SPOTLIGHT

November 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

View from the Pew

Praying with Birds

As we enter into November, a time of Remembrance and reflection, it is good to pause and to find that space where you feel close to God and can remember those who have departed. As I sat watching the birds in my garden I realised there is so much, we can learn from them. I feel close to God in nature, and birds declare to us every day that there is freedom in dependence on God's provision and wisdom.

'*…come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'* Mark 6:31

As I look around my garden or on my walks I am reminded, that by sitting and taking time we can find that 'quiet place.' That place that we can feel close to God and find peace.

There are many birds referenced in the Bible for different reasons, in different stories. When I see the white pigeons and collared doves they remind me of the white doves, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, Peace and Reconciliation. They are a prompt to give thanks and pray for peace in our nation and around the world.

Observing smaller birds such as sparrows, finches, bluetits, wrens, as well as many others, busy in the hedges, bushes and trees. Sometimes they will make nests or feed their young nearby. They are constantly busy and as Jesus tells us in Matthew's Gospel, they do not worry about what they will eat or what they look like, yet still provide for their young. The joy they bring to me when I see a family of young birds fledge, when they discover that new freedom of flight: it encourages me to give thanks for our freedom where we live and all our blessings.

Research shows that birdsong, is one of the most calming sounds for the human nervous system. It can reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure and ease mental fatigue. I am blessed to have some robins and blackbirds who regularly visit. It is an absolute pleasure to listen to the birds singing. It makes me think that they are joyfully singing their thanks and praise to God each day and I should take time to do the same.

My bird table has become dominated by the corvids, especially jackdaws and magpies, and a rather large and handsome crow. These birds have often been maligned in history because of their appearance, yet their intelligence is unrivalled in the bird world. They remind me that we should not judge people by their appearances or suggested reputations, that we should accept people for themselves.

'*The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'* 1 Samuel 16:7

The jackdaws and magpies are generally in groups and apparently a group of magpies can be called a 'mischief' which describes them perfectly. However, they have a definite sense of community amongst them, which reminds me of how important our communities are, and we should encourage and support each other.

'*…encouraging one another and not neglecting to meet together, stirring up love and good works,' Heb.10:24-25*

For me birds always give me a sense of joy and peace, they encourage me to stop and take time, to find that quiet space, to be close to God with nature and to take time to remember and pray.

Yvonne Collettte

St Paul's Church

THE DAYS' ALMHOUSE CHARITY

If anyone has become 80 this year or will do so before the end of 2026 please contact:

Carol Chorley on 01923 265096 with your details.


Walking With Angels
Four week Advent course
Tuesdays, 1 December to 22 December
7pm.
St Paul's Parish Room, Chipperfield
Explore the words of angels throughout the Bible and enter Advent with a deeper awareness of the connection between the heavenly and earthly realms.
The four-week Advent course focuses each week on a different aspect of the angels' message, with prompts and questions for reflection and group discussion, helping us prepare for the coming of Christ.
Looking at the practice of prayer walking, we will slow down, step outside, and engage both body and spirit as we journey through the Advent season.
Sign up sheets at the back of St Paul's and Holy Cross Churches
Or contact Yvonne Collette;
yvonne.collette@sky.com



Inspire

Women Inspiring Women

Change of day!

In November we are meeting in
St Pauls Parish Room 1.30-3pm on
2nd Tuesday the **10th November**

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

We would love you to join us

On **Tuesday 10th** November Angela will be talking to us about the Windrush generation.



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 –
We start on **2 November** in the newly refurbished King George V pavilion - **see page 8.**. Please call **Daphne** for information on **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.

Sarratt Rebels Youth Football Club: Training on Saturdays at KGV Field - **www.sarrattrebels.org**

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

Margaret Stratford

It is with great sadness we announce that Margaret Stratford passed away peacefully at Watford General Hospital on October 2nd.

Over her many years in Sarratt she contributed to many aspects of Village life, in particular, the Sarratt Horticultural Society, where she was Chairman for many years and well-known for her extraordinary knowledge of plants and shrubs.

We send our sincere condolences and love to her husband Muir, her three children and their families at this sad time.

May she Rest in Peace.



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 16th November 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 11th and 25th November.

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

THE ARTS SOCIETY RICKMANSWORTH Charity No. 1102829

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

Discovering Macdonald Gill: Architect, Artist and Mapmaker

Caroline Walker

At TASR, we offer a wide range of cultural experiences; on occasion we like to highlight the often fascinating work of lesser known creators.

