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July 2026

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STORRINGTON

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The Rectory, Rectory Road, Storrington RH20 4EF (frj.stmary@gmail.com)

SULLINGTON AND THAKEHAM WITH WARMINGHURST

Priest in Charge – The Revd Joel Willmer – Joel.stwparish@gmail.com

For all information regarding services provided by your churches, for Storrington contact the Revd Jonathan Swindells and for Sullington and Thakeham contact the Revd Joel Willmer.



Perfection in the Imperfection – The parable of the Queen Anne Bureau

As you read this I and many other motor enthusiasts will be looking forward to this July's Goodwood Festival of Speed. Hopefully the weather will be kind and against the backdrop of blue skies the spectacle and drama of this annual festival of motorsport will be played out on the famous hill climb. The Goodwood Festival of Speed has long been the unofficial British motor show with stands from the world's greatest and emerging motor manufacturers on display.

The thought of this has reminded me of an encounter with the Chief creative officer of Aston Martin, Marek Reichman. I was in the company of my friend and Shipley Arts Festival Director, Andrew Bernardi. Marek was keen to see Andrew's famous Stradivarius Violin. I was invited to sit behind the wheel of the latest Aston Martin as Andrew performed an impromptu piece. Afterwards Marek turned to me and asked what I thought of their latest model. I replied "It's beautiful, fabulous, but almost too perfect." He looked momentarily confused as I explained "The walnut veneer on a Queen Anne Bureau is hand cut and the imperceptible undulations reflect the light with a depth, colour and character which can never be replicated by perfect machine cut timber that appears hard and lifeless to our eye by comparison. Perfection in the imperfection where the human hand is apparent on timber and objects. The parable of the Queen Anne Bureau." Marek's face broke into a smile. He laughed as he replied "Well, the car is handmade but we'll engineer that in."

As human creatures we are always searching for perfection in isolation and rarely find it. The parable of the Queen Anne Bureau is a metaphor for being human. It reminds us that perfection is nearly always to be found in our imperfection because it is here that we glimpse the beauty in humanity which God delights in. That untidy human beauty, born of love, kindness, creativity and generosity of spirit which is so hope filled.

RUPERT TOOVEY
Associate Vicar, St Mary's Church, Storrington

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous;
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labour and not to ask for any reward,
Save that of knowing that I do your will.
Fill me, I pray, with your light and life,
That I may show forth your glory.
Grant that your love may so fill my life
That we may count nothing too small to do for you.
Nothing too much to give
And nothing too hard to bear.

Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556)



FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

Thank you for helping us keep our food bank stocked for local families. Your support helps us provide food quickly and reliably when our families need it most. This is just one of the many ways we support families alongside the emotional and practical help provided by our practitioners, so a big thank you.



"THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE FOOD. I AM SO GRATEFUL. I WAS STARTING TO PANIC ABOUT RUNNING OUT OF FOOD."

- SEAFORD PARENT

@familysupportwork

Christians in Storrington Monthly Inter-Church Prayer Meetings Everyone welcome

Do join us in Storrington Priory Library, School Lane,
Storrington 9.15am to 9.45am on the
first Tuesday of each month
Tuesday 7 July – Trinity Methodist Church will lead
Tuesday, 4 August – Catholic Church will lead
One in faith and love and praise

Storrington Macular Society Support Group

28 July

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre
Spierbridge Road, Storrington
RH20 4PG



Come and join us for a hot drink and a friendly chat. Anyone affected by sight loss and their family, friends and carers are welcome.

Contact: Sue 07460 631631

Fourth Tuesday every month 1.30pm – 3pm

0300 3030 111
help@macularsociety.org
macularsociety.org

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease

FEATURES

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2 Corinthians 5:17

St Mary's Thakeham

www.stmarysthakeham.org

Churchwardens

James Isgrove
Pippa Harder
stwparish@gmail.com

Treasurer

Liz Slaughter
stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

Retired Clergy

Rev'd Jill Simpson

PCC Secretary

VACANT

Electoral Roll Officer

Chris Whitehead
electoralrollstmary.thakeham@btinternet.com

Safeguarding Officer

Pippa Harder
Cliff Purvis
stmarysthakehamsafeguarding@gmail.com

Church Bookings

Wynn Lednor (743025)
4 Crescent Rise,
Storrington, RH20 3NB

Bellringers: Tower Captain

Roger Watts

Bell Ringers Tower Secretary

Christine Hounslow (07798 610094)

Gift Aid Officer

Bob Timms (01798 813807)
Cootes, The Street,
Thakeham, RH20 3EP

PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR

Please contact Arabella at the Parish Office to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage.
Parish Office open Monday and Tuesday from 9.30am to 5pm. Email stwparish@gmail.com.

Please do come along and visit us, on a Sunday morning, in our beautiful old church. We do appreciate that visiting a church for the first time can be really daunting, but we will always do our very best to give you a warm, informal and relaxed welcome.



Our church is thriving and we'd love to show you why!

HELP WANTED

Help urgently wanted with Wednesday FareShare pick up.

One of the regular drivers has had to step down and the collection is now in danger of having to stop. The help is needed on Wednesday evenings on a rota basis to pick up FareShare food from Tesco in Pulborough and deliver to Furze Common Road. Even if you can only commit to once every couple of months that would be very helpful. Please contact Matt on 07837 645222 if you're able to help.



Thakeham Flower Festival will be running a bric-a-brac stall as usual during the Flower Festival.

Please contact Ian Izzard to arrange delivery or collection (ianidi@aol.com/ 07763149616).

Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group



Tuesday 21 July
2pm - 4pm

Thakeham Church Room



If you are interested in knitting or stitching you are welcome to join us for an afternoon of friendship

For further information please contact Wynn Lednor on 01903 743025

Volunteers Wanted:

We are looking for help with keeping
St. Mary's Thakeham churchyard

in a tidy condition, caring for the graveyard with love and respect



Please do get in touch with us via our Facebook page or by emailing: stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!

Let the beauty
of Jesus be seen
in us

St Mary's Sullington



www.st-marys-sullington.org

Churchwarden

Carol Lusher (07717 280590)
carollusher@gmail.com

Treasurer

David Baxter (744346)

Retired Clergy

Rev'd Jill Simpson

Churchwardens Emeriti

Heather Cotton (745751)
Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

Minutes Secretary

Philippa Stallard-Penoyre

Electoral Roll Officer

Philippa Stallard-Penoyre

Organist

VACANT

Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Officer

David Baxter (744346)

Church Altar Flowers

Flower Team – 07759 567831

Churchyard

John Williams (07841 204330)

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Williams (742956)
Sandgate Lodge, Washington Road,
Sullington, RH20 4AF

Church Fabric Officer

John Williams (07841 204330)

THAKEHAM AND SULLINGTON:

Please contact the Churchwardens to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage
Details of Church Services on page 18

ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP KEEP OUR CHURCHYARD TIDY?

A REGULAR WORK PARTY IS BEING ORGANISED

IF YOU WOULD
LOVE TO HELP PLEASE
CONTACT JOHN WILLIAMS
ON 07841 204 330

PLEASE KEEP
AN EYE OUT FOR
DATES AND HELP
WHEN YOU CAN

Dates for your Diary

1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 July **Wednesday Celtic Communion**

6 August – **Hymns & Pimms** (watch this space)

3 & 4 October – **Pop-up Preloved clothes sale**

11 October – **Harvest Festival**

11 October – **Harvest Lunch** details will follow

21 November – **Christmas Fayre**

Full information for all the listed events will be available on the
Sullington page and in future editions of *3 Heralds*



Tea with the Vicar

on 15 July at 3pm

at the home of Kay Channon
1 Oak House Cottage, Rock Road
Please phone Kay for directions 01903 892461



MIDWEEK CELTIC COMMUNION SERVICE

St Mary's Church, Sullington
Every Wednesday at 10.30am
Led by Rev'd Joel Willmer,
it includes Celtic Communion Service with Bible Study
All Welcome!

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, SULLINGTON

Would you like to hear more about this lovely Church
and all that we do?

Then join our Friends to receive our newsletter where
we will also keep you up to date about services and
events.

For details contact our Churchwarden.



HYMNS AND PIMM'S

Thursday 6 August
at 6.00pm

Join us for a lovely
summer evening of hymns
and fellowship in church
— or outside if the
weather is kind!

Pimm's, will be served.

Please see the Pews
News/Newsletter
for full details.

ALL WELCOME!





