

SPOTLIGHT

August 2026



visit sarrattvillage.co.uk

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

ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE

SPOTLIGHT is produced by Holy Cross Church, Sarratt, for the people of the village and 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

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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. 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
	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 Sheens Clarke

View from the Pew

For many of us, August is a time for holidays. Some head for the coast, others explore cities, walk in the countryside, or simply enjoy a quieter pace at home. The range and variety of holiday destinations was brought to life in the flower arrangements which filled the church at our recent Flower Festival.

Wherever you choose to go, holidays give us the chance to step away from our usual routines, rest our bodies, and refresh our minds.

Time away also gives us space to reflect on the rhythms of our lives. Away from the pressures of work, school and daily responsibilities, we can think about what really matters and what we would like to carry forward when we return home.

Alongside plans for the autumn or tackling the jobs we've been putting off, perhaps it is also an opportunity to renew our spiritual habits. Returning to church, joining in worship, sharing fellowship, and taking time for prayer can become part of our fresh start after the holidays. Just as our bodies benefit from rest, our souls are renewed when we make time for God and for one another.

So, while our holidays may end, suitcases will be unpacked, and everyday life will resume the deeper journey of faith continues each day, wherever we find ourselves.

Sue Clark



Inspire

7th September meeting
Parish Room 1.30-3pm

Have time away from your
busy lives and join us for activities,
conversations and talks over tea, coffee
and cake.

**In September, Wendy
Bathurst will be talking
to us about the
Wildlife in our Gardens.**

Do come and join us.

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

Flower Festival 2026: What a Scorchers!

This year's Flower Festival, themed "Holidays", couldn't have been more appropriate. The exceptional heatwave in the days leading up to – and throughout – the festival certainly made it feel as though we were all on holiday somewhere much warmer!



Despite the soaring temperatures, the floral displays remained fresh and vibrant. Once again, our talented team of flower arrangers, joined this year by several new recruits, transformed the church into a breathtaking showcase of colour and creativity.



Each arrangement captured the spirit of a favourite holiday destination. From snowboarding in Austria to an African safari, every continent was represented with imagination, colour and flair. A huge ‘thank you’ to our incredible flower arrangers for their creativity, hard work and dedication.

We also introduced some new attractions this year. Our Friday evening opening party, featuring Big Mama Funk, was a tremendous success and created a wonderful start to the weekend. Live music throughout Saturday afternoon added to the festive atmosphere, while Sunday's market welcomed a variety of local stallholders, giving visitors even more to enjoy.

An event like the Flower Festival simply would not happen without the generosity of so many volunteers. We are deeply grateful to everyone who gave their time and energy—baking cakes, serving refreshments and burgers, welcoming visitors, stewarding the church, managing the car park, running stalls, cleaning before and after the event, and helping with the many practical tasks of setting up and taking everything down. Your willingness to help, especially in such challenging temperatures, was greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank the Friends of Holy Cross Committee, whose months of planning and hard work ensured another highly successful festival.

This year, we were particularly pleased to receive the generous support of our local sponsors. Our sincere thanks go to The Garden Company (Chipperfield), Ruislip Appliances, JAF Property Services, Withers & Curling Estate Agents, Kia, The Old Palace Pub, Kings Langley, Biggerstaff's Garage, VDBM, Motorvation and Chenies Garden Nursery. Their support, together with the generosity of everyone who attended, enabled us to raise the magnificent sum of £11,630 towards the ongoing care and preservation of Holy Cross Church.

Finally, thank you to everyone who came along and helped make this year's Flower Festival such a happy and memorable occasion. It was a wonderful weekend of fellowship, music, flowers and community spirit.

If you missed the festival, please visit www.friendsofholycross.co.uk to view photographs of the stunning floral displays. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Richard Cawdron at richardcawdron@yahoo.com.