Today we will explore the work of **MacDonald (Max) Gill** (1884 – 1947), who was the younger brother of famous sculptor Eric Gill. An excellent but little known artist, he operated as a cartographer, architect and graphic designer in the early decades of the 20th century. He became well respected for creating cartoon-style map posters of the London Underground, which were widely displayed in stations and intended to attract and entertain travellers.

Max Gill designed magnificent map panels for major buildings such as the Palace of Westminster and Lindisfarne Castle. A leading architect, he designed arts and crafts cottages in Dorset and Sussex. Perhaps his most lasting work is the alphabet and badge designs he created for military headstones, which are still in use.

Caroline Walker is the great niece of Max Gill and Eric Gill. She has published an illustrated biography of Max Gill, following extensive research into his life, and has curated exhibitions of his work. She is a very experienced Arts Society lecturer and has presented at prestigious organisations such as National Trust, National Archives and Christies.

Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Tuesday 10th November 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

There are many traditions at this time of year, and one of ours is the BBC Children in Need tombola. This year, it will take place **all day at Sarratt Post Office Stores on Friday 13th November.**



Please help by donating tombola prizes to the shop before 13th November, or come along on the day to meet Pudsey, try your luck and see what you can win!

Every pound raised will help support children and young people across the UK, funding vital work in family centres, youth clubs, refuges, hospices and other community services. Thank you for helping to make a difference.

As the weather turns cooler and we get busier in the run-up to Christmas, it's also a lovely time to join our volunteer team.

If you're looking for something sociable and worthwhile to do during the colder months, why not give volunteering a go? From serving customers and making coffee to stocking shelves, there are plenty of ways to lend a hand, meet people and help keep our community shop and café thriving.

Pop into the shop for a chat about getting involved. We'd love to welcome you!

Facebook : sarratt post office stores
Instagram: @sarrattpostofficestores

Thank you for all your support as valued customers and volunteers.

Sarratt Local History Society 30th Birthday

For those of us who have been in it from the beginning, it is difficult to believe that our Society has now been up and running successfully for 30 years. But that is indeed the case, we were formed in 1996. 30 years is a blink of an eye in the whole history of Sarratt, but nevertheless worth celebrating.

Over a hundred members and friends gathered in the Village Hall on the evening of Tuesday September 22nd to drink prosecco and eat a special anniversary cake to mark the occasion. The two members of the committee who have been there since the beginning, Philip Buller and Dawn Pitts were thanked, Dawn was presented with a splendid bouquet and Philip with a gift.



Dawn then told the audience how the Scrapbook was rediscovered in 1993 and subsequently, after much fundraising and a welcome grant, was taken to a bookbinding firm in Scotland who specialise in repairing vintage books. While there, it was put onto microfilm and microfiche which was the latest technology at the time. But what next??

We had the Scrapbooks, now in two volumes, but that project was finished. So, after some thought, Sarratt Local History Society was formed, to hold events where people could look at the Scrapbooks, and to delve further into the history of our special village.

With that in mind, we were then treated to a fascinating talk by Philip Buller and Sue Clark, who had extracted such a lot of information from Philip's Book "**Pots, Platters and Ploughs, Sarratt Wills and Inventories 1435 – 1832**"

To begin, Philip told us how he came to write the book after an evening class in 1976 dealing with old wills. It was a true labour of love, many visits to the County Record Office at Hertford where copies of wills are

likely to be found, and many hours of transcribing medieval script. Some Sarratt wills are even in the Public Record Office in London. Eventually the book was published in 1980. It was all worth it, as this book gives a picture of what life was like in Sarratt hundreds of years ago, which little else can.

Sue Clark then told us of the very first will, that of Richard Eldebery in 1435. He left a sheep to each of his five daughters, and the rest of his goods to his wife and son. It is remarkable to remember that his remains still lie in Holy Cross Churchyard. It is also worth noting, as Sue remarked, that until the Reformation England was a Catholic country, so up to about 1536 all wills started with a gift to one or several of the little altars to saints which were in the church. Then in the later 16th century, it became common to leave a few pence to the poor of the parish, as did John Heydon in 1555, leaving 20 pence to the poor box.

Sue cleverly demonstrated how the village gradually became more wealthy. Richard Reynolds in 1597 thought it worth itemising a pair of sheets, but about a hundred years later, John Harding had 20 pairs ! Sue illustrated her talk with amazing pictures of what some of the people in the book may have looked like, and the properties they owned, bringing the past to life for us.

