at sarrattspotlight@googlemail.com

May Sunday Market

There are twelve months in all the year,
As I hear many men say,
But the merriest month in all the year
Is the merry month of May!

So come and be merry at the Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday 17 May** with some merry bargains from our selection of crafts, jewellery, good used clothes, bric-a-brac, home-made cakes and affordable antique stalls. Tea and coffee is available with biscuits or home made cakes. **Start is 10am till 12.30**. Any enquiries please ring **Larry on 265386**.

PINTS OF VIEW 18 May

May Pints of View will be held at **The Boot** in
at **8pm**.



Sarratt on **Monday 18th**, starting

Paul Olney will introduce the topic for our informal discussion will be **“The United Nations.”** Can the UN operate effectively in a world where, according to the US thinktank Freedom House, three out of four people live under some kind of authoritarian rule? Come along on the 18th and consider how the world can be put to rights.

Everyone welcome.

John Guy

CHARITY PUB QUIZ

AT THE COCK INN, SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 13th MAY

STARTING AT 8pm



Entry **£2** per person,
with a maximum of **six persons** per team.

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

Additional prize for the funniest and most original team name.

Come along and enjoy a fun evening.

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

Email: info@cockinnsarratt.co.uk

Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group is now closed while renovation work is done on the KGV pavilion, and expects to be open again by the end of September.:

The Grey Knights

The Grey Knights AGM will be on Tuesday
Everyone is invited to attend and join in the
bar!



19th May at 7.30 in the Cock.
discussions at the meeting or at the

If you want to use Jenks for that special occasion, please call

Alan Milsom on 07917-800623.

WHAT'S ON WHEN – May 2026

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Mon 18	Pints of View	8
Tue 19	Grey Knights AGM	9
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June		
Sat 6 on	Bucks Art Weeks	16

...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

<p>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 SEE pg 9</p> <p>Sarratt Scouts: Sarratt Scout Group: For boys and girls. Explorers (aged 14-18) meet Monday evening, Beavers (6-8) and Scouts (10-14) meet Wednesday evening, and Cubs (8-10) meet Thursday evenings. Enquiries to info@sarrattscoutgroup.org</p>	<p>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</p> <p>Sarratt Rebels Youth Football Club: Training on Saturdays at KGV Field - www.sarratrebels.org</p>
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SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

(A Community Interest Company)

At the Heart of our Community Seven Days a Week

There's plenty happening at the heart of Sarratt this spring!

Our new, more efficient coffee machine is now up and running in Sarratt Green Café. Paired with a carefully selected range of beans, it's already proving a hit—particularly on busy Saturday mornings. From 2nd May, Saturdays will also welcome the Sarratt Community Garden Stall, adding even more reason to stop by.

With the café recently reaching standing-room-only at peak times, we're looking to expand our seating. If anyone has any unwanted garden tables and chairs in good condition that could find a new home with us, we'd be very pleased to hear from you.

We also have new chillers and freezers on order, due to arrive soon. These will allow us to refresh how we display and stock items, so if you have any suggestions on what you'd like to see more (or less) of, do let us know—we're always keen to respond -it's your shop!

These improvements have been made possible thanks to filming income and an SPC grant, helping us to keep moving forward. As we head into a new financial year, we know there will continue to be challenges in the current economic climate, but we remain optimistic and committed to serving the village.

We are incredibly grateful to our loyal customers and, of course, to our fantastic team of volunteers whose time and effort keep everything running.

Life in Sarratt is defined by the small things that bring us together—friendly faces, familiar places, and the convenience of having essential services right on our doorstep. Our village shop, café, and Post Office are all part of that everyday fabric.

A small change across the community can make a real difference. If each household chose to spend just an extra £10 a month locally, it would help ensure these valued services remain vibrant and sustainable for years to come.

That £10 doesn't need to be a big shift—perhaps a couple of coffees in the café, picking up a few groceries, a newspaper from the shop, or posting parcels at the Post Office instead of travelling further afield. Small, simple choices can add up to a big collective impact. As, ***every hour you volunteer and every pound you spend helps keep us in the village!***

May Bank Holidays - shop opening hours on both May 4th and 25th are 8am-12noon.

Sarratt CE Primary School



As we begin the Summer term, we are pleased to look Spring term filled with learning, celebration and

World Book Day brought stories to life as pupils and characters, celebrating reading and imagination full of colour, creativity and a shared love of books.