Sue Clark – Chair of Friends of Holy Cross

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...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group - now closed while renovation work is done on the KGV pavilion, and expects to be open again by the end of September. Enquiries to: Daphne Tyler 07970 894205 Sarratt Scouts: Sarratt Scout Group: For boys and girls. Explorers (aged 14-18) meet Monday evening, Beavers (6-8) and Scouts (10-14) meet Wednesday evening, and Cubs (8-10) meet Thursday evenings. Enquiries to 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
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Bank Holiday Monday

Shop open 8am- 12 noon; Post Office closed

EARN YOUR DofE VOLUNTEER HOURS WITH US!



Sarratt Village Shop &
Sarratt Green Café are proud
to support young people working
towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

YOU'LL GAIN:

- ✓ Valuable life skills
- ✓ Confidence & teamwork
- ✓ Experience for your CV
- ✓ A sense of achievement



SUPPORT
YOUR COMMUNITY
& BUILD YOUR
FUTURE!



MAKE A DIFFERENCE. HAVE FUN.



IN THE VILLAGE SHOP YOU MIGHT:



Help customers &
serve on the till



Stock shelves &
keep the shop tidy



Be part of our
amazing team



IN THE GREEN CAFÉ YOU MIGHT:



Serve drinks &
homemade treats



Help with food
preparation



Welcome visitors &
create a friendly space



Support our community
garden stall



FULL TRAINING
& SUPPORT
PROVIDED



INTERESTED?



Find out more or sign up by speaking to
Tracey or Grainger
at the Shop or Café



♥ THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY! ♥

SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

(A Community Interest Company)



At the Heart of our Community Seven Days a Week

Summer at Your Village Shop, Post Office & Café

Heading Abroad? A Message from Jane at the Post Office

Don't leave your holiday money until the last minute! We **always have Euros (€) and US Dollars (\$) in stock**, so you can always pop in to pick up some spending money. You can also order **over 60 foreign currencies** online before **1.00pm** for collection at Sarratt Post Office the **next working day**.

Here's Jane's top tip: even if you're buying **Euros or US Dollars**, you'll usually get a **better exchange rate** by ordering currency online for next-day collection rather than simply calling in to buy it. *A quick and easy way to make your holiday money go a little further!*

Staying in Sarratt?

If you're spending the summer at home, why not pop into the **Sarratt Green Café**, open **Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10.30am until 12.30pm?**

Enjoy freshly brewed coffee, bacon baps and a catch-up with friends especially on **Saturdays when we are joined by Sarratt Community Garden stall**, where you'll find a wonderful selection of freshly picked seasonal produce. Depending on what's ready that week, you might discover colourful, hand-tied flower bouquets, sun-ripened tomatoes, fresh courgettes and delicious artisan sourdough loaves, all produced locally with care.

Whether you're setting off on an adventure or simply making the most of summer in the village, we look forward to welcoming you to Sarratt Post Office Stores, the Post Office and the Sarratt Green Café

For more information, we are on:

Instagram: @sarrattpostoffice stores

Facebook: Sarratt Post Office Stores

Thank you to all our volunteers and customers - every hour you volunteer and every pound you spend helps keep us in the village!

THE ARTS SOCIETY RICKMANSWORTH Charity No. 1102829

For all lovers of art and culture – on your doorstep!

***You are welcome to join us as we launch our
new season, starting on 8th September.***

We are one of the most important arts and culture institutions in the Three Rivers area. For over 50 years we have offered terrific monthly lectures to our over 200 members on areas such as painting, architecture and music, visits and special interest study days.

Our fully illustrated presentations are given by national and sometimes international experts in their specialist fields, many of whom have worked at the UK's leading art galleries, and who are fully accredited by our parent body, The Arts Society.

Our exciting 2026/27 season begins on 8th September with a presentation on the Cornwall Newlyn School of painting and later we offer talks on artists such as Whistler and Hockney, architectural gems and music ranging from Tchaikovsky to the 1960s.

Through our 'Arts Volunteering' charitable activities our Members have supported many local schools with art projects and have funded art in prisons schemes.

Our lectures are held in Sarratt Village Hall, usually in the morning of the second Tuesday of each month from September to June. Membership - £50 for the year – is tremendous value and is now open for our new season.

Details of how to join are on our website, or you can ring our **Membership Secretary, Irene Dubuis**, on **07884 173128** for further information.