Altogether a great evening, Sue was warmly thanked for not only a well-structured, fascinating talk, but for being our Chairman, bringing her flair and energy which has re-vitalised Sarratt Local History Society. Long may it continue!



CHARITY PUB QUIZ at
THE COCK INN

SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 11th NOVEMBER

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

November's Sunday Market



If sadly thinking, with spirits sinking,
Could, more than drinking, my cares compose
A cure for sorrow from sighs I'd borrow,
And hope tomorrow would end my woes.
But as in wailing, there's nought availing,
And fate unfailing will strike a blow;
Then for that reason, and for a season,
To the Sunday Market we must go!

So cheer up and come to the Village Hall on **15 November,** to see our seasonal selection of crafts, jewellery, handmade articles, Christmas finery, good second-hand clothes, fascinating bric-a-brac, home-made bakery and affordable antique stalls. Tea and coffee is available with biscuits and/or home made cakes. Start is **10am till 12.30**.

Any enquiries please ring Larry on 265386.

SARRATT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The Story of Ovaltine in Kings Langley

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

7.30 for 8.00pm

Join Melissa Linsey, Museum Manager, Dacorum Heritage, as she shares the history of Ovaltine in Kings Langley, where the malted drink was made from 1913 to 2002 and how the company added model dairy and poultry farms nearby in 1930 to supply pure ingredients and promote healthy country living.

Sarratt Village Hall –7.30pm for 8pm

Non-Members welcome - £4 on the Door

sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee morning

A very big thank you for your support for this coffee morning held on 26th September, to all of you who came, those who baked the wonderful cakes, who helped on the day and with setting up the Parish room, donated prizes for the raffle and the tombola and generally were a fantastic help.

Another very big thank you to the local businesses who so very kindly and generously contributed to the raffle - Tower Hill Garage, Osteria, British Garden Centre, The Cricketers in Sarratt, The Boot in Sarratt, The Windmill Pub, The Plough in Belsize. The morning was a great success, thanks to all of you and we raised £1504.29 for this wonderful charity who do so much for people who are living with cancer.

Ann Soanes

QUIZ NIGHT

A fundraising event for the Sarratt Scout Group

Saturday 14th November
Sarratt Village Hall

Doors open: 7pm
Quiz starts: 8pm

£10 per head

Raffle (please bring cash!)

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

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

Tables of up to 10 people.

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

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


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

October Highlights at Sarratt School

October has been a vibrant and productive month at Sarratt School, filled with opportunities for learning, creativity and community spirit.

The month began with our wonderful Harvest Festival celebrations. Pupils came together for a special Harvest Worship led by Reverend Sarah, reflecting on gratitude, kindness and the importance of the season.



Across the school, children have embraced a wide range of curriculum experiences. Writing has been a particular focus, with pupils producing impressive examples of both fiction and non-fiction writing inspired by high-quality texts, cross-curricular learning and their own creativity. The enthusiasm for reading and writing continues to grow as we work towards our whole-school priority of strengthening literacy outcomes.



Our younger pupils have also enjoyed exciting hands-on learning opportunities. In Year 2, children combined design technology skills with a pirate-themed project, creating masks featuring moving parts. The project encouraged creativity, problem-solving and resilience while bringing learning to life.

As autumn arrived, pupils have continued to enjoy rich learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom, demonstrating excellent attitudes to learning and a genuine enthusiasm for new challenges. We are incredibly proud of the hard work, kindness and achievements shown by our children every day and look forward to all that the rest of the term will bring.

Sarratt School continues to be a place where children learn, create and flourish together.

Grey Knights

The Grey Knights is an open group of Sarratt residents who look after Jenks, our 96-year-old Bedford bus. Jenks has ferried passengers to and from parties, weddings, race meetings and all kinds of events for more than 20 years now.



Last week Tom Roger kindly took her to Watford Football ground to offer rides to participants of the Taylor Trek. This event is an annual fundraiser for Watford FC's Community, Sport and Education Trust in honour of the club's finest Manager, Graham Taylor.



Former Watford player Lloyd Doyley poses with Jenks in the bright October sunshine as other walkers stop to admire her (pictures John Griffith).

Jenks can be booked for your party or wedding or just a day out. She seats 16 passengers and all you must do is call:

Alan Milsom on **07917 800623**.

PINTS OF VIEW



November POV will be held at **The Boot** in Sarratt on **Monday 16th**, starting at 8pm. On behalf of Andy Coote and himself, Shirish Chauhan is to introduce our informal discussion on the ethical dilemmas that arise as the development of **Artificial Intelligence** (AI) gathers pace.