St Mary's Storrington

For Clergy see page 3 www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk office@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

Churchwardens

churchwardens@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

Christine Tuson (905932)
Robinswood, George's Lane, RH20 3JH

Michael Taylor (742218)

Treasurer

Martyn Freeman (744279)
pcctreasurer.storr@outlook.com

Parish Secretary

Vivien Stuart (742888; home 745913)
Rectory Office, Rectory Road, RH20 4EF

PCC Secretary

Marij Mitchell

Retired Clergy

Revd Charles Hadley (740787)
Revd John Peal (743083)
Revd Jacquie Peal (743083)

Verger and Sacristan

Michael Taylor (742218)

Sacristy Team

John Taylor (745477)
Lueen Francis

Captain of Bell-Ringers

John Taylor (745477)

Parish Visiting Scheme

Stuart Lee (412031)

Electoral Roll Officer

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Stephen Bloxham (07391 387 225)
safestmarystor@gmail.com

Readers

Sam Ward (893794)

Director of Music

Stephen Bloxham

Assistant Organist

Ian Miles

Sidesmen

David Rice (746816)

Church Flowers

Wendy Cliffe (744467)

The Rectory Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am – 1pm.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Church Services see page 18.

Holy Communion and Café in the Church:

2nd Wednesday at 10am HC; 10.30am Café in the Church
4th and 5th Wednesdays at 2pm HC; 2.30pm Café in the Church

Choir: Fridays, 6.30pm – 7.45pm. Anyone interested in joining the choir please contact the Revd Jacquie Peal – 743083.

Altar Servers: Michael Taylor (742218)

Bellringers: Fridays, 7.45pm – 9.30pm.

Church & Churchyard Maintenance: John Butler (745091)

Mothers' Union: Jeannie Bell (07875 220426)

Sunday Lunch Club (ecumenical): Second Sunday in the month. See page 18.

SPACE: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2pm – 4pm at the Old School. Contact Barbara (741236)

STORRINGTON REGISTERS

Baptisms – we welcome into the Lord's family ...

24 May Elena Jane Hannah Butler and Jack Jonathan Roy Butler
(children of Hannah and John)

Funerals – we commend to God's nearer keeping ...

3 June William Stewart John Dance (92 years)

Interment of ashes only:

12 June James Kennedy Ferguson (78 years)



Parish Church of St Mary, Storrington

Church Street, Storrington, RH20 4LA

Accessible parking/walking access available in Rectory Road

STRAWBERRIES IN SUMMER

Wednesday 22 July 2.30 – 4pm

ADMISSION: ADULT £5, CHILD – FREE

Join us in our award-winning churchyard for tasty treats, including fundraising games & an all-age treasure trail.

Family Support Work has been helping vulnerable children and families throughout Sussex since 1890

For more information contact: frj.stmary@gmail.com

Church website: www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/stmarystor

EVENSONG is usually held at St Mary's, Storrington, on the first and second Sundays of the month, **6pm April to October.**

St Mary's Church, Storrington

Café in the Church

2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays this month

Wednesday 8 July
10am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am Café in the Church

Wednesday 22 July
2pm Holy Communion (BCP)
2.30pm Café in the Church

Wednesday 29 July
2pm Holy Communion (BCP)
2.30pm Café in the Church

All welcome to either or both. Come and join us for a friendly cuppa and good company.

PARISH VISITING TEAM...

The St Mary's Parish Visiting Team contact is Stuart Lee. Please contact Stuart on 01903 412031 if you would like to arrange for someone on the team to either speak to you or visit you.

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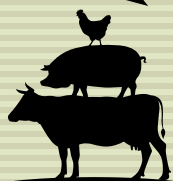
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PLANT SALE AT STORRINGTON RECTORY

THANK YOU to everyone who supported and helped at our successful Plant Sale on Sunday, 17 May.

Once again, we were fortunate with the weather and everyone enjoyed a lovely afternoon with tea and cake in the Rectory Garden. We raised the wonderful amount of £466 towards Church funds.

The surplus plants were donated to our Church gardening team, and to Storrington Primary School.

Christine Tuson and Viv Stuart



ABRAHAM

A course for the over-70s



70+ and still in God's hands

God called Abraham when he was 75: it's never too late!

A series of five Thursdays with the Chemin Neuf Community at Storrington Priory, RH20 4LN

Each day will run from 10am to 4pm
Fortnightly starting 24 September 2026

Contact: Felicity Hadley
Email: storrington@chemin-neuf.org
Website: www.chemin-neuf.org.uk

*Chemin
Neuf*

Come and join our SPACE

Somewhere for
People to make
Art or
Crafts and
Escape from home for a few hours!



1st and 3rd Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm
at the Old School, Storrington

Everyone will be very welcome (men and women, any age or ability). Either bring along something you can already do, or have a go at something different.

For more information contact Barbara (741236).



at St Mary's Church, Storrington!

... next Merry Church is on

Sunday, 5 July

9.30 - 11am in the Old School

It is FREE and for all ages - grandparents too!

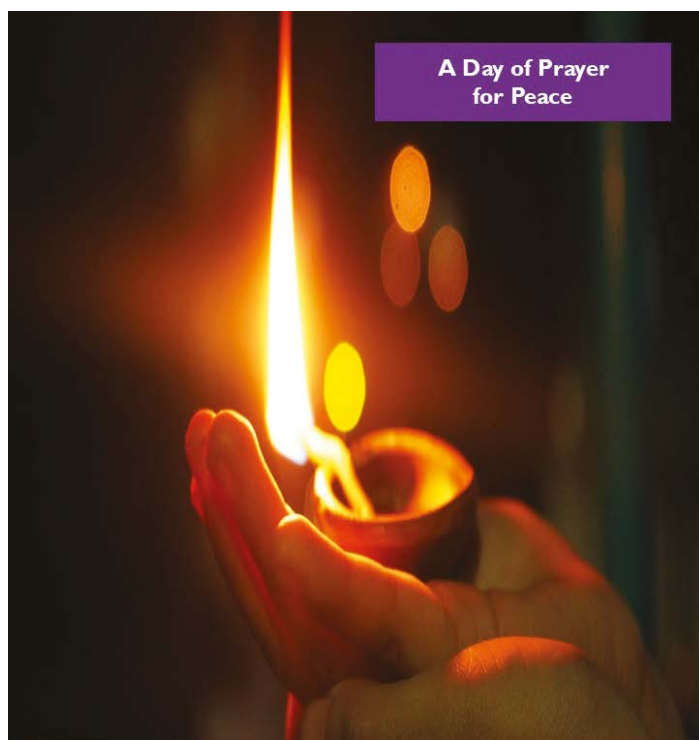
Jonathan - Rector of Storrington

MERRY CHURCH

Some leftover stork crowns now adorning the wall at the back of church, along with some Pentecost kites we made at Merry Church.



A Day of Prayer
for Peace



Wednesday 15 July 10.00am - 8.00pm



Parish Church of St Mary, Storrington
Church Street, Storrington, RH20 4LA
(Accessible access via Rectory Road)

www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk
www.facebook.com/stmarystor

SHIRLEY CAREW

Who was Shirley Carew?

Artist? Athlete? Equestrian? Tour guide, traveller or therapist? Linguist or lorry driver? Garage mechanic or gun dog trainer? Shirley was all these things and more in her life and our sister, aunt, cousin, friend, colleague and neighbour. This is just some of her story

Shirley was born on 15 August 1942 in Storrington but didn't meet her father till he came home from the war in 1945. Known in the family throughout her life as Wizzy because, so the story goes, as a child she was constantly on the go, whizzing around the house at top speed. She was a keen equestrian from childhood, learning to ride as a toddler on Wendy the Shetland pony, who bit and kicked. Shirley went on to do team chasing and eventing while living in Norfolk and hunted with The Ferney in Leicestershire.

Fit as a fiddle throughout her very physically active life, Shirley's energy and athleticism was evident early on. At school she won everything: 50 metres, 100 metres, high jump, long jump, hurdles. And she continued to run as an adult, in London as a member of the Highgate Harriers and Muswell Hill Runners and winning the Great Alderney Foot race in the 1980s.

From the beginning, Shirley was an adventurer, always fearlessly taking on new things. Having had to be independent at a very young age, after the separation of her parents, at only 17 she went alone to work in Italy as a courier. She worked for Rentavilla covering the whole of the west coastline of Italy, the Costa Smeralda, and then for Tartan Arrow on the Venetian coastline. She worked as a courier travelling to villas to make sure visitors were comfortable, taking them on guided tours, and provided the commentary on local sights over a microphone.

The following year Shirley travelled to Spain and provided the same services on the Costa Brava, for Rentavilla and Horizon. Through these early experiences she became fluent in Italian and Spanish.

Shirley could turn her hand to most things. Just a few of her other practical skills included secretarial skills, lorry-driving and car mechanics. Having worked in a garage she could do a service and recock and she learned haute cuisine from her time as a cook in Norfolk! She was also skilled at renovating and selling houses, having bought and sold ten in her lifetime, in London, Oxford, Cirencester and Sussex.

Also from childhood, Shirley was a very talented artist. After a Foundation Art degree at Worthing Art School, she went to City and Guilds in London, which she loved, as she commented 'doing art supported by proper people'. She had wanted to do a three-year art degree there under Roger De Grey but was refused because he said it would ruin her painting but that she should do sculpture because that would preserve her ability to produce form – high praise indeed!