Our PTA continued to play a vital role, organising events that were thoroughly enjoyed by the children families. These events not only raised valuable funds community.



We were also proud to mark World Down's Syndrome Day, with everyone wearing their brightest socks to celebrate individuality, inclusion and our unique identities.

Alongside these events, we have been excited to see progress on our Early Years new build, on schedule for completion in July 2026. This development will provide high-quality learning spaces for our youngest pupils and represents an important investment in the school's future.

back on a vibrant and successful community spirit.

staff dressed up as favourite book across the school. The day was

popular discos and fundraising and generously supported by but also strengthened our sense of

We look forward to the Summer term ahead and thank our families and village community for their continued support.

The Brilliance of Bernini's Sculptures

By Antonia Gatward Cervizli

Gian Lorenzo Bernini (1598 – 1680) was a truly gifted sculptor and architect, the greatest sculptor of the 17th century. Our fully illustrated lecture will survey his astonishing career from his beginnings as a child prodigy to his final years managing a prolific workshop, and will examine his work in creating some of the greatest sculptures of all time. It will also examine the important role played by patrons & champions as well as his techniques. Anyone who loves art and sculpture will be greatly rewarded by joining us on 12th May.

Dr. Antonia Gatward Cervizli is an independent art historian specialising in Italian Renaissance and Ottoman art, who has taught at the Sabanci University in Istanbul. She is Course Leader at Sotheby's Institute of Art and teaches at the V&A Academy, the Courtauld Institute of Art and at the National Gallery.

Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Tuesday 12th May 2026 in Sarratt Village Hall

Refreshments from 10.30am and presentation at 11am.

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

Our website offers full details of our work and membership

TASRickmansworth.org.uk



The Friends of Holy Cross Church, Sarratt

Raising funds for the care and preservation of Sarratt Church. Registered Charity 1018991

“WANTED – LARGE FRIDGE”

Do you have a large Fridge or Fridge /Fridge Freezer you don't want?

If so the Friends of Holy Cross would like to hear from you.

We are looking to keep everything cool at this years' Flower Festival!

Happy to collect - Nominal price paid

Please contact Sue Clark – 07850285471 or sue@suemclark.com



The day started with clear blue skies and the rain and hail from earlier in the week was forgotten. The Sarratt Horticultural Society was here and people were bringing their exhibits for all to see. It was the 28th March which is earlier than usual for the Show, but a mild winter meant that daffodils were in full swing, although tulips were a little hesitant.

There were a large number of daffodils on display and Steven Booth was awarded the Best Bloom in Show as well as the daffodil trophy. Simon Hammett swept to victory in the 'other flowers' category with John Rickard winning the vegetables & produce prize. Philip Beausire exhibited some wonderful craftsmanship and was rewarded with the 'Luckhaus Plate'.

A large number of floral art exhibits led Sarah Altman being the eventual winner. were on display (although only the judge Mansi being the winner. And the Alfie Wheatley with two great exhibits.



to some close competition with Some lovely items of cookery got to taste them) with Julie children's section was won by

The Show attracted four first time Award for Novices went to Barnaby totted up for the whole Show, Simon Hammett was a clear winner and received the Bernard Downer Trophy in celebration of his achievement.

entrants and the Merle Liddy Jackson. When the points were

The Show was very well attended and the visitors were treated to a great display of local talents. The coffee & cake was a real winner with those that took the time to sit and chat with friends and neighbours. Thank you for supporting our Show.

Notes from Sarratt Mill House

I barely walked in our wood last winter. The deep, sodden leaf mould that floors it was so slippery and the paths made by the tractors were pure mud. Then in late January, one mild morning, I was astonished to see what looked like snow in the Wood and by the 'Hermitage'. I found my toughest Wellington boots and my stout wooden "Yorkshire" stick, and went carefully past by the Sluice gate and into the Wood. And there they were, thousands of the purist white snowdrops. They had somehow fought their way up through the great mass of sodden, rotting leaves and stood, so delicate, in shining streams down to the actual river.

Single elegant flowers, frilly double rosettes, some tall some small, some with a pale green frill, some with a tiny spray of green spots. All immaculate above the mud and squidgy leaf mould. It was, I decided, "The Year of the Snowdrop". So early, so pure and so determined.