Everyone welcome. **John Guy**

Sarratt Fireworks Night

at KGV Field

Friday November 6th

Join us for junior fairground rides, Hot Dogs, Burgers, Mulled wine a fully licensed bar and of course a spectacular firework display to light up the night sky!

Gates open at 5.30pm and display scheduled for 6.45pm. Tickets (Adults £8/Children £5/Under 5 free) are available from Sarratt Community Stores or via QR code on posters in the village. **All proceeds going to Sarratt FC & Sarratt Rebels.**

Please note: Disabled parking only at KGV & no public parking in and around Caroon Drive/The Briars.

Do book early as numbers are limited to a set capacity.

Local Advertiser?

To reach *every home*
in the Parish
every month,
contact us on
sarrattspotlight@googlemail.com

We're just one email away…

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

REMEMBRANCE POPPY DAY APPEAL



Remembrance Sunday is on November 8th.

Poppies will be available at Sarratt Community Post Office Stores, the village pubs and the Village School.

Church Services

Sunday November 8th
Service at Holy Cross at 10 .30 am
Taken by Rev.Sarah with the Scout Troop attending

Wednesday 11th November.
11am Service at the War Memorial
Organised by the Parish Council
Rev.Sarah and the School attending

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

Join us for worship & fellowship. Everyone always welcome.

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday 1 *1st Sunday of the month* **All Saints' Day / All Souls' Evening**

10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
2.30pm	*N.B. time* Forest Church	St Paul's
4.30pm	Service for All Souls	Holy Cross
6.30pm	Service for All Souls	St Paul's

Sunday 8 *2nd Sunday of the month* **Remembrance Sunday**

9am	*N.B. time* Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)	Holy Cross
10.30am	Remembrance Service	Holy Cross
10.50am	Act of Remembrance	Chipperfield War Memorial
11.05am	Remembrance Service	St Paul's

Sunday 15 *3rd Sunday of the month* 2nd Sunday before Advent

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	St Paul's
10.30am	All Together Informal Worship	St Paul's
	Coffee & croissants available before the 10.30am service	
6.30pm	Compline (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross

Sunday 22 *4th Sunday of the month* **Christ the King**

9.30am	Morning Worship	St Paul's
10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross

Sunday 29 *5th Sunday of the month* **Advent Sunday**

1st Sunday of Advent

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Holy Cross
10.30am	Benefice Café Church	Holy Cross

DECEMBER 2026 (first part of month)

Sunday 6 *1st Sunday of the month* 2nd Sunday of Advent

10.30am	Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross
2.30pm	Forest Church Christingle Service	St Paul's

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

SARRATT FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Friday 18th September – The opening of the Sarratt Festival of Music 2026 and a piano recital given by **Jeneba Kanneh-Mason**, a member of the amazing Kanneh- Mason musical family.

Jeneba opened the evening with a one movement sonata by Domenico Scarlatti, played with the complete precision demanded by the music.

The Mozart Sonata no 10 in C Major which followed was a delight with Jeneba clearly enjoying the delicate opening movement, then the intense beauty of the second "Andante Cantabile" which in this case was stunning and the final movement light and a satisfying conclusion.

We then moved to the 20th Century and Florence Price with her two" Songs without Words". These lovely, gentle pieces reflecting melodies from the deep south of the U.S.A. and coming from the composer's origins and here played with much feeling. The first half ended with Mendelssohn and two of his many "Songs without Words"- great Mendelssohn and a fine performance.

Following the interval, just one work "Four Ballades" – Chopin. These pieces were written at different times over a period of some eleven years but often, as here, performed together. The incredible opening two, both wild and stormy in part with many plunging and rising scales (rivalling Liszt!) and brilliantly captured by Jeneba as indeed the somewhat calmer third and fourth Ballades; yes, played with complete mastery.

Wonderful evening with a wonderful musician.

John Malin

Saturday 19th September 2026 - Giants Of Jazz Piano

This most entertaining group of eight remarkably versatile musicians deserved to see the hall totally sold out.

Musicians with histories of playing with Kenny Ball, Humphrey Lyttelton, Chris Barber, Aker Bilk, Pasadena Roof Orchestra and more. It just had to be a great evening, and it was!

We enjoyed a wide variety of piano styles, through Ragtime, Blues to Boogie Woogie and BeBop - with even a quirky version of three blind mice!

