

SPOTLIGHT

September 2026



visit [sarrattvillage.co.uk](http://www.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 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 photos by John Griffith

Rectors Ramblings

Seasons, Constants, and the Global Rhythm of Prayer

As September arrives, there is a distinct shift in the air. For many of us, September feels much more like a true "new year" than January ever does. It's a season of fresh starts; the crisp morning air hinting at autumn, children and young people heading back to school or university and our routines shifting to reflect the new seasons in our lives. At this time of the year life gets busy very quickly.

Change is a natural part of God's design. Just as the seasons transition reliably from summer to autumn, our lives move through distinct chapters. But in the middle of rapidly filling diaries, new classrooms, and changing environments, it is wonderful to remember the things that remain constant.

One of those unchanging constants is prayer.

People have turned to God in prayer since the very beginning of time. It is our direct line to the Creator of the universe—a constant, reliable anchor when everything else around us is shifting.

This September, we aren't just praying in our own quiet corners; we are joining a massive, beautiful global movement. Christians from all over the world are uniting with 24-7 Prayer for the Global Week of Prayer, placing Jesus firmly at the centre of our lives and communities.

Over the history of the 24-7 Prayer movement, more than 25,000 prayer rooms have been hosted across over half the nations on earth, with thousands of communities continuously lifting up prayer night and day. It was indeed in one of these prayer rooms in a small Leicestershire village that my life (along with many others) was changed for good. As we join together with other Christians both near and far we are reminded in a wonderfully powerful way that we are part of a global family, keeping the fire of prayer burning across every time zone.

Here at St Paul's, we are thrilled to be taking part by running our own dedicated week of prayer, linking arms with believers worldwide.

Our prayer room will be a specially prepared, welcoming space designed to help you step away from the noise and demands of daily life. Whether you prefer quiet reflection, journaling, creative expression through art & music, or simply sitting in stillness, there will be a variety of interactive and engaging ways to pray and reconnect with God.

If we are honest, an hour can feel like a long time in our busy week, and an hour for ourselves can fall to the bottom of the to do lists we keep, but the feedback I hear time and time again is how that hour felt like 10 minutes and what an incredible gift it had been. So, as we move into our new seasons in life why not make a season of prayer one of your blessings too, carving out just sixty minutes to step away from your inbox, your studies, or your housework, put down your screens and spend some intentional time with the Creator of the universe?

As we step into this new season together, let's make prayer our first response, not our last resort. We look forward to seeing what God will do in us—and through us—this September.

Blessings

Revd Sarah

*If you would like to hear more about our week of prayer why not join us at Café Church, St Paul's Parish room on Sunday 30th August or give me a call. **Our Week of Prayer begins Sunday 6th September and runs through to 13th September. To book a slot during this time please call on 07525 491496 or pop into the parish room to view the signup sheet.***

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

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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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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

MARTIN KEMPSTER



Martin Kempster ,best known in Sarratt as the Christmas tree man of Deadman's Ash Lane, sadly passed on 24th July at the age of 74 after a short, brave fight against cancer .

Martin spent the majority of his life in Sarratt, attending the primary school then moving on to Kings Langley secondary modern. With a family background in farming, he then went to Oaklands college and after graduating spent time working on a variety of farms and also with local nurseryman Vin Adams doing landscaping around the county.

When I married, in New Zealand, Martin travelled over with our parents and stayed on to explore and go fruit picking in the Nelson area. On returning to UK he became a postman till the pull of "Down Under" proved too much and he had a working holiday in Australia then NZ for 9 months. Back to UK, in 1980 he took the chance to change occupation, first joining London country buses then London buses for over 25 years.

Dad, Don Kempster, started a small Christmas tree venture in Deadman's Ash and Martin became involved. After working a night shift, he'd have a few hours' sleep then help with the trees. He expanded the business once he retired and spent many happy hours with his trees.

In the village, Martin was involved with the Royal British's Legion, running the snooker team with his great friend Terry Tyler and also helping with the financial side until the club closed.

Martin was an honest, caring, generous man who always supported the village. Martin was my 'little brother' and I already miss him but have wonderful memories .

Valerie Kempster

SARRATT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AUTUMN SHOW 2026



Saturday 12th September 2026 Sarratt Village Hall

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.

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

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 21st September 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 16th and 30th September.

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

Can You Help?

