

The background of the entire page is a vibrant stained glass artwork. It features several large butterflies with wings in shades of blue, yellow, orange, and green, set against a backdrop of stylized leaves and branches. The design is intricate, with dark outlines separating the various colored sections.

SPOTLIGHT

May 2024

visit

sarrattvillage.co.uk

hcsp.net

ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE

SPOTLIGHT is produced by Holy Cross Church, Sarratt, for the people of the village and hamlets and welcomes reports of ALL village activities HOLY CROSS - making Jesus known - a church for the whole community

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

MORE ABOUT

The Benefice: www.hcsp.net

the Village: sarrattvillage.co.uk

SOME USEFUL CONTACTS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PARISH CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, SARRATT

Rev'd Sarah Collins

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

Readers	Mrs. Angela Coakley	angelac3000@aol.com or 264380
	Mr. Philip Waine	268904
Churchwardens	Mrs. Linda Clough	264884
	Mr. Neil Altman	neilaltman@aol.co.uk or 07958 515506
Organist/Choirmaster		
Administrator	Mrs. Sonya Tolmie	holycrossstpauls@outlook.com or 264377
Youth Worker		
Friends of Holy Cross	Mrs Sue Clark	sue@suemclark.com or 07850 285471

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

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

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

Chair	Cllr. Sarah Dobson	07881 500488
Parish Clerk	Mrs Lena Mortimer	clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk , or 262025
Parish Office hours	Monday to Thursday 9am – 3pm	
Alternative arrangements will be notified on the Office Door.		
THREE RIVERS DC	District Councillor	Mr. Ciaran Reed 07584 430633
	District Councillor	Mr. Philip Hearn Philip.hearn@threerivers.gov.uk
	District Councillor	Mr. Oliver Cooper Oliver.cooper@threerivers.gov.uk
HERTFORDSHIRE CC	County Councillor	Mr. Phil Williams 07738-293769
SARRATT CofE SCHOOL	Head Teacher	Mrs. N.O'Hare 262003
COMMUNITY BOOKINGS	Village Hall website:	www.sarrattvillagehall.co.uk
VILLAGE HALL	Bookings Secretary:	265881 or 07515-452124
		e-mail: sarrattvillagehallbookings@live.co.uk
SARRATT CARE	Hours: 10am - 12noon Monday to Friday	270577
POLICE	Neighbourhood Watch non-emergency number	101

Cover photograph by Jenny Roberts

View from the Pew

A reflection on Lent

Advent is a time of waiting and preparation for Christ's birth, correspondingly Lent is a time of penitential preparation for Christ's death on the cross and resurrection.

Many of us will have enjoyed Pancake Day and then marked Lent by abstaining from chocolate or another personal luxury for 40 days, as Jesus fasted in the desert and endured the temptations of Satan. We end ours on Easter Sunday with Easter egg hunts, and gatherings with family and friends.

This year, along with a group from Holy Cross and St Paul's, I took part in a Lent course. Each week we met to learn about prayer, using our Lords Prayer as the basis to reflect on the elements of Adoration, Petition, Intercession, Unanswered Prayer, Contemplation, Listening and Spiritual Warfare.

This was way outside my comfort zone; however, I was challenged and committed myself to experiencing something new.

The culmination of the course was a 'Soaking'. With little knowledge and some trepidation of what to expect we met at St Paul's with duvets, blankets and pillows. We started by laying on the floor, a cellist played sounds that reverberated around the room and the floor, whilst we all focussed on prayer. Each of us experienced it differently: I felt the tumultuous, epic nature of the mountains, through to the flow of the tide or the rhythm of breath, into a final dawn or awakening. To my surprise I was totally immersed, and couldn't wait to share my experience with others.

I gained so much by experiencing this period of Lent with a focus which made me consider and have a better understanding of the true meaning of Easter. The message that resonated was that by dying Christ took away our sin, and through his resurrection gave us eternal life.

However you celebrated Easter, I hope you feel renewed and energised along with the 'Darling Buds of May'.

Jennifer Roberts

Holy Cross – PCC March Meeting

Holy Cross Parochial Church Council (PCC) meets 4–5 times a year, chaired by Rev Sarah Colins its purpose is to oversee the ministry and running of Holy Cross Church.

The first quarter of the year has been a busy one with the Rector spending time in Sarratt school and leading Bereavement and Lent Courses. In addition, Easter activities with the school, the mother and toddler group, and the youth group (which meet in St Pauls Parish Rooms but are open to the whole Benefice and are led/supported by members of the church community) were discussed and the growing number of attendees was welcomed.

With Spring approaching the programme of work to maintain the church yard, and to repair and paint the guttering, gates and railings was agreed. A “wild area” for wildlife will be maintained in the older part of the church yard and plans for the incorporation of the “new” church yard are progressing. A new heating system, meeting the needs of the Diocese to become carbon neutral are advancing.

The financial position of the church was discussed, and it was noted that the “Parish Share”, which is a voluntary contribution that Holy Cross makes to the Diocese to cover the cost of the Incumbent and Diocesan overheads, is unlikely to be met in full this year.

If you would like to know more about the PCC please contact the Rector Sarah Collins or Sonya Tolmie at:

holycrossstpauls@outlook.com

The next meeting of the PCC is Monday 24 June 2024.