The narrative by pianist Martin Litton following the history and progression of jazz through the ages was quite unique, entertaining and educational with the style changes demonstrated by a variety of techniques on the piano, making it a memorable evening.

The final encore of the evening, a hot jazz rendition of “Please don't talk about me when I'm gone” was easy to ignore!

David Butler

Saturday 25th September 2026 - Aquarelle Guitar Quartet

We were privileged to be visited by the amazing Aquarelle Guitar Quartet, who treated a packed audience to an extravaganza of musical pieces. Craig Ogden has graced our Festival before. Always very well received as a solo artist, he was instrumental in the birth of this quartet in 1999, at the Royal Northern College of Music, and joined as a full member in 2023.

‘Aquarelle’ is a French word for a watercolour painting technique and the term perfectly fits this superb quartet, whose music displays great fluidity and transparency. The four guitarists are exceptionally gifted. At this level their instruments are very difficult to master, even more so when they create music as a tightly knit ensemble.

The group displayed mesmeric, perfect coordination, with each member taking it in turns to lead. The seamless transitions from guitarist to guitarist was faultless and impossible to follow as each player handed on to the next with speed and dexterity. The four guitars, playing with great synchronicity, gave a joyful and emotional edge to each piece.

The musical offerings on the evening were very varied. Beginning with a Brazilian piece by Paulo Bellinati, based on the game of marbles (you could hear the chink of glass on glass!), the group quickly segued into a six part piece by Australian Nigel Westlake, ‘Six Fish’. The hippy vibe, reflecting the sea at the Australian Gold Coast, had each part mirroring the movements of native fish. Particularly memorable was ‘Flying Fish’ with the dreamy music perfectly reflecting the sea-skimming motion of this beautiful creature.

The ability of the quartet to evoke such a wide range of sounds from their instruments was remarkable. Later in the programme, as would be expected, there were several Spanish influenced pieces, sometimes sombre and at times fast and furious, displaying split second timing and breathtaking coordination. These included 'Alfonsina y el Mar' by Ariel Ramirez about a sea drowning and 'Hasta Alicia Baila' by Eduardo Martin, designed to make a woman get up and dance. Some audience members clearly felt like doing so!

'Nebulae' by Olga Amelkina-Vera captured the essence of remote galaxies, with hints of the orchestration of Holst's 'The Planets', the music fading into the mystery of the universe. This was followed by the tranquil and very evocative 'Swan LK243' (a hundred year old herring fishing boat) by harpist Catriona McKay.

A standout for me was the utterly beautiful suite 'Themes from Frida' by Elliot Goldenthal, which celebrated through music the life of the great Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. The evening ended with a sparkling climax, a trio of Celtic influenced pieces, and a much deserved encore for an adoring, grateful audience. This is world class music from a unique quartet and we were privileged to witness great players at the top of their profession in our own village hall.

Jeff Baker

Saturday 26th September 2026 – Apollo 5

Apollo 5 treated Sarratt to a truly exquisite night of a cappella music with their *A Day in Paradise* programme. The afternoon vocal workshop was an absolute delight—getting singers and complete beginners to sing together was a real treat (even if, much to the rest of the audience's delight, we weren't invited to perform our "Wade in the Water" contrapuntal in the evening concert!).

The main concert was pure magic. Journeying seamlessly from Renaissance madrigals to Gershwin, along with infectious covers of "Sh-Boom" and Bill Withers' "Lovely Day," the ensemble displayed flawless musicality and effortless blend. We were incredibly fortunate that such an acclaimed group could squeeze our village festival into their busy schedule and it really was another day in paradise in Sarratt!

Angela Dudley

Sarratt F.C.



Our mixed run of form has continued this month. We travelled to Cranfield United, who are a division above us, in the League Cup. Although we had a fierce showing, with Charlie Kindell and Dan Taylor both finding the back of the met, we ultimately fell 4-2 against our higher-rated opposition.

Another cup match on the road produced a better result, as goals from captain Sam Wiltshire, Taylor and Chris White all contributed to a 3-2 victory over Hertford Heath in the County Cup. We'll visit Redbourn in the second round!

Tough league meetings with Redbourn Rovers and Aston Clinton garnered heavy defeats, but youngsters Curtis Anekwe, Ewan Neilson and Harry Hogan all got on the scoresheet.

Taylor's brace, along with Anekwe's equaliser, was enough to take a point from last season's champions Pitstone & Ivinghoe in an entertaining 3-3 draw.