Sarratt Care needs people who can arrange drivers to get people to appointments. Calls come in between 10 and 12 on the days you elect to have the Care mobile phone and drivers are contacted via a WhatsApp group. If you can help, call Jacky on 519975 or 07769 045270.

Sarratt Festival of Music 2026

**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 is now open.

**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

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

“Drawn from the Sea – Great art of Cornwall”

Alison Bevan

The first presentation of our exciting 2026/27 season examines the superb paintings which depict the fishing industry of Cornwall. In particular, our renowned speaker examines the work of the Newlyn School, which prospered in the late Victorian era.

A key industry in Cornwall for centuries, fishing has always played an important role in Cornish life. Our fully illustrated presentation displays work which depicts the tragedy, hardship and the extraordinary spectacle of fishing in the late 19th and into the 20th centuries. These are truly great works of art, some of which are so realistic in their technique that they almost appear as photographic, while simultaneously capturing the passions and intimate working lives of local people in a tough industry.

Alison Bevan, a graduate in the History of Art, is a freelance lecturer, curator and consultant. She is Chair of Bristol Museum’s Oversight Board, a Fellow of the Museums’ Association and a Research Fellow at the University of Bristol. For 11 years she was Director of the Royal West of England Academy and has broadcast on BBC radio and TV.

Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Tuesday 8th September 2026
Sarratt Village Hall

Refreshments from 10.30am and presentation at 11am.

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

Membership is now open for our exciting 2026/27 programme - incredible value for 10 lectures from world class experts, and other benefits.

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

SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

(A Community Interest Company)



**At the Heart of our Community
Seven Days a Week**

September marks a very special milestone – **15 years since Sarratt Post Office Stores became community run!**

To celebrate the occasion, our managers Tracey, Grainger and Jane hosted a BBQ to say a huge thank you to our fantastic team of volunteers. There was plenty of food, laughter and a fabulous anniversary cake.



We also managed to get everyone together for a team photo, taken by John Griffith from the top of his stepladder, with each volunteer holding **their favourite product from the shop** – some choices more predictable than others!

Fifteen years on, our Shop, Post Office and Sarratt Green Café are still very much at the heart of village life. None of it would be possible without our brilliant volunteers, dedicated managers and everyone who supports us by shopping local.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering in the Shop or Café please pop in for a chat and - **here's to the next 15 years!**

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

For more information follow us on:

Instagram: @sarrattpostoffice stores

Facebook: Sarratt Post Office Stores



**CHARITY PUB QUIZ at
THE COCK INN
SARRATT CHURCH END
WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER
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

September's Sunday Market

The leaves of brown
Come tumbling down, remember
Each September in the rain;
The sun goes out just like a dying ember
Each September in the rain;
For every Sunday Market in the hall
The raindrops seem to play a sweet refrain;
Though summer's here, for us it's soon September
Oh yes! September In the rain.



So dodge the rain and come to our Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday 20th September** to see our super selection of crafts – jewellery - bags, handmade Christmas decorations, bric-a-brac, recycled clothing and affordable antique stalls. Tea and coffee is available with biscuits and homemade cakes. Start is **10am**. Any enquiries please ring Larry on 265386.

PINTS OF VIEW, 21 SEPTEMBER

The first of this autumn's Pints of View informal get-togethers will be at **The Boot in Sarratt** on **Monday 21 September**, starting at **8pm**. David Butler and Sue Clark will look at the challenges and opportunities posed by migration, both legal and illegal, and how the UK might go about addressing them. Please come along for a what promises to be a lively discussion and prepare to “disagree agreeably”.



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.

Grey Knights

In the last month, Jenks had two family trips whereby she took a family and friends to dinner at Prime and another group around our local pubs finishing for dinner at the Cock. A good time was had by all.



Jenks is in need of attention to its paint work. On the interior the roof/ceiling paint and varnished trim needs doing. On the exterior there are a number of small pockets which need touching up.

If you are interested or know someone who would like to earn a modest sum to do either or both please let me know.

Alan Milsom 07917800623



The Boot Sarratt

JOIN US FOR A

Charity
**CHRISTMAS
★ MARKET ★**

IN AID OF
CANCER RESEARCH



SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
11AM – 4PM

WE ARE LOOKING FOR
LOCAL STALL HOLDERS

HELD IN OUR
MARQUEE & GARDEN



OUTSIDE
BAR



FOOD



MULLED
WINE



CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR SLOT
TheBootSarratt@gmail.com



SHOP
LOCAL
♥
SUPPORT
CANCER
RESEARCH

Sarratt CE Primary School

As we approach the end of another fantastic year at Sarratt, there is a real sense of excitement across the school as we look ahead to September.