As a Member you will gain access to each of our lectures, be able to join our varied visits, receive the very informative Arts Society magazine 3 times each year and receive monthly email updates on artists and activities from The Arts Society.

Our website offers full details of our work and membership
TASRickmansworth.org.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 17th August at 12.30.

To book please call Jacky Creed – Details below

COFFEE MORNING AND TREATMENTS

Hairdressing, foot care 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 5th and 19th .

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

SARRATT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW 2026



Saturday 12th September 2026 – Sarratt Village Hall

The Sarratt Horti Autumn Show is coming!

Remember entries and payment needs to be in the **Village Shop** by **6pm on Wednesday 9th September.**

Entry forms and the schedule are on the website – www.sarratthorti.co.uk but if you need a schedule or entry forms, please email the secretary on sarratthorti@gmail.com

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

Vegetable and Fruit classes include a variety of types.

Plus we have:

Flower Arranging - Pollination Paradise, Wombling Wonder, Heaven Scent

Cookery – One small sour dough loaf, Two Devon scones, Two filled individual meringue nests, Two decorated strawberry cupcakes, Plum jam, chutney & honey!

Arts & Crafts –

- A tapestry, embroidery, knitted, patchwork/quilting or cross-stitch article
- Painting or Drawing
- An item of jewellery
- A clay, wooden or metal article

Photographs – "Fungi" and "Cars"

Children's Classes- Any child 12 years can enter, entry forms available at the village shop

- 5 years and under – A self-portrait
- 6-8 years old – A self-portrait
- 9-12 years old – A self-portrait
- Any age – Three types of herb in a recycled container

Open to members – if you want to join, please **email the secretary on sarratthorti@gmail.com** – it's only £3 per person or £5 per household!

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

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

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT The date for the AGM has moved from 14th to 28th October, due to unforeseen circumstances

CHARITY PUB QUIZ at THE COCK INN

SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 12th AUGUST

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.

PLUS £15 for a burger and a beer/wine

Come along and enjoy a fun evening.

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

Email: TheCockInnAtSarratt@gmail.com

SARRATT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Pots, Pans and Platters The Story of Sarratt Wills



TUESDAY 22 September 7.30 for 8.00pm

Drawing on the original research by Philip and Barbara Buller to give a picture of life in the village and what we can learn about how the fortunes of people in Sarratt changed over the period 1435 to 1832.

Sarratt Village Hall –7.30pm for 8pm

Non-Members welcome - £4 on the Door

sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org



This year's fun competition is "A commemorative mug or cup and saucer with a label if not obvious from the item itself." This will be judged by **Stephen Morrill**, as always, with a prize for the winner.



Sarratt CE Primary School



What a fantastic summer fair we had! I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful PTA, all the volunteers who gave up their time, and everyone who came along to support the event. It was a truly joyful afternoon, full of community spirit, and it was lovely to see so many families enjoying themselves together.

Thanks to the generosity and support of our community, we are delighted to share that we raised *nearly* £2,000 for the school. This is a tremendous achievement and will make a real difference to the opportunities and resources we can provide for our children.

This year, the PTA have generously funded theatre visits, educational workshops, sporting experiences and curriculum resources that have helped bring learning to life for our children. We are incredibly grateful for their ongoing support, enthusiasm and hard work, which enriches the experiences we are able to offer and makes a real difference to the children's education and enjoyment of school.

A group of Year 6 children enjoyed a fantastic day at **Wimbledon** in July, soaking up the unique atmosphere of one of the world's most iconic sporting events. They watched live tennis, took in the sights of the Championships and, of course, enjoyed strawberries on the famous **Henman Hill!**



We have been fortunate enough to secure tickets for this wonderful experience every year since 2021, and it has become a much-loved **Sarratt tradition**. We hope to continue providing this memorable opportunity for our Year 6 pupils for many years to come.



**NO Pints of View or
Sunday Market in August.**

Sarratt Festival of Music 2026

Booking opens on August 3rd. Book your tickets now for an unmissable Festival

Friday September 18th **Jeneba Kanneh-Mason solo piano**

Music ranging from Scarlatti to Chopin.