Painting was, though, Shirley's preferred medium and she remained a lifelong artist-producing fine oil paintings and portrait sketches of animals and people (that would be Shirley's order of priority!) as well as abstract art. She especially loved painting animals from life and as she put it 'the bliss of painting something in front of you'. She had a number of exhibitions, including a one-woman exhibition in Cork Street and was commissioned to produce, and sold, many pieces of her work across the years. She also taught art in a prison and was a qualified and practising art therapist. You can see some of her work on her website Shirleycarew.com and under her name on the Saatchi art website.

Shirley was a passionate and vivacious person, who, sent to boarding school and separated at an early age from her family, and living in a time when men had to be formally introduced, had limited opportunities for marriage, but who wasn't a stranger to love in her life and was a person of deep feelings.

Shirley was a lifelong learner, always looking to improve herself and her life. Her bravery, confidence, cheerfulness and wonderful sense of humour hid her struggles, sorrows and loneliness to all but her closest confidantes.

She continually faced difficulties and depression and looked for ways to find respite and growth for herself and others. She trained at the Tavistock under the Institute for Group Analysis and the London Centre

for Psychotherapy and was a practising BACP accredited counsellor, as well as undertaking a BSc in Psychology at the London School of Economics. Working at the Terrace Day Centre, an NHS psychotherapy service in Paddington for eight years, she supported many clients, including one, who she continued to support after her retirement for over 30 years.

Whether it was her training as a therapist or her naturally generous and empathetic nature, Shirley will be remembered as an excellent listener and a very caring person. She supported her friends through times of trouble and looked after her father for six years until his death.

In later years, this care focused mainly on her dogs: Smeaton, Long Furlong, Journey, Berry, Portland, Athena, Brazeb. Each name chosen to represent something important in her life.

While Shirley took her dog training very seriously, investing most of her money and time in it, travelling long distances to train and compete, and winning accolades and prizes in many gun dog competitions, her priority was always the relationship she had with her dogs and doing what was best for them.

Shirley lived a very full and active life with many accomplishments, talents and skills. We may each have known only a little of who she was and what she had done in her very varied life, but all who knew her will have known her intelligence, her kindness and her warmth, and this is how we remember and celebrate her life.

From the eulogy read at Shirley's funeral on 26 May 2026 at St Mary's Church, Sullington. Written by Caroline Colvin, Shirley's sister. Memorials to members of the Carew-Gibson family of Sandgate Park can be seen in Sullington church.



— St Mary's Thakeham —

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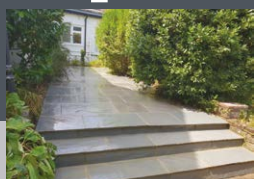
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Grahame, Anna and Gail Kittle

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Covering Storrington and surrounding areas



ST MARY'S, STORRINGTON, GOES TO COLLEGE!

Get your pen and paper ready – it's pub quiz time!

Question number 1 – what is an ADVOWSON?

Question number 2 – what do St Mary's, Storrington, and Keble College, Oxford, have in common?

Both of these questions were answered for a small party from our church that visited Keble College on Sunday, 10 May.

St Mary's has a relationship with Keble that goes back to 1870, when the college was founded. John Keble, founder and prominent churchman, writer and social campaigner, established relationships with a number of parish churches. Termed 'advowson', it was the right of a patron to appoint a priest to a parish, and the relationship between the College and Keble Parishes, including St Mary's, continues today.

Every year the College invites Keble parish members to join a College Eucharist at the Chapel, followed by a shared meal. Every two years, the College offers an open day for groups from the Keble Parishes. So, Father Jonathan, Jane and four parishioners from St Mary's joined representatives from 68 other Keble parishes at the Rogation Sunday service on 10 May.

The building has to be seen to enjoy (at first described as 'actively ugly'!). It's certainly a statement, with bricks of red, white and blue, and a beautifully decorated interior. Notably the Chapel houses a magnet of a painting called 'Light of the World' by William Holman Hunt.

The service was supported by a choir of the highest quality, and the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire gave an address. The service was followed by a blessing of the Chapel grounds outside, and a robust curry and glass of wine in a neighbouring building, hosted by the Chapel.

In all, it was a wonderful experience, and well worth the trek. Look out for notices next year and bring your quiz pen and paper!

Chester & Nicky Armstrong

TRINITY SUNSHINE CHOIR

Are you experiencing memory problems?

Music can make it easier to recall memories when we hear pieces that are significant to us, like a particular song. Singing can improve one's brain activity, well-being and mood (Dementia UK).

The Trinity Sunshine Choir is a dementia friendly choir, but open to anyone.



A Community Choir in Storrington

Our next meeting is on 29 July

Sessions start at 10.30am with coffee and a time to chat and make friends. Singing starts at 11am.

We meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Thakeham Road, Storrington, RH20 3NG.

Anyone interested can contact Robert Gamble at robertgamblec@gmail.com or 07958 232874.

PATRONAL CHORAL EVENSONG

Blessed Virgin Mary

**Sunday 16 August
at 6pm**

Everyone welcome – come along to enjoy this beautiful, traditional service on this special feast day

*The service is followed by
FESTIVAL OF PUDDINGS for
Chichester Mothers' Union projects*

Mothers' UNION

Church Street, Storrington, West Sussex, RH20 4LA

Accessible parking/level access via Rectory Road

For more information contact

Email frj.stmary@gmail.com

Tel 07538 011 579 text/call

Church website: www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

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Life Community Church
Storrington

Healing Conference

— With —

Chris Gore

A day of teaching, worship,
prayer and activation as we
explore God's heart for
healing and learn to walk
in His love and power.



*Come expectant.
Leave encouraged.*



SATURDAY 11TH JULY
2PM - 9:30PM



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TICKETS £20



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SULLINGTON 160 YEARS AGO

SUMMARY OF THE DIARY OF CANON PALMER – JULY 1866

Sun 1: TRINITY 5 – Heavy thunder showers perpetually from S.W. Preached to very small assembly from the Beatitude “Mercy” and a last one on the life of Samuel. Have to prepare a discourse for the Friendly Society on the 12th.

Mon 2: Cold and stormy, heavy showers or storms from the W. and S.W. with wind. Drove Barrie and Garfit to Steyning and Bramber.

Tue 3: As yesterday – Heavy rain from 5pm. Barrie to town by the early train at 9.40: I driving him got quite finger numbed! Was to have cut my lower meadow today with mowing machine but cannot risk in this weather. We get the rain this evening very July and found some difficulty in returning from a croquet party (!) at Sandgate.

Wed 4: Very showery throughout, wind quite cold. Parcel arrived from G[eorge] C[arew] an elaborate Indian table, or rather sideboard, for me and 2 handsome vases for Annie, there are also pictures at Sandgate. Two of the celebrated ‘working men’ invaded this afternoon and pulled my mowing machine to pieces and repaired it in ‘no time’ for which they had the impudence to ask and I the folly to give them a sovereign! At 4.15 drove down to Chithurst, doing the distance, by the Lavington Road, in 3 hours. My fingers quite white with cold, when I got in!

Thu 5: Very sweeping storms: high wind from S.W. Took a walk round the Hammer ponds, between the storms, this morning and inspected Henry’s last purchase of 7 acres or so and very beautiful all looked, glistening with the rain drops under a bright sun. Then about 3 into Midhurst to see A.E.E. v 22 Midhurst. Midhurst were quite elated with getting the 11 out for 50 (one man also) but they changed their tune when their, 16 of them, over wickets fell one after the other before Freeman and Stephenson for 32! And so, the day ended. The fielding of the 11 was very good. We drove home by 10 through Cowdray, the mare going very nicely.

Fri 6: Heavy thunder showers all day, clear evening. The Board of Trade desires for the first time returns of the Cultivation of land under one’s charge. C.S.S writes that all his family are squeezed in at Slinfold for a few weeks. This evening looks a little something like fine weather. The wedding of yesterday seems to have gone off well though ‘tis unpopular.

Sat 7: Fine, but dull and hardly any sun. George and I drove to Lancing to play the return match with the boys: we had a pretty good team and soon trounced them down for 44: then we went in confident, and disappeared for 27! Then, after dinner, we went out again and had to work till the stumps were drawn at 6.30: when we just managed to get all their wickets for a few runs under 200!

Sun 8: TRINITY 6 – Sea weather again: foggy. Preached to two thin congregations from the Beatitudes, “Pure in Heart”, and an exhortation to the Communion (which is next Sunday) on an old text and sermon “Go shew forth the Lord’s Death” etc. SG, and Miss Goodricke, who really looked quite handsome in her mourning, to church. Chatted to Baronet about his hay.

Mon 9: Changes to fine and warm. Steady. Blackiston and I took a round of Cottage visits, doing 6 in the parish of Storrington all more or less tidy.