SARRATT MUMS, TODDLERS AND BABIES

Daphne Tyler is looking for someone who would like to help run the group with the possibility of taking it over. We meet on a **Monday morning 9.30-11.30** term time in the **King George V pavilion**.

For more information, please call **Daphne** on **07970 894205**.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

SEAN AYLETT



At school, Sean displayed an artistic talent and was also a keen rugby player and his interest in architecture and design led to his decision to become an architect. After he completed his first 3 years of intermediate study, he went to the US to work for a firm of architects in Baltimore and while there he travelled around to visit buildings of interest. He returned after a year to resume his final 2 years of study, graduating in 1967. This was when he and Vicky, who he met while they were students, were married. In 1973, after their daughters were born, the family settled happily in Sarratt and the children went to Sarratt School.

Sean was keen on staying fit and played rugby into his fifties; he loved skiing and enjoyed playing table tennis in the u3a group. He also enjoyed being part of the u3a French conversation group. Singing was another interest and he was pleased to join the choir in the annual Carol services at Holy Cross and the summer Flower Festival concerts.

Sean's architectural career continued at the GLC and privately at this time he designed a factory for his father-in-law's company in Harlesden. Some years later, he moved to the London Borough of Haringey where he headed a team of architects working on, among various other projects, a sheltered housing scheme in Andover with an emphasis on landscaping. A model of this scheme was exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition.

He later moved to the private firm of Scott Brownrigg and Turner in Covent Garden and finally, in 1990, he started working on his own account, winning awards from the RIBA for a number of his local projects. He was very pleased when the opportunity arose to be the architect of the extensive renovation and rebuilding of the old village hall in Sarratt, liaising with the committee and the contractors to produce the present Sarratt Village Hall which is a real asset in the village. The many varied events which take place in the Hall

demonstrate its success and versatility, especially as shown by the annual Sarratt Festival of Music, giving the audience the chance to enjoy the excellence of the performances here in the village.

Rest in peace.

Eileen Adams: On April 18th, after many distressing weeks spent in hospital and then in a nursing home, **Eileen Adams** was released from her suffering and quietly passed away. We send our love to the family. May she now Rest in Peace. An obituary will follow next month.

Anne Wydburd: We are sad to report that Anne, who lived in Bucks Hill, passed away peacefully on April 13th. We send our condolences to her family. An Obituary will follow and may she now Rest in Peace.

Pop-up Community Cafe

We would love to see you!

You will be sure of a warm welcome.

Fab cakes, coffee and good company

Hope to see you there!

Monday 13th of May 2024

Sarratt Village Hall 2-4:30 pm



Sarratt and Chipperfield Community Foundation - SCCF

Founded in 2017 to be a help and support to the local community, we are here to help individuals, charities, groups and organisations in the communities of Sarratt and Chipperfield.

For further information - **Angela Coakley** - amc.sarratt@gmail.com



SARRATT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SPRING SHOW 2024

2.30pm Saturday 6th April 2024

Despite months of rain, high winds and a very mild winter, the Sarratt residents found beautiful flowers in their gardens and descended upon the Village Hall on what was billed as the 'hottest day of the year'!

The unseasonably warm winter led to daffodils being weeks earlier than usual this year, as well as armies of slugs patrolling the flowerbeds. But a colourful display of blooms was still available with Steven Booth being the narrow winner of this category. The 'Other Flowers' (indoor and outdoor) was won by Simon Hammett with Kate Soothill leading the Vegetable and Produce section. The Floral Art entries were a delight to see with Jenny Roberts and Jenny Peiser sharing the cup.

There was a broad range of Arts and Crafts and the skill and creativity of our neighbours was a joy to behold. Joint winners were Ted North, Philip Buller and Philip Beausire. Sandra Turner was the champion of the cookery section. The children's section was well represented this year with some most creative 'bug hotels' and 'monsters made from vegetables'! Archie Walpole was the eventual winner of this category.

The Merle Liddy Trophy for Novice entrants was won by Margaret Brown. She had many high quality exhibits and one of her tulips was awarded the accolade of Best Bloom in Show. The most points across all sections of the show led to Steven Booth being awarded the Bernard Downer trophy.

The Show was very well attended and many people from the village had a most enjoyable chat to their neighbours and a look at their flowers, cooking, or crafts and left happier for having been part of a wonderful village event. **Sarratt Horticultural Society Pop Up Trading Stall** will be set up on Sunday 26th May, just along the track next to The Forge (to the left of the Village Shop) and open from 9.30am. We will be selling a wide selection of plants at fantastic prices!

Calling All Horti Members!

Sarratt Horticultural Society next visit is to Beth Chatto Gardens - Colchester, Essex - Thursday 4th July- all day.

A Summer visit to gardens started in the 1960s. She took over an overgrown wasteland of brambles, parched gravel and boggy ditches, transforming it using plants adapted by nature to thrive in different conditions. **Cost is £28 including coach.**

Please register your interest with **Jennifer Haynes** at jennifer.haynes777@gmail.com Non-members can join the “Horti” for £3; please contact sarratthorti@gmail.com for further details.



Sarratt Local History Society

Pam Turner Memorial Lecture

Tuesday 14 May @ the Village Hall



The 7 Amersham Martyrs who were burned at the stake for their religious beliefs!