Saturday September 19th **Giants of Jazz Piano with Martin Litton and an 8-piece band.**

Friday September 25th **The Aquarelle Guitar Quartet with Craig Ogden** - A wide-ranging programme of music from the Renaissance to the 21st century.

Saturday September 26th **Apollo 5**

One of Britain's most dynamic vocal groups.

4pm Singing Workshop with Apollo 5

Open to all. No ability to read music required. With an emphasis on fun and the joy of singing this is an unmissable chance to participate and be inspired.

7.45pm Apollo 5 "A Day in Paradise"

A truly eclectic mix of vocal styles. Music from William Byrd, Eric Whitacre, Tom Petty and Bill Withers and many others.

As ever, booking forms are widely available, from the shop and the pubs. They can also be downloaded from the website www.sarrattfestivalofmusic.co.uk

The box office will open on August 3rd.

All concerts take place in Sarratt Village Hall and start at 7.45pm.

Topflight Comedy returns to the Village Hall

Saturday 5th September

**Last Laugh Comedy returns with what's
surely looking to be the best line up yet.**

Topping the bill is the outstanding Dominic Holland, one of the country's most respected comedians, broadcasters and writers. Dominic has been a familiar face on television for decades, appearing on programmes including *Have I Got News For You* & *The Royal Variety Performance*. He has won the prestigious Perrier Best Newcomer Award at the Edinburgh Festival, written a string of best-selling books and is an acclaimed newspaper columnist. *More recently, many people know him as the father of Spiderman himself - Hollywood superstar Tom Holland*, but comedy fans have long known Dominic as one of the finest stand ups in the country, delivering beautifully crafted routines packed with intelligence, warmth and razor-sharp observations.

MC for the night is award winning Chris Brooker. Chris has spent more than two decades entertaining audiences with his infectious energy, quick wit and superb improvisation.

Opening the show is rising star Jack Hester, combining confident storytelling with brilliantly understated delivery, Jack has been winning over audiences across the country and is quickly establishing himself as one of comedy's brightest new talents.

Completing the line up is Yorkshire favourite Seeta Wrightson, with a warm and honest self-deprecating style, her tales of everyday life, family and modern Britain are instantly relatable and guaranteed to leave audiences in stitches.

With four outstanding acts, reasonably priced bar and a great atmosphere, it's sure to be another brilliant night of comedy right here in the heart of the village!

Tickets are available now, but advance booking is strongly recommended as shows regularly sell out. **Door 7pm / Show starts 8pm / End 10.30pm**

Tickets available lastlaughcomedy.co.uk/sarratt-village-hall

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

Book your places today

Do your children love being outdoors?

**Being creative through nature? Discovering the world
around them through mud, sticks and leaves?**

Forest Church has arrived in Chipperfield!

**Why not join us for some den building, bug finding fun, in
our beautiful outdoors?**

**St Paul's church Chipperfield 1st Sunday of the month at 3.30pm
for more details contact:
Revd Sarah 07525491496**

suggested donation £2.50 per child to cover materials

CHURCH CALENDAR

**A new pattern of services & times of worship has begun – see below
Join us for worship & fellowship. Everyone always welcome.**

AUGUST 2026

Sunday 2	<i>1st Sunday of the month</i>	9th Sunday after Trinity
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
3.30pm	Forest Church	St Paul's
Sunday 9	<i>2nd Sunday of the month</i>	10th Sunday after Trinity
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's
Sunday 16	<i>3rd Sunday of the month</i>	11th Sunday after Trinity
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
6.30pm	Compline (BCP night prayer)	Holy Cross
Sunday 23	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	12th Sunday after Trinity
9.30am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
Sunday 30	<i>5th Sunday of the month</i>	13th Sunday after Trinity
9.30am	BCP Holy Communion	Holy Cross
10.30am	Informal Benefice Service*	St Paul's*

*This "5th Sunday of the month" service alternates between the two churches

SEPTEMBER 2026 (first part of month)

Sunday 6	<i>1st Sunday of the month</i>	14th Sunday after Trinity
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
3.30pm	Forest Church	St Paul's
Sunday 13	<i>2nd Sunday of the month</i>	15th Sunday after Trinity
Sunday nearest Holy Cross Day, 14/9		
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's

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

Sarratt WI



For our July meeting, Sarratt WI enjoyed our traditional summer outing. Over the years we have visited places including Highclere Castle, Althorp, and a number of beautiful charity gardens. This year, however, we took to the water.