Tue 10: Very light and warm, settled. We expected Miss Vesey today, but she cannot come until tomorrow. Masters wished to know if I would take a travelling tutorship, so rode over to Beeding (hot though this was) only to find an empty house! He to town for the day.

Wed 11: Very warm. Very busy today with the lower meadow, where I find a nice lot of grass. Miss Vesey comes today, looking remarkably well.

Thu 12: As yesterday, though hotter. Quite a hard day for me: preached to the Storrington Friendly Society on the subject of “The Care of the Body as Gods’ important work”. Then wound up Garfit; then had all our school children up here about 20, to their annual feed, and assisted with 2 loads of hay.

Fri 13: A sea breeze freshens us up this afternoon. All day in the hayfield. Miss Vesey and Garfit leave; she has enjoyed her visit much and he looks forward to “Lords” today with much delight; and so we end our lesson.

Sat 14: Very hot indeed. Finished my hay today, in very good time: have been 5 weeks about it; some damaged seeds in front meadow but got up the two last in fine order - Only help 1 old man and 1 old woman + 1 boy! To Highden, where found my Miss Goodricke and Lady Goring, the carriage going down to meet the Bart: on his way home from sea. So I, after 5 o’clock tea, to Worthing and home in balmy evening across downs.

Sun 15: TRINITY 7 - As yesterday. Decidedly oppressive. The Gorings came over to church, and I said the Communion had a fair attendance. The afternoon and evening were so intensely hot, and the week has been so busy a one, that we had a very thin evening attendance. Preached an old sermon on David’s refusal of Hannah’s offer.

Mon 16: Dull, a cool N.E. There is nothing from the parents of the Goring gent, who was to be taken abroad, so shall start tomorrow for town.

Tue 17: Fine, though little sun. A cricket match at Wiston, picnic; after which I to town by the eight train from Brighton at 10pm to 6 Wilton Street.

18th to 22nd Tues – Sat in Town. House of Commons. National Portrait, Il Barbieri and Wimbledon camp.

Sun 22: TRINITY 8 – Fine and bright. Got a sermon ready for the morning on the Beatitude “Peacemakers”. In evening an old sermon on “Contentment”. The Registrar General pulls me up for a supposed error in the copy of the register. But which is in reality a serious neglect in the law. Only 1 witness in a late marriage in the parish, I have been open and simple with him and won’t do it again. The country is delightful after London.

23rd – 28th Holiday making, cricket at Midhurst; well licked. Then to Ryde and aboard the “Mars”. Weather dull, but fine, with generally enough breeze to make sailing pleasant.

Sun 29: Fine and fairly warm. Preached on the last Beatitude and an old sermon on ‘Thy Kingdom come’.

Mon 30: Fine and warm. Dined at Sandgate, meeting Taswells, who have come for Goodwood.

Tue 31: Showery, chilly. To Lower Beeding, to be present at Clerical meeting on Ecce Homo, held at Colwood 4 miles from the Parsonage where we walked, accompanied by the incumbent of Southwater, a nice clever fellow: two laymen, Noel and Robinson, were marvellously liberal.



The Arts
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South Downs

Wednesday 1 July

WILDE ABOUT OSCAR: FAMOUS FOR BEING FAMOUS (& INFAMOUS) 1854-1900

Speaker: Simon Whitehouse

This talk examines the extraordinary life and dramatic times of Oscar Wilde from his Irish roots to his days as a student at Oxford and his meteoric rise to the heights of celebrity. Finally, we learn how ‘tired of being in the heights, he plunged into the depths’ and became famous for being Infamous.



NO TALK IN AUGUST

All members and visitors are most welcome to attend.

Doors open 9.50am for coffee. Please be seated by 10.30 am for 10.45 am start, finishing approx. midday
Visitors £10. (No booking required.)

Fittleworth Village Hall, School Lane, Fittleworth RH20 1JB

For further information please visit our website:
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Monthly
Talk

THE CROP CIRCLE MYSTERY

by Andy Thomas

Tuesday 7th July - 7.30pm

Members £6 The Old School,
Non-members £8 School Lane,
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& DISTRICT
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JustGiving



The Crop Circle Mystery: With a stunning slideshow, Andy Thomas explores the extraordinary and controversial phenomenon of crop circles, looking at their fascinating history and discussing possible theories which might explain them.

Andy Thomas is a leading unexplained mysteries researcher and author of many books on crop circles, cover-ups and the paranormal, including the acclaimed 'The New Heretics', 'Conspiracies' and 'The Truth Agenda'. Andy widely writes and lectures and has made numerous radio and TV appearances.



STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

We have continued to see fantastic community engagement across a range of local events and activities during the first half of the year.

Our popular Cuppa and a Chat sessions continue to go from strength to strength, providing residents with a welcoming opportunity to socialise, seek support, and build new friendships within the community. As a special treat, some attendees recently enjoyed a bonus seaside trip to The Blue Bird Café in Ferring for brunch, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We hope to organise more bonus outings later in the year.

We have also seen continued success with our weekly term-time SEND Stay and Play sessions held at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre. The sessions provide a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment for children and families to connect and enjoy activities together.

A particular highlight this spring was our special Easter event, delivered in partnership with WSCC Horsham Family Hub. The event was extremely well attended and proved to be a huge success, with families enjoying a range of activities and opportunities to come together during the holidays. Following the positive feedback received, we are pleased to be planning more special events throughout the summer holidays, so keep an eye out for further announcements in the coming months.

We also recently teamed up with Bone Canis to host a dog behaviourist drop-in session at Sullington Warren. It was wonderful to see so many local dog owners stopping by for advice, conversation, and of course plenty of fuss for their four-legged companions. The event provided a relaxed opportunity for owners to ask questions and pick up helpful tips while enjoying the local surroundings.

Another recent community highlight was the annual Storrington Duck Race in support of Storrington Primary School. Despite the less than summery weather conditions, the event was once again very well attended and proved to be another great success. Organised by FOSS (Friends of Storrington School), the duck race remains a much loved local tradition that has been running for many years. We were delighted to support and assist with such a popular and well-organised community event.

This is just a snapshot of what has been happening within the community so far this year, and we look forward to sharing further updates and highlights in the coming months.

Dates for your diary:

Wed 1, 8 & 15 July – 4pm-5:30pm

Stay and Play event for SEND children
at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Monday 6 July – 11am-12:30pm

Community Café at Storrington Library

Thursday 16 July – 10:30am-12:30pm

Cuppa and a Chat at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

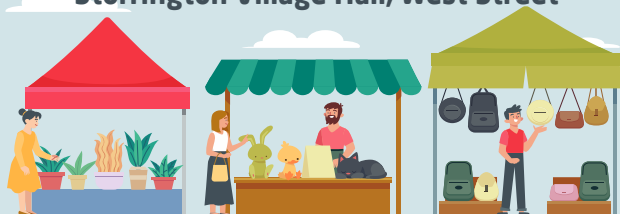
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STORRINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET

Storrington Village Hall, West Street



EVERY FRIDAY 9.30 – 11.30am

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE

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Veg • Plants • Homemade Marmalade, Jam, Chutney and Honey

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Sussex Green Living recycling collection point
Cafe – tea, coffee and biscuits

STORRINGTON FLOWER CLUB

Wednesday 22 July 2.30pm

Sullington Parish Hall

Demonstrator: Gill Homer

Theme: 'Just Because . . .'

Competition: Arrangement Foam-Free'

New members and visitors welcome



Taken for granted

As I sit here, rain is beating down. Just over a week ago many were bemoaning the unseasonably hot weather, and the cycle ride around Knepp was cancelled.

Weather happens; increasingly it doesn't behave as we've come to expect, and it causes us inconvenience and sometimes serious risk. Here in the UK, we generally take it for granted that we have the infrastructure in the UK to cope with it, and we're generally right.

I've recently been reading about a place in Mozambique where they suffer from a serious flooding problem, which causes hundreds of people to be homeless in a country whose per capita GDP is only just over 1% of ours - £470 per head compared to c£40,500 per head. This is getting worse as the climate crisis deepens. They have a drainage system, but it keeps blocking. And this is where the interconnectedness of things we take for granted is really demonstrated. The drainage system is blocked by rubbish because there are no municipal rubbish collections, so people create their own mini dumps that migrate into the drainage trenches.

Imagine; no council organised bin collections. I know that some may remember the bin collectors on strike in the distant past, or more recently if you lived in Birmingham. But we do just take it for granted that once a week a truck turns up and takes away some or all of our rubbish. If we have things that can't go that way, we can go to the tip.

Doing my research for this column, I was startled to learn that some sort of rubbish collection went back to 1297 – yes that's right; it's not a typo for 1927. A law was passed requiring people to keep the area outside their houses clear. The entrepreneurial spirit was clearly alive and well because a band of people became "rakers"; they literally raked away the rubbish and salvaged whatever was of value for themselves.