I was wrong. While the 'snowy' covering had yet to completely fade, the daffodils took over. They were everywhere,... in the woods, in the gardens, along the roadside, in unlikely clumps in the middle of fields. Shining gold, pale lemon, almost ivory, scarlet or orange-centred, some tiny and cheeky, some showy and triumphant. However, grey the sky, there was this splattering, pooling and sprinkling of sunny gold at ground level wherever one looked. So not "The Year of the Snowdrops", but definitely "The Year of the Daffodils."

Then, before Easter, although it was early, high above the daffodils, the magnolias appeared. But where did all those magnolias alongside the road and in the gardens come from? The individual flowers seemed heavier, waxier and altogether more flamboyant than I ever remember.

Meanwhile, more quietly and slowly, the pale creamy mist of blackthorn blossom started to appear in the field hedges. Hardly noticeable at first, it has by now gone completely insane, huge clouds of Jersey cream spreading along the valley and high on the hillsides. I think of it as a shy delicate shrub, but not this year.

And now, so early in the year though it is, but infected with the urgency of all the previous spring flowers, this year... here are the bluebells! And they are appearing in the grass, on the river banks and alongside the road in places and quantities I have never seen before,

Though enchanted by the scattered flowers, I had to visit my favourite magical bluebell wood. A few hundred yards from the edge of that 'secret' wood, when we could barely yet see any blue, the scent of the flowers drifted across the meadow and gently washed over us. No one talks or writes about the scent of bluebell. As far as I know, only the traditional perfumier, Penhaligans, makes a bluebell perfume. Yet it is an utterly delicious and distinctive scent.

After the scent, the blue! Layers of different blues from deep cerulean nearby, through sapphire to misty palest azure, as the flowers spread across the wood, towards the River on one side and up the sloping hill on the other. This wood, semi abandoned for years, is full of fallen tree trunks and wind-blown delicate branches. And through and over them the bluebells, so delicate and fragile-looking, have seeded themselves and spread and flowered, undisturbed, year after year to get to this year's perfection. If a tiny old-fashioned children's-book fairy, with gossamer wings, appeared sitting on one of the slim fallen branches, one wouldn't even be startled.

The flowering all this Spring has been tumultuous. But for me it will end by being "The Year of the Bluebells!"

Angela Colman

BUCKS ART WEEKS, JUNE 2026

Barbara Robjant SWA

As part of this, I am exhibiting at home at **Hill**, Belsize, WD4 9DG. **Open 10am-5pm on Thursday 11, Saturday 13 and Sunday 14**

Please come and have a browse through my landscapes, still lifes and figures in acrylics and



'Corndean'. Little Windmill Saturday 6 June, Sunday 7, June

paintings, which are a mix of mixed media.

SPLAT

50 Years and counting



The pantomime group first formed in the 1970s. Since then, we have put on 19 Pantomimes, 2 Music Halls and 4 Variety Shows and enjoyed great support from the village, as well as raising money for local organisations and charities.

But time passes and the group (reborn in 1992) has lost key members and needs a renewal. We still have a core of people who can help put a show on, but we need the energy of some new members of the team.

We're asking around ourselves, of course, but there are many people we don't know and hope this appeal might encourage you to contact us – we'd be really pleased to hear from you..

Pam Hildick 267927 pam.hildick@btinternet.com

Anne Griffiths 265386 griffithsam@gmail.com

Peter Thorp 07815 060303 peter.thorp01@gmail.com

Tony Bond 261941 familybond@live.co.uk

We think it would lovely to have our village pantomime back

Tony – veteran of all 50 years

Do Something Brilliant Today

– Join Your Local u3a!



Sarratt u3a meets in the **Village Hall**, usually on the **second Wednesday** of the month. If you are retired, semi-retired or working part-time and would like to meet new people you are most welcome to come along to one of our meetings, chat to some of our members and find out what we do. While most members no longer work full-time - they come together for fun things to do in retirement - there isn't an age limit for membership. As well as the monthly meetings we offer more than 30 interest groups where we learn new skills together, make friends and, most of all, have fun!