On 8th July, more than 30 members met at Apsley Waterways for a delightful three-hour cruise along the Grand Union Canal to Kings Langley. During the trip, we learnt about the fascinating history of the canal and even had the opportunity to help operate the locks.

The Grand Union Canal is the longest canal in the UK, stretching for around 137 miles (220 km) from London to Birmingham. Formed by linking several older canals together in 1929, it passes through beautiful countryside, picturesque villages and historic industrial areas, making it one of Britain's most scenic waterways. As always, refreshments were an important part of the day. Members had



generously provided a wonderful selection of homemade cakes, which were enjoyed with a glass of Prosecco, before everyone tucked into a delicious fish and chip lunch.

Despite the exceptionally hot weather, it was surprisingly cool and comfortable on the water, making for a thoroughly enjoyable and relaxing afternoon. A wonderful day was had by all, with plenty of laughter, good company and happy memories to take home.

Our monthly walk this month will meet at **The Red Lion, Chenies**, with long and short routes available, so there is something for everyone.

If you are interested in joining Sarratt WI, we meet on the **second Wednesday of each month** at **Sarratt Village Hall**, from **2.15 pm**, for an interesting speaker followed by tea and homemade cake. We also organise a friendly walk on the **fourth Wednesday of each month**, and new members are always very welcome. For more information, please contact our president **Leone Ashby** on **07894-421748**.

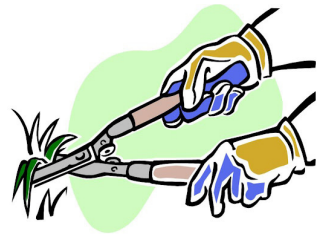
SARRATT OPEN GOLF DAY

Calling all Sarratt golfers! This year's Sarratt Open will take place at **West Herts Golf Club** in Croxley on **Monday 10th August**. It includes breakfast, a single round for The Open trophy, a 2-course lunch and prize giving. The cost is the same as last year at **£95**. If you want to know more give **Trevor Church** a call on **07831 619734** or drop an email to **trevor.church@brasierfreeth.com**



Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers

We were in the middle of a heat wave on Sunday July 13th, not ideal for hay-making! We were raking up the cut grass at the North end of The Green, which is left long until the end of June to allow the wild flowers and grasses there to flourish. We have to remove the hay as it would not be good to leave it to decompose, too much nutrition is bad for wildflowers, in favour of docks and nettles. We all had appropriate clothing, hats and water bottles, and using our special large wooden hay-rakes, we set to with a will. As it had been so dry the hay came up easily but we were glad of a break in Gordon's shady garden.



We raked the hay into little haycocks for Andrew to collect during the week. It put me in mind of the beautiful poem by Edward Thomas – “Willows, willow herb and grass, and meadowsweet, and haycocks dry” A scene on Sarratt Green which had been carried out in the same fashion for centuries.

Next time, on **Sunday August 9th**, we shall be at Commonwood, looking for any Small Balsam that has escaped the drought. **Meet in the Car Park there at 10am** with your refreshments, tools are provided. Please come and help if you can, it really is worthwhile to help preserve our lovely area.

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

Sarratt Scout Group

Georgina Donnelly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



On 29 June the Scout Group held its AGM, at the end of which we were delighted to have our District Lead Volunteer, Julia Pich present two Awards to Kate Soothill who 'retired' from the Group earlier this year. First there was a 15 year Service Award (Kate has been with the Group for just on 16 years), and then the presentation of the Award for Merit. This is one of the highest awards adult volunteers can achieve and is given in recognition of



outstanding service over many years. Accompanying her certificate, Kate also received her Award of Merit medal. The Scout Group had also prepared a photo montage to give Kate as a leaving gift, highlighting some of the key moments from Kate's time with the Group. We thank Kate for everything she has done to support the Group, initially as a Beaver Leader, then Training Advisor and most recently one of the Group Scout Leaders. We are however delighted she will continue to help with our Annual Quiz in the Autumn.