This was as advanced as it got for the next 650 years or so. Then there were two important acts of parliament; the Public Health Act 1848 and the Public Health Act 1875. These were opposite sides of the same coin. The first made it mandatory for local councils to organise rubbish collections, and the second made it compulsory for households to have moveable wastebins to make it easy for councils to collect rubbish. Who knew? Just as an aside, my favourite Charles Dickens novel is "Our Mutual Friend" which features the Golden Dustman; Nicodemus Boffin who inherited a fortune from dust heaps.

Now I take some pride in the fact that I only put out my landfill bin once every couple of months because I recycle or compost almost everything. Incidentally, in Greece, landfill sites dating back to 3000 BC have been found by archaeologists. Friends of the Earth was instrumental in getting a law passed in 2003 to make it a statutory responsibility for local councils to provide kerbside recycling collections. Notwithstanding, we still only recycle about 44% of what's possible (ONS). Why not? There are few excuses; the internet is full of guidance on what can / can't be recycled and where to put it or send it. Plastic plant pots and trays used to be the most difficult for me, but I've discovered Horsham District Council will take them in the blue topped bin, as long as they aren't black or made of polystyrene.

There are two other aspects of rubbish that can really annoy me and cause me to turn into "Disgusted of Storrington!" Litter and fly-tipping. There is

NO excuse for either. I liked the Adopt A Street scheme the wardens were promoting last month. I'm sure each of us could nominate some places. <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/volunteer-with-a-litter-picking-scheme/adopt-a->



street If there is no wastebin, remember the wild camping instruction – leave no trace.

Fly-tipping is anything from dumping a dead fridge beside a road to using someone else's land to create an industrial scale rubbish dump. According to government

statistics, there were 1.26 million fly-tipping incidents in England from April 2024 to March 2025, costing local councils between £100m and £150m. We can all help. Horsham District Council will collect large items <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/special-collections-and-diy-waste/large-item-collection> There is a register of people and businesses licensed to carry rubbish. <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers> If you're arranging for large items or building waste to be taken away, ask for the license number of whoever you're using and check the register. Or use the register to find someone. You can be fined if fly-tipping is traced back to you.



Back to the town in Mozambique; working with an aid agency, they organised a collection system, an education programme about recycling, and established a solid waste centre. They use the income from some recycling to improve the drainage system and create an early warning

system when there's a risk of flooding.

So, next time you put out the wheelie bin, or go to the tip, please reflect on our good fortune that we can take all this for granted.

Christine Tuson
ctuson@lineone.net



FROM THE EDITOR

Many of you who have shopped at the Post Office in West Chiltington will want to wish Judy and Bruce all the very best as they close the Post Office and enter the next chapter of their lives. They have faithfully served the community for so many years. May the next chapter be even better!

WEST CHILTINGTON AND STORRINGTON MOTHERS' UNION

There was a very good crowd who came to the Spring Gathering at St John's Church, Brighton in May. It was lovely to see friends from different Mothers' Union branches and to hear their news. Two photos for you! One is taken during our lunch break when most enjoyed the beautiful gardens!

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



Date for your diary:

Sunday 16 August at 6pm
Patronal Festival at St Mary's Church, Storrington

The Festival will start with the Choral Evensong at 6pm followed by the famous Festival of Puddings with donations to Mothers' Union. If you haven't experienced the Festival, why not come along, you will be very welcomed!

Maria Radford



Thakeham Gardeners' Club

70th Flower Show

SATURDAY 18 JULY 2026
2pm-4pm

Thakeham Village Hall
Entry open to all

Admissions £1 per adult – members/children FREE

Refreshments
Trophies awarded at 3.30pm

Flower Show Organiser • Elizabeth
flowershow@stanmoor.co.uk
Schedules available from Thakeham Village Hall

Displays and demonstrations from local Art and craft groups in the Chesswood Room.

SANDGATE CHOIR

The Sandgate Choir is one of Storrington's longstanding musical communities, continuing a tradition that goes back more than 40 years. A friendly four-part choir bringing together local singers who simply enjoy making music together, based in the village and rehearsing at Sullington Parish Hall during term time. The choir welcomes people of all ages and experience levels. The key attributes required are an enthusiasm for singing and making friends.

The choir is under the direction of Christopher Larley an experienced conductor and singer with strong ties to Chichester and the local areas musical life. Our Accompanist is Alison Manton who has been with us for nearly ten years and is a very experienced accompanist with a wealth of musical knowledge. Each rehearsal is made very enjoyable under Chris's direction.

The choir performs a very varied program of sacred and secular music throughout the year with Christmas, Spring and Summer concerts in local venues. The choir has become not only known for its performances but also for its sense of community. Members come from Storrington and surrounding villages, creating a welcoming and social atmosphere, where experienced singers and complete beginners can sing side by side.

The repertoire ranges from favourites by Handel, Vivaldi and John Rutter to contemporary choral works and traditional carols. Recent performances have included music by Karl Jenkins, Bob Chilcott and Howard Goodall. Our concerts are held at 2 venues being Our Lady of England Church RC in Storrington and the village hall in Thakeham.

As an offshoot of the main choir we also have a group of choir members who visit local care homes to provide a Musical afternoon for the residents.

So the choir continues to play an active role in the community by bringing people together through music, producing local concerts and encouraging anyone who loves singing to come along and take part.

More information is on our website: www.thesandgatechoir.com

John Fisher



THE SANDGATE CHOIR

Midsummer Gala

Saturday 11 July, 3.00pm
Thakeham Village Hall, RH20 3GW

Join us for classic opera choruses, Broadway hits, folk song favourites and afternoon tea.

Conductor: **Christopher Larley**
Piano: **Alison Manton**

Tickets (including refreshments)
Adults £15, age 16 and under £7, age five and under free.

- Available from the link below or QR code
- The Card Shop, Storrington (cash only please)
- Meadows Café & Store, Thakeham (cash only please)
- On the door

<https://sandgatetickets.eventbrite.co.uk/>

www.thesandgatechoir.com



CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

DATE	FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY	STORRINGTON St Mary's	THAKEHAM St Mary's	SULLINGTON St Mary's
5 July	Trinity 5	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am) 6pm Evensong	6pm Songs of Praise	10.30am Joint Holy Communion
12 July	Trinity 6	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Morning Prayer/ Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
19 July	Trinity 7	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion with Prayers for Healing	8.30am Celtic Communion	10.30am Joint Holy Communion
26 July	Trinity 8	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
2 August	Trinity 9	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Joint Holy Communion	8.30am BCP Communion 6pm Evensong

Check parish websites and Notice Sheets for up-to-date information.

Midweek Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Church, Storrington, on 2nd Wednesday at 10am followed by Café in the Church. Also on 4th Wednesday and when there is a 5th Wednesday in the month Holy Communion is at 2pm followed by Cafe in the Church.

OTHER CHURCH DETAILS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Lady of England, Monastery Lane

Sunday Mass: 9am Weekday Masses: Tuesday at 10am

Thursday at 10am followed by confessions and Adoration to 11.30am

There may be weekly variations, do check the newsletter on our website:

www.ourladyofengland.parishportal.net

Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Dingley Email: storrington@abdiocese.org.uk

Office contact number: 882297

STORRINGTON CHAPEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

North Street, RH20 4DH

Sunday Services at 10.30am, with Communion on third Sunday

Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm every Tuesday

Email: contacts@storringtonchapel.org.uk

www.storringtonchapel.org.uk

LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, STORRINGTON

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, Spierbridge Road

Family Worship – Sundays 10am

Enquiries to Katherine Edwards

Life Community Church Office, 7 The Square, Storrington

Office open: Monday – Wednesday.

Out of hours contact: Nathanael on nat@lccstor.org

Tel: 07450 176315 Email: admin@lccstor.org www.lccstor.org

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Thakeham Road

Sunday Service 10.30am

Minister: Revd Steven Donnison Tel: 245799

Email: trinitychurchstorrington@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/TrinityStorrington

Our building is now registered for same-sex marriage

WEEKLY EVENTS

Wed 9.30am Registrar of Births and Deaths – Storrington Library – pre-booking only – 01243 642122

Fri 9.30am Storrington Community Market – Village Hall

STORRINGTON LIBRARY – Tel. 839050

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm, Saturday 10am – 4pm

Knit and natter Adults Wednesdays 2pm-3pm

Toddler time Under 5s Thursdays 10am-10.30am

Rhyme time Under 5s Tuesdays 10.45am-11.15am

STORRINGTON POP-IN LUNCH CLUB

Storrington Village Hall

11.30am until 2pm on the first Thursday of each month except January and August

Enjoy a nourishing meal with dessert

ALL ARE WELCOME

Buy a ticket at The Hub in Storrington

Co-ordinator: Penny Barnes (01798 815129)

Come and meet old friends and make new ones

All for only £4!