Find out more on our website – sarratt.u3asite.uk

Registered Charity No 1139443

SARRATT UNITES in Response to Development Proposals

Sarratt has joined communities across the UK in the nationwide action day on Saturday, 18 April 2026, standing against unsustainable development on green belt land. Organised by the Community Planning Alliance, the campaign highlights 14,700 acres of threatened green belt and promotes a “Brownfield First” approach.

Supported by the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Badger Trust, and Bat Conservation Trust, alongside Chris Packham, the initiative also challenges planning deregulation and aims to influence upcoming local elections.

Locally, many residents are united in opposing a proposed development of 269 homes, around a 50% increase in the village’s housing stock. Many believe this scale of growth would strain infrastructure and alter

Sarratt’s character.

The response has been organised and evidence-based, with well-attended meetings, detailed objections, and strong support from local businesses and community leaders.

Concerns centre on infrastructure, environmental impact, and safety. Roads, schools, healthcare services, and utilities are already under pressure, while the site includes sensitive green belt land and wildlife corridors. Increased traffic on narrow rural lanes is another key issue.

Residents stress they are not against development, but support sustainable, proportionate growth. The message is clear: prioritise brownfield land and ensure development respects both environment and community.



Sarratt F.C.



It was a mixed end to March, with away defeats to Reserves (3-1) sandwiching a huge victory over College. Ebou Joof grabbed his 15th and 16th goals Cloke's strike in the 3-0 win.

Aston Clinton (2-1) and MK Irish then-second placed Milton Keynes of the campaign, adding to Will

The final month of the season began with the short trip to Bovingdon. Cloke opened the scoring before our hosts equalised just before the break. Bovingdon took the lead shortly after half-time, before young Charlie Kindell found the net to pull us level. Cloke once again was on hand to score the winner, wrapping up a famous 3-2 victory over our neighbours and title rivals.

At the time of writing, we have three games left to play, with a six point lead at the top of the table. This Sarratt team truly has the chance to write a remarkable history for the village!

Our Reserves still have a lengthy slate of home matches to play, and would love your support as the side battles the relegation drop!

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)

2nd May - Reserves vs. Harpenden Colts (3:00pm)

5th May - Reserves vs. AFC Evergreen (6:45pm)

9th May - Reserves vs. Bengoe Trinity (3:00pm)

16th May - Reserves vs. Bury Rangers (2:00pm)

*Tom Scarborough
Sarratt FC Secretary*

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

Rector: Revd Sarah Miles 07525 491496

Benefice Administrator: Anita Ayrey

holycrossstpauls@outlook.com 01923 264377

Everyone is welcome to attend any service in the Benefice

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

Church Opening Times

Holy Cross each day between 9am and 4pm

St Paul's each day between 10am and 4pm



CHURCH CALENDAR

**A new pattern of services & times of worship
begin this month – see below**

MAY 2026

Sunday 3	5th Sunday of Easter <i>1st Sunday of the month</i>	
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
3.30pm	<i>Forest Church coming soon, watch this space!</i>	St Paul's
Sunday 10	6th Sunday of Easter <i>2nd Sunday of the month</i>	
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's
Thursday 14	ASCENSION DAY	
7.30pm	United Deanery Ascension Day Service	St Peter's, Mill End
Sunday 17	Sunday after Ascension Day <i>3rd Sunday of the month</i>	
9.30am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	St Paul's
	<i>Coffee & croissants available between the morning services</i>	
10.30am	All Together Informal Worship	St Paul's
	<i>followed by Chipperfield Annual Parochial Church Meetings</i>	
6.30pm	Compline (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross
Sunday 24	PENTECOST Whit Sunday <i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	
9.30am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
6.30pm	<i>Prayer & Praise coming soon, watch this space!</i>	St Paul's
Sunday 31	TRINITY SUNDAY <i>5th Sunday of the month</i>	
9.30am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	Holy Cross
10.30am	Informal Benefice Service*	Holy Cross
	* this service will alternate between the two churches	

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

Sarratt Tennis Club



The weather is picking up and so are the tennis rackets! coached sessions – our new **Cardio Tennis**, combining get the heart pumping and limbs moving; and our **Junior Tennis** course for our youngsters.

Mid-April saw the start of two new exercise and tennis drills to really

We are also introducing a new coached session open to all for **Beginners, Improvers or Rusty Rackets**. Have you always wanted to have a try at tennis, need more confidence or haven't played since school, join us on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and develop your skills.