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)
31st October - Old Bradwell United (2:00pm)
14th November - Tring Corinthians (2:00pm)
28th December - London Colney (2:00pm)

Tom Scarborough
Communications & Welfare Officer, **Sarratt FC**

Sarratt WI

Our speaker in October was Mick Le Mare, designer and chocolatier from Le Mare Chocolat, a small artisan chocolate making business in Stevenage. Mick began by giving us an overview of the history of chocolate and then explained how chocolate is made. We were given the opportunity to taste their dark, milk, white and ruby chocolate, all of which were delicious.



At our **11th November** meeting, we will be celebrating our **70th birthday**.

We have a talk on The Women of Bletchley Park and then a celebration of our milestone. **Any ex-members or people that have supported the WI over the years are welcome to attend.**
Please RSVP to Leone@harrycharles.co.uk.



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

Here's a happy memory of our September walk which started and ended at the Artichoke in Croxley Green – blue skies on a sunny day by the Chess!

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

Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers



Sunday October 11th was a mild and pleasant day, perfect for our group working at Commonwood.

Our task this month was to remove some of the overgrowth of sycamore saplings which are threatening to take over the Common. They are fine trees in the right place, growing to a hundred feet or more, but these would never come to that. They were trying to reach the light, pushing up under majestic oak trees and spindly and weak as a result. Better to remove them, and let the oaks grow in peace.

We found quite a few, some about 12 feet high, some only a few inches, but they soon were gone. This also has the benefit of creating a glade, in fact two, which is beneficial to other plants in providing more light. Even the brambles there may flower with more light, giving welcome nectar to bees and other insects. A satisfying morning's work.

Next time, on **Sunday November 8th** we shall be working at Penmans Green, up the track from Belsize. Meet there at 10am, tools provided but please bring your own refreshments. New volunteers are warmly welcomed, just turn up or contact Dawn 267071 or dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com for more information.provided.

Contact Dawn 267071 or

dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com for more information**.**

Sarratt Scout Group

Georgina Donnelly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson

SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

Our 4th Annual Quiz will be taking place on the evening of Saturday 14 November in Sarratt Village Hall - see the advert elsewhere in this edition of Spotlight for more details. We have greatly appreciated the support the village has given to this event over the last 3 years, with more than 100 villagers taking part on each occasion. We hope you will be able to come along again this year to what is our main, and only, fundraising event. It's great fun and a really sociable evening supporting your village Scout Group.

The Scout Group will also be taking part in the Sarratt Remembrance Day Service at Holy Cross the weekend before our Quiz where our leaders and young members will parade into church and take an active part in the service as they lay poppies on the altar to remember those in the village who gave their lives during WWI and WWII.

****

The Scout Group programme is now approaching the Autumn Half Term break, so here is what we have been up to since we started back in September after the Summer holidays…..



Beavers returned with great enthusiasm for a scavenger hunt in Chipperfield Woods, where we have also been for a hike. The Scouts ran a sports evening for the Beavers at the playing fields which was great fun with some not-very-serious races. We have also been making volcanoes and aeroplanes for the Experiments badge and learning about first aid and the green cross code. Last week we went bowling at Woodside and there were an impressive number of strikes and spares in the scores! Next half term we will be practising our carols in preparation for a Christmas visit to St Laura's care home in Kings Langley.

Cubs started the term with a bang (and a squeal and squawk!) with a fascinating session with Petsman and his band of flying, creeping and

slithering things. Later in September, we held an indoor Cub Camp at Well End, where we went “old skool” with lessons in fire-lighting, whittling with knives, archery and enjoying the onsite wooded area for war games, in good preparation for our visit to Hemel Hempstead’s Laser Quest.



The Cubs have also learned lots of culinary skills this term - Charlotte showed them how to bake pitta pizzas on an open fire they had started, followed by last week’s session on seasonal vegetables and smoothie making - yum! Next half term we will of course be taking part in the Remembrance Sunday parade at Holy Cross on 8 November, followed by our next weekly meeting where Naval Officer Kevin Shaw is coming to tell us more about his excellent career and teach us some navy skills.



The Scouts really enjoyed running the “sports day” for the Beavers, chaos doesn't even begin to describe it. After the Beavers left, we retired to the Village Hall for a well earned sit down meal, expertly prepared by Izzy and Flo (with a little guidance from Paul and Martin).

We have continued our aim to do one good deed for the Community every month during 2026, and our September effort was to help put the stage up in the Hall for the Festival of Music. The Scouts were treated to a night hike and a bag of chips for their efforts. We've also been experimenting and navigating with What-3-Words and spent an evening following a treasure hunt around the Green, with the “treasure” (Haribos) hidden at cycles/cloud/noted, or the back door of the Hall!