The Churches of Storrington invite you to

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

A CHANCE TO GATHER TOGETHER OVER A MEAL, AND BE WITH FRIENDS OLD AND NEW

12 July at 1pm

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

Tickets £5.00 are available from

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington



WHAT'S ON

JULY

Wed 1

- 9.50am The Arts Society South Downs – Talk – p14
4pm Stay and Play event for SEND children – Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p15

Fri 3

- 10am Flower and Craft Festival – St Mary's Thakeham – p10
6.30pm Beyond the Illusion – Thakeham Village Hall – p21

Sat 4

- 10am Flower and Craft Festival – St Mary's Thakeham – p10
10am Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party – p33

Sun 5 Trinity 5

- 9.30am Messy Church, at Old School, Storrington (ends 11am) – p9
10am Flower and Craft Festival – St Mary's Thakeham – p10

Mon 6

- 11am Community Café at Storrington Library – p20
2.30pm Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p26
7pm Storrington Slimmers – p22

Tue 7

- 1.15pm The Arts Society of West Sussex – Talk – p22
9.15am Inter-Church prayers – Storrington Priory Library – p6
1.45pm SPACE – Art & Craft Club at Old School, Storrington – p9
7.30pm Storrington Museum – Talk – p15

Wed 8

- 10am Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
4pm Stay and Play event for SEND children – Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p15

Thu 9

- 11.30 Pop-In Lunch Club – Storrington Village Hall – p18

Sat 11

- 2pm Healing Conference, Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p13
3pm Midsummer Gala with Sandgate Singers – Thakeham Village Hall – p17

Sun 12 Trinity 6

- 1pm Sunday Lunch Club – Old School, Storrington – p18

Mon 13

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p22

Wed 15

- 10am Day of Prayer for Peace – St Mary's, Storrington – p9
4pm Stay and Play event for SEND children – Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p15

Thu 16

- 10.30am Cuppa and a Chat, Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p34

Fri 17

- 7.30pm Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p24

Sat 18

- 2pm Thakeham Gardners' Club Flower Show – Thakeham Village Hall – p17

Sun 19 Trinity 7

Mon 20

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p22

Tue 21

- 1.45pm SPACE – Art & Craft Club at Old School, Storrington – p9
2pm Knit and Stitch – p4

Wed 22

- 2pm Midweek Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
2.30pm Storrington Flower Club – Meeting – p15
2.30pm Strawberries in Summer, St Mary's, Storrington – p6

Fri 25

- 11am Wealden Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers – Open Day – Thakeham Village Hall – p21

Sun 26 Trinity 8

Mon 27

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p22

Tue 28

- 1.30pm Macular Support Group – p3

Wed 29

- 10.30am Trinity Sunshine Choir – p13
2pm Midweek Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6

Please note – all these fixtures are subject to change, so please check with the relevant organisations.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

JULY

- 1** Henry, John and Henry Venn the Younger, 1797, 1813 and 1873, father, son and grandson, Henry (senior) founded the Clapham Sect of Anglican Church, John was founder of Church Missionary Society

3 THOMAS, APOSTLE

- 6** Thomas More, 1535, scholar and author of *Utopia*

John Fisher, 1535, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs

11 Benedict of Nursia, c.550, patron saint of Europe

- 14 John Keble, 1866**, founder of Keble College, Oxford, and Patron of St Mary's Church, Storrington

- 15 Swithun, c.862**, reputation for posthumous miracle-working and if it rains on his day, it will rain for 40 days!
Bonaventure, 1274

16 Osmund of Salisbury, 1099, Bishop of Salisbury

- 18 Elizabeth Ferard, 1883**, revitalized the deaconess order in the Anglican Communion

- 19 Gregory and Macrina, c.394 and 379**, Gregory was one of the 3 Cappadocian Fathers, and his sister, Macrina, was a nun

- 20 Margaret of Antioch, 4th century**
Bartolomé de las Casas, 1566

22 ST MARY MAGDALENE

- 23 Bridget of Sweden, 1373**, founder of the Bridgettines nuns and monks

25 ST JAMES, APOSTLE

26 Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 27 Brooke Foss Westcott, 1901**, Bishop of Durham and author of many influential writings

- 29 Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of our Lord**

- 30 William Wilberforce, 1833**, leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade
Olaudah Equiano, 1797
Thomas Clarkson, 1846

- 31 Ignatius of Loyola, 1556**, founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 49

At lunch with the Gorings, he saw a box of "'orns and 'oofs" which had arrived from Ned and looked forward to inspecting them. He dined there again and accepted "his leavings of the skulls and horns". [I apologise for this entry of pleasure at the importing of wildlife body parts, but I cannot sanitize the opinions of 1866 and still show a true picture of the people and times.] A more beautiful reason for him dining alone with S or C was to admire the glorious rhododendrons, just then at their best, and at Fryern where the kitchen garden aroused his envy. Mr Palmer's haymaking entered a poor weather period, in the middle of June, heavy showers and it was cold. "Sat shivering over fires gazing ruefully at soaking hay and still in winter garments." Regardless, Midhurst came to play Storrington at cricket, although he does not say whether the match actually took place, and the Universities were scheduled to play at Lords.

The next day was fine, raising hopes that the severe weather might be over. The Rector and G. rode round Gossland and Apslee which George was thinking of farming himself. Although it was thundery there was a good day's haymaking from 9-5, which Mr Palmer's presence "seemed to be of value". The hay was "greenish" and the rest of the week haymaking continued in spite of rain and heat. Although the result was not good, by the month's end they had a rick, a meadow done and "picked up" from the Barnfield. Then the mowers went on strike for higher wages, asking more than 5 shillings per acre.

The government were also having an uneasy time with their Reform Bill, at one stage debating rateable value versus a clear annual amount. They were in favour of the rateable value. Further afield, it was Jamaica giving problems. The previous year there had been a negro uprising, who wanted the abolition of rent on their lands. Eyre, the governor, proclaimed martial law and quickly put down the trouble. This severe repression had lasting effect, the abolition of representative government in Jamaica and protests from the planters, that Eyre had allowed too severe measures of repression. In England, the seriousness of the dangers with which Eyre had been faced caused a great stir, with accusations that he was a tyrant and a Nero. The planters made little protest at the abolition of representative government but did not want to take the blame for unpopular measures of the executive, or share their responsibilities by giving votes to the negroes. The tropics were coming more and more directly under the authority of the home government, added to which other British colonies were seeking independence. Eyre was removed from his post and censured for not keeping his subjects in order after the rebellion.

Amongst the weather and haymaking, there was also the arrival and departure of summer visitors. The Rector drove to Pulborough to meet Clayton and was "rather put out with some disappointments for tomorrow". It does not seem to be connected with the cricket, when "played our first match against Lancing and won it easily by 9 wickets, tho' a poorish team – Woodard, Ingram and Ellmans being our main supports: had a very pleasant day". This was followed by a busy one "with Garfit, the hay, and callers - Mrs, Miss Sinclair and Mrs Trip".

July began with a drive on a cold and stormy day, taking Barrie and Garfit to Steyning and Bramber and the next day Barrie was off to Town on the early train, driven to the station by Mr Palmer, who got "quite finger numbed!" He had planned to cut his lower meadow with the mowing machine, but the weather meant he could not take the risk. Despite the evening's rain there was a croquet party at Sandgate. "Two of the celebrated 'working men' invaded my premises this noon – and pulled my mowing machine to pieces and repaired it in no time – for which they had the impudence to ask, and I the folly, to give them a sovereign!" In the evening he drove to Chithurst, "doing the distance by the Lavington Road in three hours. My fingers white with cold when I got there!" Between storms he walked round the hammerpond and inspected Henry's new purchase of about 7 acres, looking very beautiful. As he was close to Midhurst he spent an afternoon watching cricket – A.E.E's 11 playing Midhurst's 22, who were quite elated at getting the 11 all out for 50. They were not so elated by the 11's good fielding which got 16

wickets before Freeman and Stephenson made 32 before stumps. They drove home at 10pm through Cowdray, "the mare going very nicely". There was more cricket when G. C. G. and he drove to Lancing to play a return match with the boys. They had a good team which started well and soon "howled [?] them down for 44. Then we went in, confident, and disappeared for 27! After dinner we went in again till stumps were drawn at 6.30 when we just managed to get all their wickets for a few runs under 200!" [Well, that's what he reported.] At the Rectory he learnt that the Board of Trade "desires for the first time, returns of the cultivation of lands under one's charge".