In addition to these new sessions, we also have our regular sessions for paid up members.

Mon - Cardio tennis with a coach – 6 – 7p.m. *^ “NEW”

Tues - Club Night – 6 – 7:30 p.m. and 7:30–9p.m.

(WhatsApp group sign up)

Wed - Beginners, Improvers, Rusty Rackets - 5:30 – 6:30pm. NEW

Wed - Women's Coaching - 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. *

Wed - Men's Coaching - 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. *

Fri - Club morning – 9 – 10:30 a.m. (WhatsApp group sign up)

Sat - Junior Coaching – 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. *^ “NEW”

Sun - Club morning – 9 – 10:30 a.m. (WhatsApp group sign up)

* Places can be booked via our website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/SarrattTennisClub>

^ Open to non-members, though we hope you'll become a member and enjoy reduced rates, access to club sessions and be able to book a court for personal use.

For existing members – if you'd like to be added to one or more of the WhatsApp groups please just use the e-mail below and let us know which one(s).

For any queries or more information please contact us at info.sarratttennisclub@gmail.com

Sarratt WI

Our very informative speaker in April was Dr at Dentaïd, the Dental Charity which was founded in overseas clinics. Since 2015 Dentaïd has also been targeting access issues for vulnerable populations in the UK, including vulnerable women, families living in poverty, survivors of abuse and people experiencing homelessness.



Catherine Rutland, Head of Policy 1996 to supply equipment to vulnerable populations in the UK, including vulnerable women, families living in poverty, survivors of abuse and people experiencing homelessness.

Imagine yourself as one of these people. You may know the importance of cleaning your teeth but your focus is on staying safe, getting enough food and somewhere to sleep for the night, not on dental care. You may have had a bad experience in the past – for example being told to “come back when you’ve had a shower” when you don’t have access to a shower. Maybe you’re really scared – scared of the world, scared of healthcare - or you live in a family that only has one toothbrush between you. Not being able to smile makes your confidence low, which may keep you from going to an interview for a house or a job. You may have lived in pain for a long time, unable to move forward in life. Or maybe you’re a fisherman, working at sea for long periods of time, dependent on the availability of fish to make a living and often unable to say when you’ll be available for an appointment.



Dentaïd has a network of clinicians across the UK who are willing to donate their time and skill to help the most vulnerable people in their communities to access care. They know that hard-to-reach patients face many emotional and practical barriers to accessing dental care, so using a fleet of mobile dental units they visit locations where their patients feel safe and comfortable. This includes soup kitchens, night shelters, hostels, community centres... and the quayside. Working with partner organisations, each clinic is attended by two members of Dentaïd staff as mobile dental unit officer and clinical supervisor, working alongside a volunteer dentist and dental nurse. They understand that their patients often live chaotic lives so rather than having fixed patient lists and appointment times, each venue provides a list of would like to see them and they are seen in the order they arrive.



In 2025, Dentaïd worked together with 192 partner giving over 50,000 dental treatments. You can find out by visiting dentaïd.org.

organisations, more about Dentaïd

Sarratt WI meets at **2.15pm** on the second Wednesday each month in the **Village Hall**. Newcomers are always welcome. Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 13th May** when we will be holding our Annual Meeting.

On the **fourth Wednesday of each month**, we organise a walk ending with lunch at a local pub.

For more information, please contact our president, Leone Ashby, on 07894421748.

Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers

On Sunday April 12th the Wildlife Volunteers were working at Commonwood. The weather was mild and dry, perfect for our task on the Common. We were looking for weak and spindly Sycamore trees on the middle part of the Common, up towards where the grass area begins, opposite Commonwood House. These trees had sprouted there beneath the large established oak trees.

The Sycamores were struggling, never likely to amount to much as they aimed for the sky on thin and straggly stems. They had to go. We worked hard with saws and loppers and eventually cleared an area to make a glade around the oaks, much better for other plants to grow in the available light.

In a change of plan, we shall be working on Sarratt Village Green on **Sunday May 10th**. Meet at the Flagpole at 10am.

For more information contact Dawn, 267071 or dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com

We're back!! Our apologies for the 'radio silence' over the last 2 months on what the Sarratt Scout Group has been up to. No excuse other than we missed the deadlines for the March and April editions!