Now here's what our young people have been up to this term....

"Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing, absolutely nothing, half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats" said Ratty.

Our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have taken this advice to their hearts and have spent most of this wonderful summer afloat at the Aquadrome. What better after a hot day at school than launching yourself onto the lake and simply messing about in boats? It's been a great pleasure to watch our young people grow in confidence and conquer their fears. Faced with the daunting prospect of paddling out onto a fairly big lake alone on a kayak, they have all dug deep, found their balance, and excelled.



Our youngest adventurers, the Beavers, proved that size is no barrier to bravery. They squeezed into buoyancy aids and climbed aboard the ultra-stable katacanoes and canoes. For many, this was their very first time on open water, and the sheer joy and excitement on their faces as they splashed their paddles was a sight to behold.



Our Cubs proved they were equally fearless. They honed their teamwork in the canoes, learning that synchronized paddling is much



easier said than done, but incredibly rewarding when you finally get moving in a straight line. They took to the stand up paddleboards with determination. They are so small we had to send them out 2 to a board. It was a warm day, it didn't take long for the session to descend into glorious chaos as they inevitably

tested just how refreshing the Aquadrome water actually was and paddleboards became diving platforms!

Our Scouts take the paddling season “seriously”. We started with sit-on-kayaks, the most stable craft, the ones that are impossible to capsize, unless your name is Flo or Izzy. Next up was canoes, we carried out more capsize rescues than I even did on my Paddle Sports Rescue course. Our rafting was reorganised to fit in a World Cup match and was the first time our rafting session has been completed without any rafts disintegrating, testimony to our expert knot lessons through the year. Our last session was our own paddleboard session, a brilliant chaotic finale to our Scouting year.



A massive thank you to Dan Haynes for co-ordinating and overseeing all the sessions and to all the leaders, our squad of Beaver parents (who

do a lot of the heavy lifting (paddling) on the Beavers sessions), and all the other parents for delivering our young people to the Aquadrome. Here's to next summer's adventures afloat!

The Beavers have also celebrated the 40th birthday of Beavers with a picnic in Chipperfield woods, where they learnt about the history of Scouts and had a wonderful evening playing in the woods.



We've all spent the rest of the summer getting outside where temperatures have allowed - it's been unusual to have to plan to be indoors because it's been too hot outside!

Water fights, games with water and river dipping have been the solution.

As the year ends and our young people move up age groups from Beavers into Cubs and Cubs up into Scouts, we say goodbye to our oldest Scouts - Amelie, Rory, Jude, Lucy, Tia, Bella - some of whom have been through Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We look forward to hearing of their adventures in the Explorer Unit.



We are now in our summer resting period, planning for an even bigger and better 2026/27 year of scouting.

Sarratt Scout Group is open to boys and girls aged 5¾ to 14, with the Phoenix Explorer Section for 14-18 years olds. 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

Also a reminder that we 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 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.

We also need a **Group Administrator** to help process DBS checks and other admin for the Group. The role can be done from home, and takes 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



Parish Council Report



*News and updates from SPC, including the key points arising for the SPC Meeting held on **Tuesday 14th July 2026**. Full minutes when approved and other information is available on the SPC 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 signup to this service run by SPC

<http://eepurl.com/iZ4fes>

Government announces four unitary authorities in Hertfordshire

The government announced its decision on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Hertfordshire, confirming it will create four new unitary councils, subject to parliamentary approval. See further details about this change here - www.threerivers.gov.uk/news/four-unitary-announced.

Co-option of a new SPC Councillor

SPC has multiple vacancies for councillor posts. Following public advertising, notifications and process Mr Mike Sparks as been co-opted to SPC. SPC is delighted to welcome Mr Sparks and look forward to working with him in the future.