Drinks and nibbles will be served from
the earlier time of **7.15 pm**

Annual subscriptions of £12 are now due; please contact
Jonathan Holmes, holmespartners@me.com
or pay at our next meeting

www.sarrattlocalhistorysociety.org

Grey Knights

Finally after much effort and hard work involving many people - not to mention the minor issue of cost - Jenks is back on the road with her new roof, water pump and various other vital organs.



She has a number of weddings and special outings booked for this summer, but we're pleased to say she is ready to take on more community commitments.



Interested? Call **Alan Milsom** on
07917-800623



SARRATT CARE

MAY UPDATE

‘SARRATT COMMUNITY LUNCH’

In the Village Hall on **Monday 20th May at 12.30**
For contact please ring Jacky Creed – details below

‘COFFEE CORNER’ and TREATMENTS

(treatments include hairdressing, massage and chiropody)

In the Village Hall **from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon**
on **Wednesdays the 8th and 22nd May**

For details please ring Jennifer Haynes on 590542 or
07743 133736

TRANSPORT TO APPOINTMENTS

To arrange for a volunteer driver
please ring 07565 399349

ANY OTHER ENQUIRIES or PROBLEMS

Please ring Jacky Creed on 519975
If no reply please feel happy to leave a message

WHAT'S ON WHEN – May 2024

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Wed 8	WI	23
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Tues 14	Local History Society – The Amersham Martyrs	9
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Sun 19	Community Garden, National Garden Scheme	22
Mon 20	Sarratt Community Lunch	10
Mon 20	Pints of View	18
Wed 22	Coffee Corner and Treatments - Sarratt Care	10
Wed 22	WI Walk	23
Jun		
Fri-Sat 28-30	Sarratt Flower Festival	15

...AND THESE REGULAR MEETINGS

Sarratt Mums, Toddlers and Baby Group: 9.30-11.30am every Monday, term time only, in the Pavilion, KGV Playing Fields. We are a nice friendly group. Please come and join us. Enquiries to: **Daphne Tyler 07970 894205**

Sarratt Scouts: Sarratt Scout Group: For boys and girls. Explorers (aged 14-18) meet Monday evening, Beavers (6-8) and Scouts (10-14) meet Wednesday evening, and Cubs (8-10) meet Thursday evening. Enquiries: **info@sarrattscoutgroup.org**

Netherby Bridge Group meets from 2-4.30pm on Thursdays in Sarratt 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 Youth Club meets in the Village Hall from **6-8pm every Sun in term time**. Contact **info@sarrattyouthgroup.org**

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

THE ARTS SOCIETY RICKMANSWORTH

Charity No. 1102829

Interior Design and Picture Hanging – tracing changing picture hanging fashions

Tuesday 14th May 2024

Stephen Taylor

Please join our Society for a fully illustrated lecture on the way picture presentation has evolved over centuries. Our renowned speaker will display works of old masters from Titian's generation and trace hanging fashion across more than 300 years, to the less formal arrangements of the 20th century. The great art on display will be a feast for the eyes!

Stephen Taylor is an artist and art historian who has many paintings in private collections and has exhibited in Kings College Cambridge, New York and London. He carried out post-graduate studies at Essex and Yale and was an art teacher then Head of Painting at the Open College of the Arts.

Everybody welcome!

**Tuesday 14th May 2024
Sarratt Village Hall**

Refreshments from 10.30am and presentation at 11am.

Hall entry for non-Members by suggested donation of **£8**.

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

Breaking the cycle of addiction: Alex's Skydive

As a long-term villager, I know that at the heart of our community is a spirit and commitment to support and help one another. In that spirit, I have a personal request for you to look at, learn about and support a local charity that is genuinely changing people's lives. The charity is Living Room, a Hertfordshire based charity that helps adults seeking treatment for addictive behaviour and also offers support and understanding to family members and loved ones. Patron Dr Sally Burton DL www.livingroomherts.org/ working in partnership with the Diocese of St Albans



As a former addict, I struggled with the pressures of modern life and as a consequence poor mental health – and then to get the support and guidance I needed from our overburdened NHS and local government. The Living Room in Watford provided me with an environment and structured program that enabled me to begin my journey to recovery. Thanks to their help, I and many others in our local communities have been able to take control of our lives back. As a way of saying thank you, I will be doing a skydive on **June 19th** (weather permitting).

How You Can Help:

Donate: No amount is too small. Every penny you donate goes straight to supporting adults who need and want help at the Living Room service centres in Watford, St. Albans and Stevenage. Please donate at:

www.livingroomherts.org/Fundraisers/alexs-long-jump-for-big-change
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/AlexsSkydive

Spread the Word: Share our mission with friends and family.
"Addiction triumphs when you stay silent"

AmazonSmile: Did you know you can choose a charity that Amazon will contribute to when you use their platform to purchase? This will cost you nothing.

Let's unite for the cause that touches our hearts and homes. Together, we can turn compassion into action.

Alexander McClelland 07756881289 or [alex mc 93@hotmail.com](mailto:alex_mc_93@hotmail.com)

SARRATT POST OFFICE STORES

Serving our community 7 days a week

(A Community Interest Company)



We hope that you are enjoying the continuing updates and tweaks to our stock which are as a result of the feedback received from our recent questionnaire. The new range of classic sweets, organic items and different ready meals are proving particularly popular!