As we return to our weekly meetings after the Easter holidays, each Section has planned an exciting programme of activities to make the most of the lighter and warmer summer evenings. So, a reminder that Sarratt Scout Group is open to boys and girls aged 5¾ to 14, with our Explorer Section for 14-18 years olds run with 1st Ricky Explorers. Anyone is welcome and can come along for 2-3 weeks to "try it out" before deciding to join.

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

If you have a child who would like to join the Scout Group please contact us at: admissions@sarrattscoutgroup.org

We also still need your help to fill some key roles for the Group.

If you care about the importance of scouting in young people's lives, helping them benefit from all the activities we organise for them, and if you value the role Sarratt Scout Group plays in our local community, please read on and let us know if you can help.

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

We also need another **Group Scout Leader** who can help with the overall running of the Group and some of the administration. This role is shared with other adult volunteers.

Both these jobs can be done from home, plus attending a leadership team meeting 3 times a year and take no more than an hour a week. No prior experience of Scouting is needed.

If you are more interested in working directly with our young people, 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 or helping with the Scout Group in any other way please get in touch at gsl@sarrattscoutgroup.org

Now, onto what each Section was up to during the Spring Term and what they have planned for the Summer.....

The Beavers focused on their My Skills Challenge badge through the Spring term. There are lots of parts to this badge and it goes towards their Chief Scouts Bronze Award, the highest award they can achieve in Beavers. Completing the badge included cooking, a musical evening, making an invention using junk modelling (one was even a castle with a working water feature!) and a balloon tower challenge. They also made flying saucers for on a hike around Mother's Day cards Morse Code Easter egg and Maya who Bronze Award. This Fun Day with other Rickmansworth and



Tolmers Scout camp and sessions on the water at the Aquadrome. We try to get outside as much as possible in the good weather so there will be

This term the Cubs have already enjoyed Scout Camp including the Leap of Faith,



their Air Activities badge, went Sarratt, made beautiful pop-up and enthusiastically completed a hunt. Congratulations go to Thea completed their Chief Scouts term we have our District Beaver Beavers from across Chorleywood, camping at

some outdoor activities at Paccar Abseiling and Pedal Karts. Last

term they enjoyed Easter activities including a Sarratt outdoor egg hunt and baking session. This term we are looking forward to lots of outdoor sessions including paddlesports and Backwoods Cooking, as well as joining Beavers on their outdoor camp in June.

The Scouts are trying to make a community impact once a month. Our March activity was a litter pick from the Village Hall to Dawes Common, covering The Green and Dawes Lane. There was much excitement with the odd and random items we found including 2 dog bowls, a kitchen knife and a full box of eggs high up in a hedge on Dawes Lane. We'd welcome some suggestions for ideas of how we can fill the rest of our Year of Community Impact. We've also been improving our Scout skills, readying ourselves for our summer activities, we've worked on our knots, navigation and first aid. In the summer term we have plans to go on an expedition, a camp, go rafting, kayaking, canoeing and on SUPs, and to celebrate St George's Day (the patron saint of scouts). We were assisted on our first aid CPR evening by a local GP who confirmed that most of my instructions and information to the Scouts was correct, but we've still got a little bit of work to do before we can be confirmed as CPR experts. We've welcomed some new Scouts from the Cub section and 2 who are new to scouting. And finally our need for first aid was greatly reduced at the end of the spring term as we said goodbye to Henry who has been a keen Beaver, Cub and Scout. Henry's keenness to be involved often spilling over into injury of himself or others. The first aid kit will see a lot less action in the future!

The Sarratt Explorer Unit is now combined with the 1st Rickmansworth Unit and meets on a Monday evening at the 1st Ricky Scout Hut when indoors. Brad and Cam, the Unit Leaders, run a varied programme of both indoor and outdoor activities. Most recently these have included campsite cooking, scavenger hunts, climbing, axe throwing and the high ropes at Paccar. They are also planning an exciting summer camp to include bouldering and sailing. Please use the admissions contact details above to find out more about the Explorer Unit.