This week, our children have enjoyed a wonderful **transition morning**, spending time in their new classrooms and meeting their new teachers. These visits are such an important part of helping everyone feel confident, prepared and excited for the next stage of their learning journey. The smiles, enthusiasm and positivity we've seen have been wonderful.

Our Year 6 pupils have now enjoyed their transition day at their respective secondary schools and have returned full of enthusiasm for the exciting opportunities ahead. This year, the majority of the class will be moving on to **St Clement Danes School**, with others continuing their education at **Kings Langley School**, **Rickmansworth School**, **Dr Challoner's High School** and **Chesham Grammar School**. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and know they will make the most of the opportunities that await them as they begin this next stage of their educational journey.

We are also delighted that our **teaching team for September** is now established. Many of you will already have seen our 'staff reveal' video, which has been generating an incredible response and has even gone *viral* on Instagram - you can find us @sarrattprimary!

Meanwhile, work continues at pace on our new **Early Years building**. The project is rapidly approaching completion and remains firmly on target for us to move in over the summer break. We cannot wait to welcome our youngest learners into this outstanding new space!

History of Berkhamsted Castle

In 1066, William the Conqueror, having ridden with his troops from Hastings after defeating King Harold, arrived at Berkhamsted, an important Anglo Saxon settlement. It was there that William received the official surrender from the Saxon chiefs and the then Archbishop Ealdred.



Realising that Berkhamsted was at an important strategic point, William gave the land to his half-brother Robert Count of Mortain and told him to build a new fortress. This was of timber and earth and was the first 'castle' as such on the site, but Robert's son angered the King so the castle reverted to the crown. Interestingly, it was not included in the Domesday list but that may have been because the King didn't want his brother to be taxed. Although the castle, subsequently rebuilt in stone, was of strategic value, it was never used as a home by the King himself or by any future monarchs.

Our speaker took us though the fascinating parade of subsequent owners, starting with Thomas Becket when he was still a friend of King Henry II. It was Becket who re-enforced and enlarged the Castle but before he was murdered, Becket was accused of embezzlement and the Castle ownership reverted to the Crown. It was at this period that Eleanor of Aquitaine (former Queen of France and mother of both Richard the Lionheart and King John) acquired the Castle as part of her dowry and spent Christmas there with her husband, Henry II.

In 1216 Berkhamsted Castle came under siege from the future Louis VIII of France. After a brutal two weeks when the French forces ransacked and pillaged the locality the young Henry III ordered the Castle to surrender.

For the next few years the Crown used the Castle as a gift/bribe and passed it to a series of relatives.

When Edward II came to the throne, he made his alleged lover Piers Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall and owner of the Castle. Gaveston had lived at Kings Langley Palace as a young man and companion to the future king. When Gaveston was murdered, Edward had him buried at Kings Langley Palace.

Berkhamsted was a favourite residence of Edward III's son, the famous Black Prince of Crecy, who spent his honeymoon at Berkhamsted with his wife, 'the Fair Maid of Kent'. He repaired the castle buildings and

ordered a new timber palisade around the park to keep the deer from escaping. His son Richard II, appointed Geoffrey Chaucer, the poet, to be the Clerk of the Kings works at the Castle however there is no evidence that he ever went there.

The last Royal resident was Cecily Neville, mother of Edward IV and Richard III, who died in 1495 at the castle. From this point the castle was probably left unoccupied and fell into disrepair.

Sadly, few people know of Berkhamsted's place in the 1066 Victory by William 1st

Angela Colman

Sarratt Open Golf

Over 50 Sarratt golfers and their friends took to the scorched fairways of West Herts Golf Club on Monday 10th August to do battle for the Sarratt Open Golf Championship. A very grand name for a not very grand event. It has however been running annually since 1979 only missing the one year due to Covid. Quite a tradition.



We were blessed with wall-to-wall sunshine but thankfully it wasn't as hot as it could have been.

In the team competition, Colin Waller and some friends from the golf club were victorious. However, in the main event, The Open trophy will have a new name on it with Paul 'Fish' Craddock from Dawes Lane the new champion, edging out yours truly by one point. He may find his handicap adjusted for next year!! I'm not bitter at all.

Thanks to all for making it a great day.

Trevor Church



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.

SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Sunday 20	<i>3rd Sunday of the month</i>	16th 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 (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross

Sunday 27	<i>4th Sunday of the month</i>	17th Sunday after Trinity
<i>Note change of times and venues for services today</i>		
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holy Cross
10.30am	Chipperfield Harvest Festival Eucharist	St Paul's

OCTOBER 2026 (first part of month)

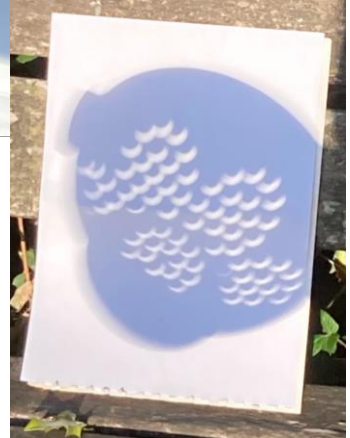
Sunday 4	<i>1st Sunday of the month</i>	18th Sunday after Trinity
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
3.30pm	Forest Church	St Paul's

Sunday 11	<i>2nd Sunday of the month</i>	19th Sunday after Trinity
<i>Note change of times and venues for services today</i>		
9.30am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.30am	Sarratt Harvest Festival Eucharist	Holy Cross

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

Wednesday 12th August – Eclipse of the Sun over Sarratt

There was a buzz in the air as people gathered near Dawes Common on 12th August, using a variety of methods to see the eclipse without looking directly at the sun. Those who had proper solar eclipse glasses very kindly let everyone else have a turn at using them.





Sarratt F.C.

Preparations are well underway for the new Spartan South Midlands Football League season. We kick-off on Saturday 22nd August away from home, visiting Totternhoe in Bedfordshire.



We'll have an extended road trip at the beginning of the campaign, whilst renovation works continue at our King George V Pavilion. We're hoping to return home for a grand opening in late September. Watch this space!

Elsewhere, this season will be the inaugural year of our new team - **Sarratt FC Veterans**. This squad, for those aged 35 and above, will play approximately 12 games per season. Please get in touch if this interests you!

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!

From the Foothills of Everest to the Foothills of The Chilterns!

It was a VERY hot afternoon. We had seen no one walking along the footpath below Goldingtons. Just the walk from the house to the Greenhouse felt like an unwanted challenge and even the normally vociferous kites seemed to have become silent in the tall trees. But my neighbours had geared themselves up to walk across the heat rising from the gravel drive towards our still deliciously fresh swimming pool and I had left the cool of the house to chat to them. No one else was about - no rabbits, no rooks and magpies, no tiny shrews or penny -farthing wrens. Even the fish in the river were hiding in shady pools.

Then we saw them. Two dark haired girls in expensive-looking summer dresses approaching from across our 'Chinese' bridge in the heart of the garden. "Can we help you? Where have you come from? Were you visiting the people in the Cottage?"

As they got closer, there was a complete mismatch between their faces and their crisp frocks and smooth hair. They looked panic stricken. "What has happened? Are you Ok?"

"No..." the words poured out in fluent but lilted English. "We decided to come and walk by the river. But then we saw the cows. They chased us and we screamed and we ran. (I couldn't help wondering whether the screaming and running might have come before the 'chasing' by the normally passive cattle.) "But how did you get into our garden?" "We jumped over the fence!"

Now that whole long length of fence between the water meadow and the wood has barbed wire across it. And these girls' pretty, full skirted dresses show not a tear or any sign of disturbance. And each one held an immaculate, undamaged Mulberry handbag.

The frightened faces were certainly genuine. They were desperate to get a bus or walk back to the railway station and home. One of my neighbours valiantly walked them back in the heat along the Valley, up through Chorleywood House and across the Common to the Station. The girls were from Nepal and studying in Richmond.

Will they go back to the Himalayas and tell of the vicious cattle, tiny fences and kind people living in the virtually flat Chilterns?! We are still trying to work out how they actually dealt with the barbed wire and how they kept their handbags scratchless and dirt free! But this is Sarratt Mill where nothing is unlikely. After all, I once found six Afghan men pouring out of a mini to take photos of our garden!

Angela Colman

Sarratt WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

In August, we made a return visit for afternoon tea at Church Gardens in Harefield. The afternoon began with a brief history of the house and garden purchased in a state of total disrepair in 1996. Over the intervening 30 years, the site has been transformed and we thoroughly walking around it after our delicious tea, doing our best to keep in the shade and avoid the very hot sun! Our grateful thanks to Diane for arranging such an enjoyable afternoon.