Following a trip to the Aquadrome for their first meeting after the summer break the Phoenix Explorer Unit has had a night of shelter and den building at the Chorleywood Campsite, been out orienteering and practiced their bow and arrow skills with an archery session at the Mill End Scout Hut.

The Sarratt Scout Group is open to boys and girls aged 5¾ to 14, with the Phoenix Explorer Unit (run by 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

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, including the key points arising for the SPC Meeting held on ***Tuesday 13th October 2026.*** *Full minutes when approved and other information is available on the SPC website* ***sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk***



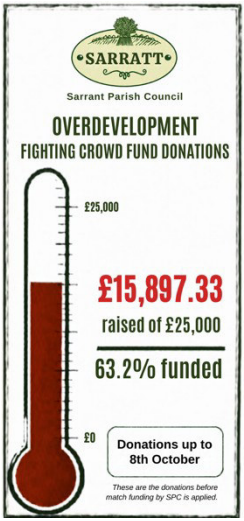
Find out the latest updates

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

NEW APPEAL - LAND AT DAWES LANE

A notice has recently been received of this appeal following a non-determination decision by TRDC for the application of up to 44 homes at Winfield Farm beside Dawes Lane. Three Rivers are expected to indicate at its 19 November Planning Committee what decision it would have made. The appeal inquiry is considered unlikely to commence the hearings before January 2027.

SPC are applying for Rule 6 status. This would permit SPC as needed (collaborating with TRDC) to formal participation, evidence, witnesses and cross-examination, but carries a limited risk of an adverse costs award if the Council acts unreasonably.



Planning consultant Carl Thomas had been commissioned to prepare the Rule 6 application and an initial assessment of the case to prepare for the next steps. Indicative professional costs for the whole process are approx. £30,000 without counsel and potentially up to £60,000 with barrister representation us.

The fighting fund stood at approximately £32,000 including the Council's match funding, with about £5,000 already spent. The Council had committed to match donations up to £25,000 in total, so

further fundraising could be required. To donate please see the link on the SPC website or cheques can be posted in the SPC office mailbox at the village hall.

New Website

SPC has updated its IT systems as part of the ongoing internal and external communications improvements. This includes a new website which provides clearer, more detailed and easier access to SPC and local information. Check it out at **sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk**

KGV Pavilion Upgrade

The main building works have now been completed, a few days beyond the planned programme. Improvements included new segregated changing facilities, an upgraded kitchen and replacement windows.

Boundary Review

Three Rivers is conducting a community governance review. A further consultation was expected for unparished areas. One of the proposal under discussion is a transfer to Croxley Green of the field north of Little Green Lane that is subject to a likely to be approved 600 homes development. This is considered to be a sensible proposal, because the new community would be an extension of Croxley. The Council does not support extending the boundary change beyond that field without clear evidence and consultation with affected residents.

Further Government Planning Changes

National changes to planning delegation mean parish councils can request, but no longer require, applications to be referred to the TRDC planning committee. However the Head of Planning has indicated a willingness to consider reasonable requests. Applications of 150 homes or more would also be subject to additional national scrutiny where a refusal was proposed.

PLANNING ***RECENT APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED:***

Land Adjacent to Ashwood and Trackside Bucks Hill 26/1493/FUL
Construction of a two-storey detached dwelling and detached carport with associated access, parking and hard and soft landscaping works.
SPC: Inappropriate development in the Green Belt.

Popes Croft Chandlers Lane Chandlers Cross 26/1491/FUL
First floor extension to create two storey dwelling including front two

storey extension. **SPC:** This is a large expansion of this dwelling in a Green Belt location. We note the reduction in footprint compared with the previous refused application and note the permitted development fallback position. We encourage the application to use the opportunity of this change if it goes ahead, to improve the insulation of the building and install renewable energy solutions, such as solar panels and heat pumps where appropriate.

Land At Micklefield Hall Farm Sarratt Road 26/1490/FUL Construction of an agricultural building to be used as a deer processing unit (Use Class B2) **SPC:** We support the investment in local business and local food provision. As per existing SPC policy we generally object to new buildings on a Green Belt site and there is concern from some on the possible overdevelopment of this particular site.