Parish Council Report



News and updates from SPC, including

the key points

*arising for the SPC Meeting held on **Tuesday 14th April 2026**. Full minutes when approved and other information is available on our website sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk*



Find out the latest updates

To receive emails about any urgent or important updates for Sarratt Parish residents use this web link to sign up to this service run by SPC <http://eepurl.com/iZ4fes>

Sarratt Parish Council is the organisation (with one Clerk and volunteer Councillors) that help protect the Sarratt Parish environment and keep it as a good place to live and enjoy. It maintains the Parish assets such as The Green, the local woodland, allotments, KGV sports and recreation facilities and much more. We also connect our residents with District and County authorities to bring you news, update and to raise local issues. With the upcoming Local Government Reorganisation, Parish Councils will become more important as the local interaction with new unitary authorities. **So please join the Parish Council to do your bit. We have some vacancies and it is simpler than you think to be part of helping your community. Please contact the Clerk, Lena (contacts below) to find out more.**

Daffodils

Daffodils are one of the visual joys of the start of spring. These can be seen around Sarratt Green, but unfortunately some have found their way into the part of The Green that is a designated environmental protection area (the end towards Belsize). A number of volunteers who help manage and protect this area will be removing the rogue daffodils in the protected zone to help maintain the habitat balance.

Filming

South West Herts is an international hub for film and media production. Sarratt has a natural environment and historical assets that are desirable for filming projects. SPC is updating the marketing of these assets and its sustainable filming policies to help generate additional funds for the Parish to help protect and maintain our much-loved rural environment.

Audit

As a Parish council one of the many things we are required to do is undertake Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) which is a detailed process with an independent, external auditor. We passed this year's audit and we would like to thank the Clerk and our volunteer Councillors for their extensive efforts in achieving this impressive outcome with the limited resources we have.

HIGHWAYS update

Following last May's elections, a change of political leadership at Hertfordshire County Council and the new Lib Dem administration's focus on repairing potholes prompted SPC to engage more closely with Hertfordshire Highways. In response to parishioner concerns about potholes, slow response times and heavy HGV traffic, SPC wrote to Highways calling for a more strategic approach that better uses local knowledge and allows flexibility in budgeting.

SPC remains in dialogue with County Councillors and thanks Councillor Louise Price for her proactive support. In February she arranged a meeting with the Highways manager, who explained that maintenance is driven by set procedures, live traffic data and the volume of reported defects. Parishioners are therefore encouraged to report issues via www.hertfordshire.gov.uk.

By 12 March, 12,000 potholes had been repaired this year, with £107m allocated to the works programme and £30m for maintenance. SPC is continuing to press for local priorities, including road repairs, a 20mph limit at Sarratt Green, quicker pothole fixes and clearer communication.

20 is Plenty: To help improve safety and to mitigate delays waiting for traffic authorities to implement improvements, SPC will be implementing additional signage to encourage 20mph speed limit on the roads around The Green.

Upcoming road closures

You can find latest roads information online at <https://one.network/uk/hertfordshire>

North Hill - Dressing: 30th April to 5th May. Lining: 28th May to 1st June

The following roads have been notified for works within 18 months from the 22 May 2026:

- **Old House Lane**, from junction with Bucks Hill north eastwards for a distance of approximately 250m.
- **Bucks Hill**, from its junction with Toms Hill northwards and north westwards for a distance of approximately 592m.
- **A404** (Rickmansworth Road/Chenies Road/Amersham Road), from its junction with the M25 (junction 18) southbound slip road leading onto the southbound carriageway of the M25 north westwards to its junction with Green Street, a distance of approximately 2460m.
- **Common Road**, Chorleywood from its junction with A404 Rickmansworth Road south westwards to its junction with Woodland Lane

PLANNING

District Council Local Plan update

Three Rivers Local Plan (covering 2025-2041) is currently stalled due to a holding direction issued by the Minister of State for Planning and Housing. The Minister as now instructed Three Rivers to add 7 sites to the plan not previously included in proposed Regulation 19.

- CFS26a Kings Langley Estate south
- CFS21 Land at Rousebarn Lane
- PCS4 East Green Street
- PCS47 South of Little Oxhey Lane
- NCFS12 Land East of Oxhey Lane
- NCFS6 Land to East of Watford Road
- Additionally, OSPF22 Batchworth Golf Course

This adds an additional 4218 houses, bringing the total to 11280 which equates to approximately 85% of the government requirement.

TRDC and other groups continue to look at legal options to help prevent over development of this Green Belt Three Rivers District.