As well as new items we are delighted to welcome the return of the fantastic seasonal produce from Sarratt Community Garden – the salad bags, flowers, jam and rhubarb have been flying off the shelves and so to avoid disappointment please keep an eye on our social media alerts.

Facebook - sarratt post office stores

Instagram - @sarrattpostofficestores

Following our spring clean we are also excited to open up the doors again to **Sarratt Green Cafe** and as the unpredictable weather continues we are glad to have both an outdoor and indoor area

overlooking the wonderful Community Garden in which you can enjoy hot & cold drinks and delicious snacks. We will be open initially on **Saturdays from 9am -12noon** and plan to expand both the opening hours and provision as the summer progresses – we look forward to seeing you there.



Please note that shop **opening hours on both of May Bank Holidays will be 8am-12noon** and that the **Post Office will be closed.**

It's 2024 and it's back!!

Sarratt Flower Festival

Holy Cross Church, Sarratt WD3 6HE - ample parking!

Fri 28th June - Sun 30th June

"Celebrating Sarratt Life" and our wonderful community

Friday 3.30pm - 8.00pm flower preview
& tea and cakes

6.30pm - 9.00pm festival opening night with free,
live, open air jazz and blues music from Lou's
Sextet

Bring a blanket and join the fun!

Stone baked pizzas direct from the oven with
bubbles, beers and soft drinks

Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday 10.30am - 4.00pm

Flower arrangements in the Church

Coffee, tea, cakes, BBQ, beer tent
& live music from Blue and Green and
Jolly Jazzers

Market produce, bric-a-brac &
plant stalls and raffle



All proceeds go to FOHC charity. Charity number 1018991



May Village Hall Sunday Market

Many the wonders I this day have seen:
The sun when first he kist away the tears
That fill'd the eyes of morn; -the laurel'd peers
Who from the feathery gold of evening lean;-
The Sunday Market with its bargains, often seen,
Its stalls, its teas, its cakes, its hopes, its fears,-
Its sounds mysterious, which whoso hears
Must think on what will be, and what has been.

So come and see the Village Hall Sunday Market on **Sunday May 19th**, with our mysterious selection of crafts, bric-a-brac, and affordable antique stalls, with cups of tea and coffee available with biscuits and home-made cakes – Start is **10am, until 12.30**.

Any enquiries, please ring **Larry** on **265386**.

NEW PLAYGROUND!

Sarratt Parish Council is very proud of the new playground, just completed, in KGV Playing Fields. It represents a huge upgrade on its battered predecessor, and SPC is very grateful to TRDC for funding it. Over the Easter break, it has received warm praise from children, grandchildren and parents.

However, due to the inclement weather during the construction of the facility, many areas do require reseeding, and the Council have made the contractors aware of this. There also is a 'snagging list' of minor remedial works to be completed – but as with the construction, the works' success will depend on the weather conditions being suitable.

SPC is very grateful to two former Councillors for offering to oversee the playground, and to undertake small maintenance tasks. Let's all hope that the weather smiles on us this year, and that the playground can become a favourite location for parishioners and visitors alike.

The Clerk SPC

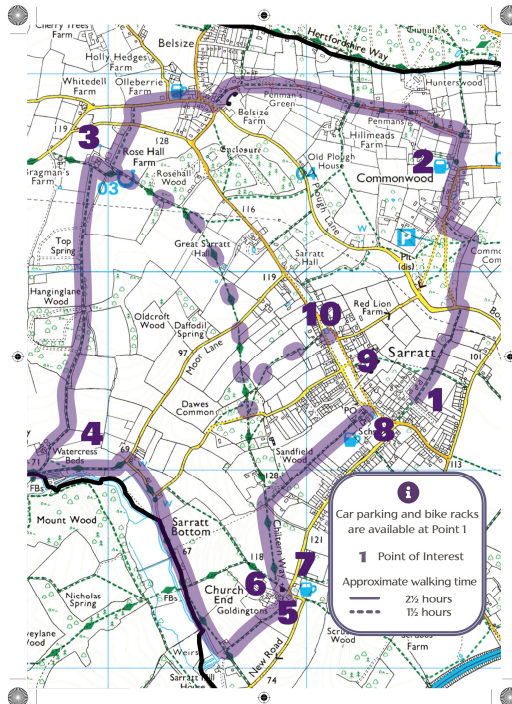
CORONATION WALK

Sunday, 5th May at 10.30

Come and join us for the inaugural Coronation Walk, funded by stallholders' contributions from the Coronation celebrations last year. All welcome, even if you just come for a drink at the beginning!

Start: Village Hall for refreshments (though the actual walk begins at the KGV)

Finish: The Green, near the shop, or Morton's Pond, depending on whether you do the longer (approx 2.5 hours) or shorter (approx 1.5 hours) route.



Refreshments provided at the start.

Contact the Parish Office for more details.

CHARITY PUB QUIZ

AT THE COCK INN, SARRATT CHURCH END

WEDNESDAY 8th May 2024

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:



ADDITIONAL PRIZE FOR THE FUNNIEST AND MOST ORIGINAL
TEAM NAME, COME ALONG AND ENJOY A FUN EVENING.