The Cock Inn

Mr and Mrs Power with architect Graham Eades of Hawkins Eades Associates came to present a proposal for a development of 20 bungalows targeted for older residents in the grounds behind the Cock Inn Church Lane Sarratt. No planning permission has been sought thus far, but input from residents is initially being sought by Mr Power to determine if there is support in the village to progress a planning application, or if no



support then it was expressed by Mr Power it would be likely the land and The Cock pub would be put up for sale.

It was offered that if you should wish to participate in the discussion of this initial proposal, then you can email them at hawkinseades@gmail.com

Wild Fire Risk

At this time of heightened risk of wild fire, we ask that all refrain from use of barbecue or open fires on or near any public land. Check out further bylaws and advice here:

www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/leisure-parks-culture/wildfire_aware

Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)

OPM is a moth species specific to Oak trees, thought to have been imported into Britain via infected trees from mainland Europe where it is native. Whilst in some years large infestation can substantially defoliate trees, the moth is primarily an issue for human health. Fine hairs produced by the moth caterpillars as a defence mechanism for their nests can be a serious irritant to human skin and respiratory system, although it is unlikely to result in serious illness in most cases. Animals, particularly pets, may also suffer from contact with the hairs.



It is anticipated that OPM will become more widespread, due to warmer and dryer summers resulting from Climate Change. OPM is currently a notifiable pest. If you find OPM nests in trees owned by SPC, please report to clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk. We will arrange to inspect the trees. If the infestation is found to be OPM, we will consider the level of risk and whether the nests or caterpillars need to be removed.

PLANNING RECENT APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED:

Sarratt Village Hall The Green Sarratt 26/1075/FUL

Variation of Condition 2 (24/0814/FUL) to allow an increase to the front extension

SPC: We support this sensible revision to the previously approved plans that will provide additional benefits to the community.

The Briars House 13 The Briars Sarratt WD3 6AU Ref. No: 26/1024/FUL

Conversion of existing garage and construction of a single storey link extension to form residential annexe

SPC: No objection on the basis of minimal change to existing footprint and no impact on neighbouring properties

Land Off Old House Lane Old House Lane Ref. No: 26/0977/PDNA

Permitted Development Notice: Construction of agricultural barn

SPC: Noted. We observe that this barn will be a significant new structure that will impact the openness of this area. From the information provided we can not see any reasoning for the proposed location for the barn.

Grove Lodge Fir Tree Hill Chandlers Cross WD3 4LY Ref. No: 26/0880/FUL

Demolition of existing stables, barns and 2 no. bungalows; construction of four two storey detached dwellings ... in relation to the permission in principle 24/1023/PIP

SPC: In line with our previous comments on applications for this site - we support use of this brownfield site for residential development, but any harm from additional dwellings in Green Belt should be offset by this site being used for smaller, affordable dwellings that meet local housing needs. The approved planning in principle application labelled the dwellings as bungalows and this application still labels the plots as bungalows when the submitted plans clearly show 2 story dwellings. We continue to object to this application as it does not provide dwellings to meet local needs.

RECENT NOTABLE DECISIONS:

Old Plough House Plough Lane Sarratt WD3 4NN Ref. No: 26/0696/FUL & 26/0697/LBC

Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of two storey rear extension;

SPC: No objection. We support this sympathetic proposal which does not impact the heritage front of the building. We encourage the

applicant to use the opportunity of these works to maximise the energy efficiency of the building.

TRDC: Refused (*"The scale and bulk of the proposed development would fail to preserve the Listed Building and its special architectural or historic interest..."*)

Bay Tree Farm Bucks Hill WD4 9AU Ref. No: 26/0677/FUL

Construction of an outdoor riding manege

SPC: No objection on the basis this is in an area with other maneges, is low impact with no lighting and is for private use only.

TRDC: Refused (*"It is considered that Very Special Circumstances do not exist to outweigh the identified harm of the development to the Green Belt and the other harm identified"*)

See the council in action and have your say

Date of the next Sarratt Parish Council meeting is

Tuesday 11th August 7.30pm, held in 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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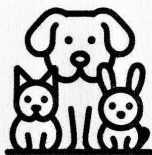
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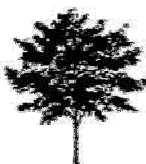
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