On **Wednesday 9th September** we will be hearing from Michael Jolly about Surprises from Tussauds.

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 Wildlife Volunteers

We were working at Commonwood on Sunday August 9th. As is usual in this incredible Summer, it was hot and sunny, we were well prepared with hats and water, and we kept mainly in the shade. We were hunting out the annoying little plant the



Small Balsam which if left to its own devices can take over the Common, and this is no exaggeration. There are acres of it in Whippendell Woods and in the plantation woods near Flaunden. It is not a wild plant from this country but what is known as an alien, belonging to Asia, where it is probably eaten by the indigenous animals. We were hoping not to find any. It is a fleshy plant and in this hot, dry weather, we hoped it had shrivelled up but we looked in all the usual places and indeed found it hiding under bracken.

We are winning this particular battle, each year we pull out whatever we can find, thankfully it is easy to pull out. Like all the Balsam family it has explosive seeds which spread far and wide so it covers the ground easily, and where it grows in dense patches our native flowers cannot thrive. Hopefully, next year there will be even fewer plants.

On **Sunday September 13th** we shall again be at **Commonwood**, but this time down **near Dellfield** raking up the cut grass from the lovely little chalk grassland area. Do come and join us, meet there on the bottom road at **10am**, tools provided but bring your own refreshments.

Contact Dawn for more information, 267071 or dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com

Sarratt Scout Group

Georgina Donnelly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



The Sarratt Scout Group is now on its summer break over the school holidays, so nothing to report on in terms of our weekly meetings since the last edition.

As we prepare to start back in September, we have places available in each of our sections for new joiners. Scouting is an amazing opportunity for young people to try out new activities, develop their skills, go on weekends away, make new friends and importantly have fun!

The Sarratt Scout Group is open to boys and girls aged 5¾ to 14, with the Phoenix Explorer Section (run jointly with Rickmansworth Scouts) catering 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 5:30 - 6:30pm
Cubs:	Age 8 - 10 years - Meets Thursdays 6:00 - 7:30pm
Scouts:	Age 10 - 14 years - Meets Wednesdays 7:00 - 9:00pm
Explorers:	Age 14 - 18 years - Meets Mondays 7:00 - 9:00pm

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



Looking ahead to the Autumn, we have our **Annual Quiz Night** booked for the evening of **Saturday 14 November** in **Sarratt Village Hall**. This will be the 4th year we've organised a quiz for the village to raise funds for the Scout Group. It's a 'picnic supper' format with a licensed bar and a raffle. We are hugely grateful to our community that this has been supported by over 100 villagers each year it's been run. So please put the date in your diary and look out for details in the October edition of Spotlight on how you can book your tickets.

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 the 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. Following the 11th August 2026 meeting of Sarratt Parish Council.

*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>

Woodlands and Trees – Cllr Phil Mitchell

Big things are afoot in the Sarratt woodlands and across our tree estate. Following a thorough health check of our trees by arboricultural experts, we'll soon be getting stuck into a significant programme of tree care across the Common, The Green, and our other green spaces — some pruning, some tidying of deadwood, and some felling of trees that need to come down for safety reasons.

It's all about keeping our woodlands safe and healthy for everyone who enjoys them. Closer to home, the sickly-looking oak on the Green is due a bit of TLC too — it's not been at its best lately, so we'll be giving its roots some breathing room and a good layer of mulch to help it bounce back. Watch this space for more on timings.

As part of our ongoing tree care regime, we'll soon be having the King George V playing fields assessed. Watch out for tree experts doing their thing.

SPC Website updates – Cllr PM

We're gradually moving the SPC website onto a new platform with a migration programme that will enable greater control, accessibility, and easier updates. The final phase has just started and, following a detailed review, it should be emerging into the wilds of the internet within the next 4 weeks.

SPC FIGHTING FUND:

SPC hopes to create a 'fighting fund' for legal support, so it can push back successfully against the many planning applications in the Village. This is for the benefit of all the Parishioners, and whilst some of the cost comes out of the Precept (council tax) this may mean an increase next year, if this falls short. Every contribution is immensely valuable.

Gov.uk pay. is a free service we will use for the fighting fund crowd funding (Chorleywood are using this as well).

<https://www.gov.uk/payments/sarratt-parish-council/sarratt-overdevelopment-fighting-fund-contribution>

Grateful thanks to contributors from the Village who have already added to the fund!