RECENT APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED:

4 Caroon Drive Sarratt WD3 6DD

Demolition of existing conservatory and glass house, construction of single storey rear extension and outbuilding, installation of front solar panels and insulated render cladding, replacement windows... Ref. No: 26/0504/FUL

SPC: No objection. We encourage and support the applicants taking the opportunity of these works to significantly improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling.

Sweetpea Smallholdings Adjacent to & Rear of 76 Church Lane

Approval of Details: Details pursuant to Conditions 1 and 2 of Planning Permission 21/2896/OUT ..._Ref. No: 26/0462/AOD

SPC: We note this information. The appeal for 21/2896/OUT was upheld on the basis all of the dwellings on the site being classed as affordable. There is some updated information in this submission but further detail of how this application will deliver appropriate, affordable units that meet local needs, local and national policies would be essential before any development is allowed on this site.

Land to the North & West of Cottage Farm Redhall Lane Chandlers Cross WD3 4LT

Prior Notification: Erection of tractor and equipment store, 2no. polytunnels, potting shed, agricultural building Ref. No: 26/0457/PDNA

SPC: Noted. The proposed polytunnels and the agricultural building are some distance away from the existing buildings, which will lead to development in what is currently a large area of open fields, and would impact the openness of a Greenbelt area.

Micklefield Hall Sarratt Road WD3 6AQ

Erection of two padel courts with associated car parking and floodlights
Ref. No: 26/0384/FUL

SPC: No objection. We support this application which will add a public access sporting facility for a sport that has no current provision in the District. We note the information provided which demonstrates the development will have very limited impact on neighbouring properties and limited additional traffic movements.

RECENT NOTABLE DECISIONS:

Ravenswood Farm Church Lane Sarratt WD3 6HJ Certificate of Lawfulness Existing Use: Use of part of an agricultural barn as a single dwellinghouse (Use Class C3). Ref. No: 26/0201/CLED

SPC: Noted. We also note that the use of this part of the barn has, and continue to be, contrary to neighbourhood, district and national planning policies. **TRDC: Refused**

8 The Briars Sarratt WD3 6AU Construction of single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension including rear juliet dormer and side rooflight; partial conversion of existing garage and store into habitable accommodation ... Ref. No: 26/0191/FUL

SPC: No Objection. We encourage the applicant to use the opportunity of these changes to significantly improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling and to add renewable energy options. **TRDC: Approved**

High Rising The Green Sarratt WD3 6BR Construction of two new dormer windows to front elevation
Ref. No: 26/0163/FUL

SPC: No objection. **TRDC: Approved**

Ashlea Dunny Lane Belsize WD4 9DE Construction of single storey rear infill extension; extension to existing rear hipped roof to gable; front storm porch; conversion of garage into habitable accommodation; and alterations to fenestration Ref. No: 26/0164/FUL

SPC: No objection **TRDC: Approved**

Elm Trees The Green Sarratt WD3 6BR Removal of existing side pergola and erection of single storey rear conservatory Ref. No: 26/0101/FUL

SPC: No objection. **TRDC: Approved**

3 The Briars Sarratt WD3 6AU Construction of first floor side extension Ref. No: 26/0074/FUL SPC: No objection. We encourage the applicant to use the opportunity of these changes to significantly improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling and to add renewable energy options.

TRDC: Refused (“...would result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building...”)

Great Wheelers Farm The Green Sarratt WD3 6BJ

Erection of outbuilding (yurt) in the back garden for use as a counselling clinic Ref. No: 26/0012/FUL

SPC: No objection. **TRDC: Approved**

9 The Briars Sarratt WD3 6AU Construction of part-single, part-two storey front, side and rear extensions, creation of link to main dwelling, garage conversion with accommodation in the roofspace served by side dormer and side rooflights, erection of side, rear juliet balconies, front storm porch and outbuilding

SPC: No objection: We encourage the applicant to use the opportunity of these changes to significantly improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling and to add renewable energy options.

TRDC: Refused (“...would result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building...”)

See the council in action and have your say

Date of the next Sarratt Parish Council meeting is

Tuesday 12th May 7.30pm, held in the rear room of the Village Hall.

Members of the public welcome to attend.

To contact Sarratt Parish Council (SPC):

Mrs Lena Mortimer, the Parish Clerk, on 01923 262025
or email clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk

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