"Blackiston and I took a round of cottage visits, doing six in the parish of Storrington, all more or less tidy." It was again a busy time for the Rector, without the need for wasting any of it. Miss Veasey arrived, a day later than expected, and Masters enquired whether Mr Palmer would take a travelling tutorship, which meant he had to ride to Beeding on a hot day, only to find an empty house, as Masters had gone to Town for the day! The Rector had another hard day, preaching to the Storrington Friendly Society. His subject was "The care of the body as God's noblest work". Then it was end of term and time to "wind up Garfit" and entertain 20 schoolchildren at the Rectory "to their annual feed", a day in the hayfield and helping with 2 loads. At last it was finished, having taken about 5 weeks with the assistance of "1 old man, 1 woman and 1 boy". For light relief, there was still Lords to look forward to. Up to Highden where he found only Miss Goodriche [sp?] and Lady G, the carriage going down to meet "the Baronet on his way home from sea, so I, after reading Leighton's Court [?] and having 5 o'clock tea, to Worthing and home in balmy evening across the downs".

It was the 7th Sunday after Trinity, decidedly oppressive and very hot. The Gorings came to church and a fair congregation for the Holy Communion. After his busy week "Very refreshing to me".

Joan Ham (Village Historian)

**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS**



Storrington Community Café

Monday 6 July

From 11am to 12:30pm

Storrington Library
North Street Car Park
Storrington, RH20 4NZ



A support group for the community in a warm venue
with a friendly atmosphere to chat and enjoy a cuppa
and talk about any concerns you may have.

For more info please contact your Neighbourhood Wardens:
Chris Poore: 07795 046743 | **Dave Bone:** 07789 943201
Email: Storrington-SullingtonWardens@horsham.gov.uk



WEALDEN GUILD OF WEAVERS, SPINNERS AND DYERS OPEN DAY

The Wealden Guild is our local branch of The Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers (wsd.org.uk). We are based in West Sussex, founded in 1985, and meet at Thakeham Village Hall on every fourth Saturday in the month (except December).

There is a wide range of yarn and textile skills and we are always keen to welcome visitors and new members who want to learn more. Many of us sit at our spinning wheels (no risk to Cinderella with modern wheels) conjuring up yarns from not only traditional animal fleece, but cotton, bamboo, flax and silk as well as some man-made and decorative fibres. Just about anything fibrous can be spun into a yarn; in the world of spinning and weaving at the moment there is a keen interest in creating yarn from nettles to weave into usable fabric.



Each year we have a challenge and this has included a Lucky Dip whereby a bag of fibre, donated by those joining in, is put in the 'dip' (read pillowcase). The dip is shaken up and each participant takes a bag. This has given people the opportunity to try something new, perhaps alpaca, Leicester longwool, cotton or maybe even fleece from our beautiful South Downs. What they produce is then exhibited at our Christmas lunch. This year we have challenged ourselves to make a cushion – anything from a pin cushion to a floor cushion.

We have about 40 members and celebrated our 40th (Ruby) Anniversary last September. In line with the 'ruby' theme we had a cream tea with strawberry jam for all of our members. It was quite an event and everyone was given a Guild badge with a red background to mark the occasion. We are privileged to still have some founder members who have been the backbone of our Guild and inspire us newer members to attempt ever more challenging projects. There are a range of skills within our group, and members share these either through workshops or on a casual member-to-member basis.



The number of people who weave has increased over the years; and especially after one of our members set up courses of weekly workshops for us to learn and develop our interest and skills in fabric weaving on a traditional loom and also introduce us to such varying forms such as tablet, inkle and tapestry as well. Not only do we share our experience (or lack of it!) amongst ourselves but we have access to the national guild, the AGWSD, and its' publications and events as well as links with other local guilds. We often hold talks and demonstrations and some recent

speakers have taught and informed us about silk, shibori, colour work/theory, advanced knitting, solar dyeing and historic and international traditions. We even had a fascinating illustrated talk about the life and work of a South Downs shepherd.

Demonstrating is a strong part of what we, ourselves do. We are regulars at Findon Sheep Fair, which goes back 200 years (the 'Sheep Fair' not us). We have promoted our skills at Village Hall open days, many fêtes and fairs, local agricultural shows and even some stately homes.

We are holding an open day at our July meeting to showcase our heritage and modern skills in all things Yarn and Textile. Please drop by and see us on **25 July 11am – 3.30pm**, at Thakeham Village Hall. We will be delighted to 'show and tell' you all about what we do.

Gwen Fisher



Wealden Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers

OPEN DAY

All welcome to see demonstrations of spinning and weaving.

WHEN?

Saturday 25 July
11am-3pm

WHERE?

At Thakeham Village Hall

WHY?

Why not come and join us? You can take out annual membership, or visit as a guest a couple of times. If you're interested, please drop in to meet us!

For further information please contact Kathy kathyallen@ntlworld.com

St Mary's Thakeham Flower Festival presents

BEYOND THE ILLUSION



FRIDAY 3RD JULY
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Thakeham Village Hall, RH20 3GW

Join us to enjoy a fascinating evening
of survival, magic and faith with

Tim Saiet

Tickets: £10.50 pp. includes a glass of wine

Buy in advance here:

www.buyltickets.at/stmaryschurchthakeham/2196695

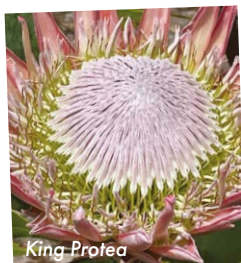


THAKEHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

Our chair Gil opened the June meeting by reporting on the success of our May plant sale which was our best yet. Proceeds from the sale help with the annual Flower Show expenses. Sally Primett from Village Nurseries in West Chillington then demonstrated planting up containers with suitable plants. Whilst she demonstrated she answered questions from the floor and passed on various tips. Once the demonstration was over members were delighted that she very generously allowed the containers to be prizes in the club's raffle.



A number of members also visited a NGS garden in May. It was Old Erringham Cottage which sits on downland at Shoreham. This garden only opens to groups from late May to the end of June and is a delight with many unusual plants. Fiona and Martin Phillips are the owners and the garden has developed over 40 years with many of the plants grown by seed collected by Martin, such as the magnificent huge eucalyptus tree. They leave a small area as a wildflower garden and already it was blooming with field poppies, cornflowers and Marguerite daisies. Fiona concentrates



on perennials many of which were unusual such as the large protea whilst Martin's main interest is fruit and vegetables. He has numerous citrus fruit trees of different varieties and already has fruiting tomato plants reaching to the ceiling of the large greenhouse next to healthy-looking melon vines. We were very grateful to be able to enjoy their lovely garden and their company as they remained close throughout our visit to answer any questions we had.

At our next meeting on **13 July** we will welcome Les Allen-Williams who will talk on 'Conservation & the Garden'. There isn't a club competition in July. Our annual Flower Show will be held on **Saturday 18 July at 2pm**. Please see poster on page 17 for details.

Club meetings are held monthly usually on the second Monday at 7.30pm in Thakeham Village Hall and visitors are warmly welcome. For further details please contact Chairperson Gil on 01798 812748.

Sandra Jenkins



THE ARTS SOCIETY
WEST SUSSEX

Tuesday 7 July 2026

Talk by Raymond Warburton

Vanessa Bell's Art and Her Tangled Bloomsbury Group

Vanessa Bell was a founding and leading member of the Bloomsbury Group. Over her lifetime, she produced some of the most important art of the 20th century. Despite her artistic achievements, and despite being the 'matriarch' of the Bloomsbury Group, her art and biography are often overshadowed by the international renown of Roger Fry (her lover), by the cutting-edge art theory of Clive Bell (her husband), by the paintings of Duncan Grant (her soul mate) and by the books of Virginia Woolf (her sister).



NO TALK IN AUGUST

Talks held at 2pm in Fittleworth Village Hall, RH20 1JB
Doors open 1.15pm. Coffee & tea afterwards
Visitors most welcome – £10

For further details contact Gilly Myers on 07805731663
or email westsussex@theartsociety.org
www.theartsocietywestsussex.org



West Chillington Dramatic Society



We are now moving on from our successful May production of *Rumours* by Neil Simon. We had record audiences for recent times over the three evenings of this complex comedy, despite the incredible heat during the last two performances. The plot was suitably chaotic and funny, and delivered well by a hard-working cast of 10, including four members making their debut in a WCDS main production. *Rumours* was ably directed by Caroline Woodley and well-supported by our talented set designer, set construction manager, backstage crew and technical team. The whole production involved an immense team effort because as well as the on-stage and backstage members, we had lots of help Front of House, at our set-build day and in the preparations, eg publicity, poster and programme design and ticket sales. I would like to thank our friends at West Chillington and Thakeham Cricket Club for their invaluable support in helping with car parking. If you fancy getting involved in future productions, whether acting or taking on any of the myriad of 'behind-the-scenes' roles contact: chair@wcds.co.uk or visit: www.wcgs.co.uk



Cast of Rumours

Back row from left to right: Robert Ingram, Damian Stuart, Ian Stuart, Mark Hayler, John Pounder. Front row from left to right: Wendy Hayler, Pam Luxton, Angela Sloan, Denise Robinson, Janet Methley

Our next production will be *A Convenient Murder* by David Summers, directed by Pat Arculus. This is from 19 to 21 November, 7.30pm at West Chillington Village Hall.