Great Sarratt Hall Farm The Green 26/1193/PDA
Prior Approval: Change of use of existing agricultural building to two residential dwellings with operational works and extension to building and associated curtilage and parking. **SPC:** While we would welcome the addition of three bedroom properties in Sarratt and investment into this deteriorating barn, we do not believe this is a sustainable location for this type of dwelling, as highlighted by Herts Highways responses. We object to this application on the grounds that the barn has not been in agricultural use for many years, so would not qualify for the change in use, and due to its location, this application will result in an impact to the adjacent conservation area.

RECENT NOTABLE DECISIONS:

Bay Tree Farm Bucks Hill 26/1271/FUL Construction of an outdoor riding manege **SPC:** Our position remains the same as for the previous application. No objection on the basis this is in an area with other manages, is low impact with no lighting and is for private use only.
TRDC: Approved

Farmhouse Newhall Farm Bucks Hill 25/1097/FUL & 25/1098/LBC Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of part single and part two storey side and rear extensions; extension to basement level, and loft conversion… **SPC:** No objection on the basis that the overall increase in size is less than 40%, the design is appropriate to the history of the building and will secure this listed building for the future. The extensive changes and refurbishments will also significantly improve

the energy efficiency of the building. We encourage the applicant to take the opportunity of these works to incorporate renewable energy options. **TRDC: Approved**

Toledo The Green Sarratt 26/1238/FUL Demolition of the existing dwelling and associated buildings; construction of detached two storey dwelling…
SPC: We recognise the extent of the approved permitted developments, so we support the more logical approach this application proposes. As this site borders the conservation area, we ask that any development meets the design codes set out in the Neighbourhood Plan. **TRDC: Approved**

York House School Sarratt Road 26/1215/FUL & 26/1216/LBC Installation of solar panels on the roofs **SPC:** We support this application and the investment in renewable energy. **TRDC: Approved**

Roseleigh Bucks Hill 26/1206/CLPD Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of a two storey rear extension with loft accommodation… **SPC:** Noted. **TRDC: Approved**

Land To North West Of Cottage Farm Redhall Lane Chandlers Cross 25/2094/FUL - Erection of a barn and a tractor store; access off Redhall Lane and associated hard-standing and turning area; erection of 2no. polytunnels and a potting enclosure. **SPC:** We object to this application on the basis there is a lack of information in the application to allow us to assess the impact on the local area and neighbouring residents. Our potential concerns include screening of the polytunnels, the scale of the new stables and the increase in traffic volume and large vehicles. **TRDC: Refused** (…inappropriate development in the Green Belt …with no very special circumstances…)

APPEALS:

Land At Dawes Lane - Outline application: Demolition of existing structures and erection of up to 44 new homes… 25/2215/OUT PINS Appeal ref : 6016467 Appeal Procedure: Inquiry.

Land Rear Of 76 To 78 Church Lane - Erection of 20 Dwellings 26/0002/REF PINS: 6002930 **Status: Appeal allowed** *(permission granted)*

Old Plough House Plough Lane - Listed Building Consent: Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of two storey rear

extension 26/0697/LBC PINS Appeal ref : 6016847 Appeal Procedure: Written Status: open for public responses.

Department of Transport Local Public Inquiry held into "THE HERTFORDSHIRE (SARRATT FOOTPATH 034, SARRATT) CYCLE TRACKS ORDER 2025" - Inspector **report recommends approval of the Order**

See the council in action and have your say

Date of the next Sarratt Parish Council meeting is **Tuesday 10th November 7.30pm**, held in **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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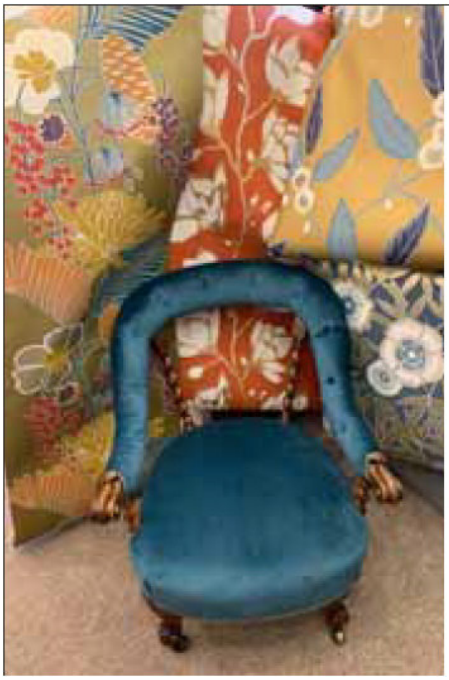
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