Phone: 01923 282908 to book a table

Email: info@cockinnsarratt.co.uk

Pints of View at the Plough



At Pints of View on **Monday, 20th May**, we shall consider the topic originally scheduled for April, when Rob Hildick will lead our informal discussion on what is meant by the Circular Economy and the advantages and disadvantages of that economic model. Everyone is welcome.

John Guy & Alan Milsom

SARRATT TENNIS CLUB



If you are looking to get back into tennis or start to learn, we are pleased to offer **NEW** coaching sessions for **Beginners/Improvers** on Saturday afternoons: 12-1.30pm & 1.30-3pm. The rate for a 1.5 hour session is £15 to members and £20 to non- members. All are welcome. Please use the booking link www.edwardharwoodtennis.co.uk/tenniscoaching.

The other session times are:

CLUB SESSIONS (*free to members*)

Tuesday	6.00pm-7.30pm & 7.30-9.00pm
Friday	9.00am-11.00am
Sunday	9.00am-11.00am

COACHING SESSIONS (*small additional charge*)

Wednesday	12.30pm-1.00pm Sarratt School
Thursday	6.30-7.30pm (Women) 7.30pm-8.30pm (Men)

At all other times, included in the membership fee, players can book and use the courts via a centralised booking system.

We welcome new members of all ages and abilities, including those who haven't played before. If you are interested please contact Jackie Youell by email membership@sarratttennisclub.co.uk

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



The Church of England Benefice of Sarratt and
Chipperfield

Benefice website: www.hcsp.net

Rector: Revd Sarah Collins

Church Administrator: Sonya Tolmie

holycrossstpauls@outlook.com 01923 264377

Holy Cross Services:

start at 9am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,
and at 10.45am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

St Paul's Services:

start at 10.45am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month,
and at 9am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

Everyone is welcome to attend any service in the Benefice

For the most up-to-date information, see our Benefice Weekly News
Sheet on hcsp.net.

Church Opening Times

Holy Cross is open each day between 9am and 4pm

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



CHURCH CALENDAR

MAY 2024

Sunday 5	6th Sunday of Easter	
9am	Morning Service	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Holy Communion	St Paul's
Thursday 9	ASCENSION DAY	
7.30pm	United Deanery Service	St Mary's,
Rickmansworth	a service for all the Churches in the Rickmansworth Deanery	
Sunday 12	7th Sunday of Easter	
	Sunday after Ascension Day	
9am	Morning Service	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Holy Communion	Holy Cross
Sunday 19	PENTECOST Whit Sunday	
9am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
10.45am	Family Service with Baptism	St Paul's
Sunday 26	TRINITY SUNDAY	
9am	Holy Communion	St Paul's
10.45am	Morning Service	Holy Cross

JUNE 2024 (first part of month)

Sunday 2	1st Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Morning Service	Holy Cross
10.45am	Benefice Holy Communion with Baptism	St Paul's
Sunday 9	2nd Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Morning Service	St Paul's
10.45am	Benefice Holy Communion	Holy Cross
Sunday 16	3rd Sunday after Trinity	
9am	Holy Communion	Holy Cross
10.45am	Family Service with Baptism	St Paul's

Sarratt Community Garden - May 2024

April has been such a busy month in the Community Garden – everything bursting into life and growing with such vigour. It has been really quite cold, but even in spite of that, things are happening early, as seems to be the pattern in our changing climate. All the daffodils and tulips have now been and gone, and the alliums and peonies are beginning to take on colour – very nice to see, but I would love to hold them back a little longer!

Autumn-sown salads are beginning to go over, but the spring batch is coming along nicely – both those sown in pots to steal a march on the season, and those sown directly into the soil. The rhubarb is still going strong – it has been extremely happy with all this wet weather, producing big juicy stems and immense leaves!

On both sites, the Saturday morning volunteers have been extraordinary – such a great team that achieves such a lot in all weathers, fuelled by tea and flapjack. If you'd ever like to join us, we meet at 10.30 on Saturdays at either the garden behind the shop, or at the allotment site – there is a well-behaved WhatsApp group where details of the next session is posted.

On **Sunday 19th May**, we will be opening for the **National Garden Scheme** – there will be a jazz trio, teas and general jollity from 11-4pm. Last year the NGS raised £3 million for nursing charities, to which we contributed £1000 – let's try to do even better this year!

As always, get in touch with any questions:

Floragarveygardening@icloud.com

ALLOTMENTS AVAILABLE!

Full or half plots

£40/20 per year – what a bargain for such a huge opportunity!

Get in touch with the **parish office** -
clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk - to sign up and
transform your diet, your mood, and your physique!

Sarratt WI

Our April meeting started as usual with an update on forthcoming events and ideas for future outings:

We have our annual afternoon tea coming up in August – this year we are going to Little Hay Golf Club. We are having a stall at Sarratt Flower Festival weekend at Holy Cross Church in June.

In July we are planning to visit either the Lindengate charity gardens/nursery near Wendover or a vineyard at Seer Green including wine tasting.

Our next meeting on 8 May will be our Annual Meeting when we will elect committee members and reflect on the year that has past.