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED ON 11TH AUGUST:

Applications to consider:

Roseleigh Bucks Hill Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9BR Ref. No: 26/1206/CLPD

Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of a two storey rear extension with loft accommodation served by rear dormer, single storey side extension; installation of roof lights; removal of chimney stack and extension of detached outbuilding

SPC: Noted. We would encourage the applicant to take this opportunity to maximise thermal and energy efficiencies wherever possible.

Land To The South West Of Dell Cottages, The Green, And Rear Of Clutterbucks, Church Lane Sarratt Hertfordshire Ref. No: 26/0960/FUL
Construction of two storey detached dwelling with associated parking and landscaping works

SPC: Objection. Whilst we appreciate the applicant's efforts to reduce the effect of this proposal on its neighbours, and reduce its environmental impact, it is a new dwelling in the green belt, within a conservation area and on a backlot site.

RECENT NOTABLE DECISIONS:

Willow Cottage Penmans Green Sarratt Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9AZ Ref. No: 26/0819/FUL

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of two storey rear extension and single storey side extension

SPC: We support the investment in this building and the removal of a conservatory with a more sustainable and energy efficient structure. We also note the previous Certificate of Lawfulness applications. However we still consider the proposals as presented represent overdevelopment of the site in Greenbelt so we object on that basis.

TRDC: Approved

47 Church Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6HN Ref. No: 26/0754/FUL

Construction of single storey rear infill extension

SPC: No objection. We encourage the applicant to use the opportunity of this change to improve the energy efficiency of the dwelling.

TRDC: Approved

Foyers Flaunden Lane Belsize Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 4NS Ref. No: 26/0739/CLED

Certificate of Lawfulness Existing Development: Construction of single storey rear extension and single storey side extension, hip to gable end and loft conversion, including rear dormer and front/side rooflights

SPC: Noted. We observe that the raised roof line of this application appears to not be complying with the Neighbourhood Plan design policies and is generally not in keeping with the local area.

TRDC: Approved

Belsize House Plough Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 4QP Ref. No: 26/0671/LBC & 26/0670/FUL

Listed Building Consent: Construction of part-single, part two storey rear extension and side porch, replacement of windows and removal of oil tank

SPC: No objection. We support this sympathetic proposal which changes the later 1960s rear parts, and 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 (*"...it is not considered that the benefits outweigh the harm to the heritage asset..."*)

Ferndale Church Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6HN Ref. No: 26/0653/FUL

Construction of single storey rear extension; first floor side extension; alterations to front roof form and gables to rear dormers; side rooflights and solar panels; alterations to external materials including render and metal cladding; replacement windows; internal alterations; alterations to fenestration, erection of detached garage; repositioning of front

vehicle gate; removal 1no. existing access; new boundary fencing; associated landscaping works; and repositioning of tennis court.

SPC: We object to this application on the basis it is overdevelopment in a Green Belt area. We recognise that the proposed development has less impact than what the applicant presents as allowable under permitted development, however the proposal still constitutes over development without justifiable very special circumstances.

TRDC: Approved

APPEALS:

Land Rear Of 76 To 78 Church Lane Sarratt

Erection of 20 Dwellings (Use Class C3) with associated parking and landscaping, provision of new vehicular access to Church Lane and pedestrian link to existing public footpath. Ref. No: 26/0002/REF (PINS 6002930) | Status: Appeal In Progress awaiting site visit

OVERNIGHT PARKING IN SARRATT

SPC has erected signage at Commonwood Car Park, and removed the site from a website recommending the space for overnight stays. More signs will be erected at Dawes Common Car Park and at the lay-by at the bottom of New Road. Please report other instances of campervans, habitually parking overnight. Thank you.

PARKING IN SARRATT

Thank you to parishioners who have taken the trouble to take photos of this.

Parking in Sarratt, as a response to the Affinity Water works, has made life more difficult than usual in the village. I am investigating No Parking signage at the triangle, Alexandra Road, by the garages. Can you all please, encourage people not to park there. Use the area – for example for shaded recreation such as reading and drinking coffee, or cover it in children's toys.

KGV RENOVATIONS

KGV renovations continue at pace. We hope that the start new football season will not be too impacted and that our young footballers, will go 'up' in the league! The Pavilion is going to provide a great social space for Sarratt.

Thank you, residents of Caroon Drive, for your patience.

See the council in action and have your say

Date of the next Sarratt Parish Council meeting is
Tuesday 8th September 7.30pm, held in the vestibule 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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