The speaker in April was John Christensen from the Chiltern Society, which has many conservation projects across the Chiltern countryside from Wendover up to Dunstable.

There is a programme to renovate ponds across the region and it recently helped with work on one of our ponds in Sarratt. The organisation works hard to support and promote conservation in our area which is a designated 'National Landscape'. We hope to be contributing some of our fundraising in the future to support this very worthwhile charity.

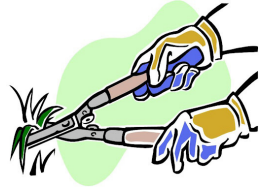
In May, we will likely do a walk around the Little Missenden area. We plan a **walk every 4th Wednesday of the month** followed by a pub lunch.

The meeting ended with a chat between ourselves while enjoying tea and cake and drawing the raffle

Why not give us a try, ladies? Come and join in the fun. See you 2.15pm at Sarratt Village Hall on the second Wednesday of the month. You will be given a very warm welcome and cake ! A lovely friendly way to spend an afternoon.

Or phone our President, **Leone**, on **07894-421748** for more information.

Sarratt Wildlife Volunteers



We had a change of venue on Sunday April 14th . We were working at Dawes Common, a place we hadn't been to for some years. It was looking beautiful - the sun was shining and the bluebells were just starting to cover the ground with a haze of blue. A buzzard circling overhead was a welcome sight.

The only slight blot on the landscape were the piles of brash, which were left by the electricity workers when they cut back branches from the overhead lines. This must be done periodically or the residents of Sarratt Bottom may have no power if a branch falls - the lines go straight through the middle of the Common. The tree surgeons had piled up the cuttings here and there, but now they were on top of the bluebells. Our task was to remove these to more hidden places and form "habitat heaps" for wild creatures to shelter.



We were very careful to avoid as many bluebells as possible, and not to trample on anything, so the work although not too heavy was sometimes tricky. It did look better at the end of the morning, and the bluebells will definitely benefit.

We may visit again to complete the work later in the year, but in May we shall again be at **Penmans Green**, on **Sunday May 12th**, meet at the top of the track from Belsize at 10am. Please do come and help, you will be made most welcome. Just turn up or contact Dawn for more information,

dawnmlpitts@btinternet.com or 01923 267071

Sarratt School



Year 3 have been doing their bit to help our beautiful local environment. Over the winter months, there have been some rather special inhabitants in the classroom - **baby trout!**



Each year, Mr Williams and the children nurture the fish until they are ready to be introduced to their natural habitat. The vital role they play helps protect and preserve the ecosystem of our local river.



The class worked in collaboration with The River Chess Association, who helped

them achieve their goal in protecting and enhancing the river for future generations. At the end of Spring Term, they headed down to say a fond farewell to their fish and to learn more about the river system.



We are encouraging the whole school to get out and about this April in our beautiful surroundings as part of our Sarratt Springtime Photography competition - capturing the awe and wonder in nature through images. We can't wait to share some of our images in next months report!

Sarratt Scout Group

Gavin Daly, Verity Allen, Dan Haynes, Sarah Dobson



Not a huge amount to report on this month as the Scout Group has only just started back after the Easter break, but a couple of notable events are included below.

We are also still looking for **additional leaders for our Cub Section** (aged 8-10) to help Verity and Pelly at the weekly meetings (doesn't need to be every week) and on weekends away. You don't need to have any previous experience of Scouting, just bags of enthusiasm and an interest in working with young people. If you are interested, why not come along to one of our meetings to see what it's like before making a decision as to whether you would like to help out again. If you would like to find out more please contact us at: info@sarrattscoutgroup.org

And now onto those notable events.....

Two of our Explorers and two of our Leaders spent a week in Scotland over the Easter holidays at the Hertfordshire Scout Station - and it really is a station, complete with the old ticket office and waiting room and the original platforms still in place! Taken over by Hertfordshire Scouts in the 70's when the branch line was closed, the old Station building now houses the kitchen and dining area. Wooden lodges are accommodation with a separate shower block. The whole site was refurbished after Covid, and makes an excellent base for mountain walks in the Southern Highlands just a short minibus drive away. Several of the walks even start at the station itself.



Our intrepid Explorers, and Scout Leaders who attended as Walking Group Leaders, spent 7 days in the hills. Despite the wet, windy and cold conditions and more of the wet, windy and cold conditions with snow still on the tops, we managed some challenging walks of up to 15 km each day - most of which felt uphill!! A great

experience and a fabulous opportunity for developing navigation skills in mountainous terrain.

The Scouts have been GLIDING!!! We have been applied unsuccessfully to attend an Air Activity Day for several years and never succeeded - 2024 was finally our year, we got a place! Sadly they could only accommodate 7 Scouts per day,



so we had a ballot to select our 7 Scouts and set off for the Cambridge Gliding Centre early on Saturday 20th April. Hertfordshire Scouts bought a motorised glider 15 years ago and a day at the Centre including a short flight and glide where the Scouts even get to 'take the controls'. The day included a short session on the physics of flight, a tour and seat in a modern single seater glider, and then the flight itself. The Scouts all loved



their flight. Annoyingly the Leaders were not allowed a flight due to pilot flight time and lack of insurance! We made sure to be super helpful and made friends with one of the instructors ,who has kindly offered us a flight next time we're nearby. Overall, a fantastic day and fairly unique opportunity for our Scouts to fly a plane. Wish us luck

in the draw for a place in 2025, so we can take our next 7!

Each Section has now planned out their programme for the Summer Term with lots of outdoor activities to make the most of the light, and hopefully warmer and slightly less wet evenings, as well as their Summer camps - more on this to follow next month!

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

All our Sections are open to both boys and girls.

Beavers: Age 5¾-8 Meets Wednesday

Cubs: Age 8-10 Meets Thursdays

Scouts: Age 10-14 Meets Wednesdays

Explorers: Age 14-18 Meets Mondays

Parish Council Report

Sarah Dobson



The following report covers the key points arising from the SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 9 April.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 30 April** in the Village Hall. This is an opportunity for Parishioners to hear a summary of the Council's financial performance and activities during the previous financial year ending 31 March 2024, and to present the Grants awarded this year to local organisations. **All members of the public are welcome to attend**, and refreshments will be served. There will also be a presentation by Greg Edmund on the archaeological finds he recovered from Sarratt Green earlier this year.

PLANNING

There was no update on Enforcement Cases this month as the TRDC Enforcements Officer was on leave. The most recent list, from last month, can be viewed on the SPC website. There has been no further information received on the outcome of Burlington Planning Appeal.

Planning Applications:

Where appropriate SPC also make an additional comment encouraging the applicant to use the opportunity of a change to a building, if approved, to significantly increase the energy efficiency of the construction beyond the requirements set by building regulations. This statement has been omitted from the comments below to save space.

- **24/0295/RSP: 13 Deadman's Ash Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6AL - Part Retrospective: Erection of single storey side and rear infill extension, and enlargement of front porch, installation of AC Unit.**

SPC: We have no objection to the proposed additions as long as they have no impact on the neighbours. We do have a significant concern that these additions were implemented without prior proper permission, which did not allow for proper consideration before completing the works.

- **24/0459/FUL: 1 Micklefield Green Cottages, Sarratt Road, WD3 6AH - Change of use of land to equestrian and erection of stables and associated hardstanding.**
SPC: No Objection. If officers are minded to approve we would request that conditions be added that restrict any future change to residential use, and this development remains ancillary to the main dwelling.
- **24/0454/FUL: The Spinney, Dawes Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6BQ - Demolition of existing shed and partial demolition of existing annexe, and renovation of existing annexe; construction of a single storey rear extension to main dwelling, with chimney, erection of front porch, associated rooflights, and changes to the fenestration, with external materials including timber cladding and stone walls.**
SPC: Objection on the basis that this application will provide a more than 40% increase in size and is over development within the Greenbelt.
- **24/0365/PDT: Briar Bank, Dimmocks Lane, Sarratt, WD3 6AP - Prior approval: Enlargement of the dwellinghouse by the construction of one additional storey (2.6m height) and raising of ridge to result in an overall height of 7.8m (Class AA).**
SPC: Objection on the basis that this application will provide a more than 40% increase in size and is over development within the Greenbelt. We are also concerned that this development will reduce the limited stock of bungalows in the parish.
- **24/0363/PDNA: Newhall Farm, Sarratt, WD4 9AH - Prior Notification: Erection of barn for hay storage.** *SPC: Noted.*
- **24/0347/FUL: Hunterswood Lodge, Penman's Green, Sarratt, WD4 9AY - Demolition of existing garage and construction of a new detached garage with an attached store and extension to residential curtilage.**
SPC: No Objection.
- **24/0328/FUL: St Georges Cottage, Bottom Lane, Sarratt, WD4 9AJ - Conversion of existing garage into ancillary annexe, with accommodation in the roof space served by front dormer windows and rear rooflights.**
SPC: Objection on the basis that this application creates a new dwelling in the Greenbelt. If officers are minded to approve we would request that conditions be added to ensure this building remains ancillary to the main dwelling and permitted development rights removed from this site.

Recent TRDC Planning Decisions:

- **24/0098/FUL: Winchwood, Windmill Hill, Chipperfield, WD4 9DA** - Demolition of existing sheds and erection of carport and garage building with EV charging point. SPC: *No objection* TRDC: *Approved*
- **24/0084/FUL: Treelings, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD4 9DQ** - Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey side and rear extension; alterations to existing dormers including removal of front dormer and replacement with two dormers and front rooflight; removal of existing greenhouse and rear extension to existing outbuilding, extension of rear patio; alterations to front landscaping works including provision of stepped access, front driveway and parking. SPC: *No objection* TRDC: *Approved*
- **24/0092/FUL: Orchard Yard, The Orchard, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6AT** - Erection of pitched roof to existing garage with rear solar panels. SPC: *No objection.* TRDC: *Withdrawn*
- **23/1794/FUL: Land at the rear of 47 Church Lane, Sarratt** - Demolition of existing structures and construction of five detached dwellings with associated parking, bin and cycle storage, landscaping and access improvements. SPC: *We support the use of this brownfield site as a location for new dwellings. We welcome the low height of the proposed dwellings and the predominantly single story design. We note that Sarratt housing needs shows there is not a requirement for additional 4 bedroom dwellings. Any harm from additional dwellings in Green Belt should be offset by this site being used for smaller, affordable dwellings that meet local housing needs.* TRDC: *Refused (inappropriate development in the Green Belt)*

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

The King Charles III Coronation Walk is almost complete. Cllr Garvey and Andrew Whitewood are posting the route, and the Explorer Scouts will be installing the way markers at the end of April as part of their community activity work for their Chief's Scout Platinum Award. The booklet to accompany the walk is almost finished, and Cllr Garvey thanked Mike

Edmund for his extensive work on this. Mike Edmund is also assisting with the design of the Information Board for the Pump on the Green.

There are 6 vacant allotments. Any parishioners wishing to take on the tenancy for a plot, or half plot, should contact the Parish Clerk.

The Parish Clerk will be reaching out to the Footpath Wardens Group to encourage regular reporting of matters needing attention. Anyone interested in joining this group as part of their walks around the Parish should contact the Parish Clerk

HIGHWAYS

The wettest February and March on record has proved exceptionally damaging to road surfaces and our local roads are struggling to recover. Bottom Lane at the junction with Tom's Hill has been particularly badly affected. It is becoming obvious that maintenance of damaged roads is not achieving the desired outcome and that new road building techniques must be employed in the future. At present cyclists cannot be encouraged to take to our local roads with confidence in their own safety.

Environmental scientists at CEMEX (quarry site) have detected a sewerage outflow adjacent to the M25 - the route of the main sewer from Sarratt. Thames Water attended to suck up the fluid effluent, however, the outflow has renewed itself. Although CEMEX have contacted Thames Water again, no action has yet been taken.

Herts Highways dismissed Cllr Diggins appeals for assistance with speed restrictions within the Parish, as they believe that there is 'no support' for this locally. Cllr Diggins has sought to refute this impression and SPC is now in conversation with the local Police about this matter.

The last fingerpost pointing to KGV on the new sign opposite the Village Hall has finally been installed.

POLICY AND RESOURCES

Susan Cook the Internal Auditor has met with Cllr Lowry and the Parish Clerk and issued her Interim Report, and in summary advised: *"There are no matters arising that require a formal comment or recommendation."*

The bank transactions and bank statements for March were reviewed and approved. As part of SPC's annual review cycle of its policies and procedures the following were reviewed and updated versions adopted: Environment, Sarratt Green, Memorial Benches & Trees, Signs & Posters, Filming on Parish Land. Copies of these can be found on the SPC website.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

A further Planning Application for Green Street in Chorleywood has been submitted – this time for the development of 300 homes. There are 30 days in which to object. A second application for 645 (reduced from 700) will follow. Schooling implications for Sarratt of these two housing applications if approved may mean many Sarratt children will fail to gain places at St Clement Danes School in future.

OTHER MATTERS

- The installation of the new playground at the KGV Playing Fields was completed at the end of March and the playground opened for use over the Easter weekend, with the exception of the roundabout which remained fenced off to allow the surface underneath it to set properly. The supplier has completed an initial Inspection Report and identified a number of ‘snagging’ items which will be remedied over the next couple of weeks. A number of parishioners have complained about the muddy areas in the playground. These were unavoidable given the extensive rainfall during the installation period but will be seeded and made good. SPC will also be installing additional benches in the playground using funds donated by the Sarratt & Chipperfield Community Foundation. There will be a formal opening arranged in May with representation from TRDC whose grant from their CIL fund made creation of the new playground possible.
- Sarratt has a new Community Support Police Officer – Anna Cornish
- Cllr Alder and Mike Edmund are continuing to explore establishing an opt-in mailing list for Parishioners to receive news items from the Parish Council such as upcoming events, road closures etc.

NEXT MEETING

The **next monthly meeting** of Sarratt Parish Council will be held at **7:30pm on Tuesday 14th May** in the Rear Room of Sarratt Village Hall. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend.

To contact SPC please telephone Mrs. Lena Mortimer, the Parish Clerk, on **01923 262025** or email her at clerk@sarrattparishcouncil.gov.uk

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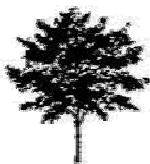
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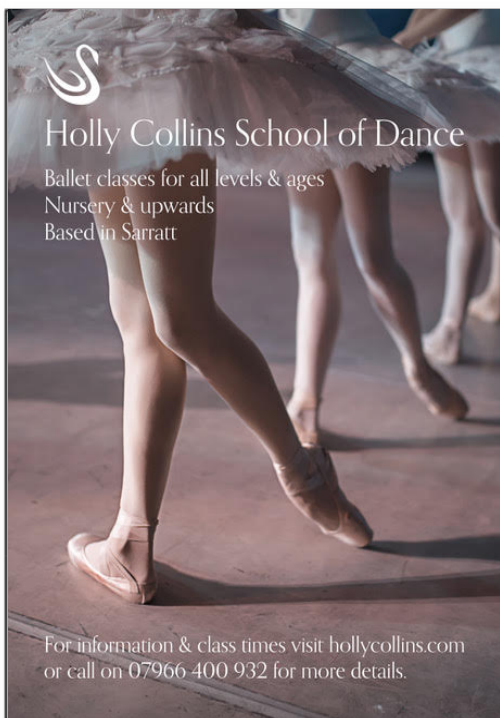
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