Synopsis: Daniel Harding, well-known anti-government activist, has been found dead in his study. The case looks suspiciously like murder and, because his brother-in-law is visiting at the time — and he happens to work for M16 — a special investigator is called in, as it may turn out to be a matter of national security. Throughout the night, the family are questioned and cross-questioned. Many startling things come to light. Commissioner Halsted is faced with too many suspects and, even, the possibility of suicide. But when the pathologist telephones with his findings, it all becomes clear...

Auditions will be held on Monday 27 and Thursday 30 July at 7.30pm in the Main Hall, West Chillington Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to either or both evenings, whether as an actor or backstage. Rehearsals are on Monday and Thursday evenings in the months leading up to the production. For further information, contact Pat on patarculus@me.com, or on 07974 911006 or see our website www.wcgs.co.uk nearer the time.

Our next event is a Members' Evening Mystery Event on Saturday 25 July. We will put on a comic mystery play and challenge the audience to work out 'whodunit! Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7pm start.

Tickets – Members: Adults £12, Under-18s £6; Guests: Adults £15, Under-18s £12. Price includes supper. Booking details available nearer the time at www.wcgs.co.uk

Angela Sloan, Chair WCDS

STORRINGTON SLIMMERS

MONDAY EVENINGS from 7pm to 8pm
St Mary's Church, Storrington

The group is led on a 'friendship and support' basis and group members share knowledge and tips for successful weight loss. Anyone who would like some support in their weight loss journey is welcome to just come along on a Monday evening.



INITIATIVE SUPPORTING POLLINATORS SPREADS ACROSS SUSSEX



Did you know a bee needs to visit 660 flowers to make just one drop of honey? And that a third of our food is thanks to the pollinators? This highlights the enormous importance of pollinators to our environment, food production and biodiversity. During campaigns such as Bees' Needs Week, 13-19 July, organisations across the country are encouraging people to take action to support bees, butterflies and other vital pollinating insects.

In Sussex, the environmental charity, Sussex Green Living, is helping lead the way through its Pollination Education Station (PES) Trail project which launched in 2024. The charity's mission is to educate and connect people with practical solutions that reduce environmental impact while restoring biodiversity.

Healthy pollinator habitats and food begin with healthy soil. Living soil is full of fungi, microbes, bacteria and earthworms that help plants thrive and produce nectar-rich flowers. Adding organic matter such as compost or leaf mould improves soil structure naturally, while no-dig gardening and mulching help preserve the delicate underground ecosystems that support both plants and wildlife. Nutrient-rich soil leads to stronger blooms from plants such as sunflowers, poppies, borage and even dandelions, all of which provide valuable food sources for bees and butterflies.

The award-nominated PES project, recognised by the Defra Bees' Needs Champion Award in 2024, creates purpose-built pollinator habitats from reused pallet wood. These eco-friendly structures provide safe havens for pollinators while incorporating planters filled with pollinator-friendly flowers. Each has an A2 educational plaque explaining actions people can take and signposting people to the solutions page on the charity's website www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/solutions/. With more than 40 installed across East and West Sussex in business parks, church grounds, recreation areas and schools, the stations are helping communities better understand the essential role pollinators play in nature recovery.

Schools are playing a particularly important role in the initiative. When PES are installed in schools, Sussex Green Living delivers assemblies and hands-on planting sessions with eco councils, helping young people connect directly with nature. Some schools even use the stations as focal points for outdoor learning and forest school activities, creating spaces where children can observe pollinators up close. Have you spotted the PES at Storrington Primary School and Thakeham Primary?

The PES project also brings communities together. Installation days involve local residents, businesses, youth groups and volunteers, giving people the opportunity to take practical climate action while improving wellbeing through time spent outdoors.

Sussex Green Living is encouraging more organisations, schools and community groups to sponsor or host a Pollination Education Station. By creating even small spaces for pollinators to thrive, communities across Sussex can make a lasting difference for biodiversity and future generations.

For more information on Pollination Education Stations visit www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/renature/



Local School, Council and Rotary club come together in Storrington to install PES



White Stork & Nature Festival

The Festival took place on one of the hottest-ever May days and received very positive feedback from many of the hundreds of visitors.

The theme of the day was nature and sustainability and there was an extraordinary range of stalls and activities. We were entertained by the birds of prey flying over

the recreation ground, a lovely fancy dress parade by children from Storrington and Shipley primary schools, and a series of fascinating nature and stork related talks, wonderful singers, original stork songs, musicians and dancers.



In his opening words, Sir Charles Burrell, co-owner of the Knepp Estate, was very positive about the Festival and Storrington's support for nature and sustainability through hosting this event. Sir Charles was accompanied by Patrick Barkham, the Natural History Writer for the Guardian, described the event as "inspiring" and "pioneering" noting that he fully expected the festival to grow considerably over time.

Special thanks to our major sponsors; the Hunter Group and GL & Co. There were so many others who donated money and prizes, loaned equipment and gave us discounted rates. Huge thanks to everyone including all our volunteers.

Stork Mural

Storrington's bespoke wall mural of nesting storks was opened by Lady Emma Barnard, of Parham House (also Lord Lieutenant for West Sussex) on the morning of the White Stork & Nature Festival. This prominent nature artwork in



Place Villerest celebrates the white storks with which Storrington has long been associated. The ancient name of the village, 'Estorchetone' is mentioned in the Domesday Book, meaning the abode or homestead of storks. The mural is a community-funded initiative and donations, however small, can be made via this link: <https://bit.ly/StorkMural>

Asking Questions of the Council

The Parish has amended its standing orders to allow for members of the public to ask questions in a council or committee meeting which are **not** related to the agenda. This aligns with the approach taken by Horsham District Council. Agendas are published the Thursday before a meeting, and questions can now be submitted by midday on the day prior to the meeting. Members of the public would need to ask their question in person and up to 15 minutes will be allowed at each meeting for all questions. For clarification, feel free to check in with the office@storrington-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Virginia Hicks, Storrington and Sullington Parish Council
www.storrington-pc.gov.uk

ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HUB

Run by Life Community Church,
Storrington, 7 The Square,
Storrington



STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Why was the Shepherd Delighted?

At the May meeting we enjoyed a talk by Bill Avenall, a former Geography teacher at Christ's Hospital, about British weather, and the many sayings and traditions surrounding it.

To start with, we were introduced to a quote by Dorothy L Sayers – 'Britain possesses no climate, only weather'. This reflects the very variable and frequently changing weather we experience, which is a constant source of conversation. Japan as a nation is also obsessed with weather, and in fact Britain and Japan share similar positions globally – they are both at a polar front, where four air masses from all points of the compass converge, and so have similarly changeable weather.

In the UK, most weather comes from the South West, due to the Coreolis Force, which is caused by the rotation of the Earth. This creates the Jet Stream – a warm and wet band of strong winds, moving from the Atlantic up towards us, bringing a series of depressions with their accompanying rain, and this is what makes us a green and pleasant land. There are very many old sayings about weather, and they generally do have a basis in the realities of how weather conditions reach the UK.

The saying that if there is enough blue sky to patch a pair of sailor's trousers, then it will be fine later is generally true, as the blue patches show that the clouds have started moving away. There are some very localised sayings, which are based on the particular local geography, for example 'If hills be clear, the rain is near' – in other words, the high pressures has moved off to the east, so the next depression, with its rainfall, is on its way.

'Fish bite least when the wind is in the East' – may be explained by the fact that insects fly higher in drier weather (which will normally come from the East) and so fish are less likely to be biting for them at the surface.

So, much of weather lore is based on the truth and the effect of the jet stream, but the legend about St Swithun's Day, and 40 days of rain, has no scientific basis at all.

And finally, the well-known phrase 'Red sky at night, shepherd's delight' – in the evening, the sun is in the West (which is where our weather comes from), and if the weather is hot and dry in that direction, there will be dust in the atmosphere. This will cause refraction, splitting light rays, so that the blues and greens are lost, and the reds, with the longer wavelengths, is what we see. So this old saying, like many of them, has a basis in scientific fact.

The evening finished with light refreshments and a raffle.

The next meeting on **17 July** will feature a talk by Martyn Cox – 'Big ideas for small spaces'. Details of other meetings and outings can be found at www.storringtonhorti.org.uk

Jo Myland



PETWORTH HOUSE & PARK



**Expressions in Blue:
Monumental Porcelain
by Felicity Aylieff**
23 May – 27 September

**Adventures in
Blue family trail**
Saturday 18 July –
Sunday 6 September

**Painting Courses with
West Dean College**
14 August – 28 September



TUESDAY



In Stitches – 1.30pm to 3pm

A fun, social group for people who like to stitch. Bring your own knitting, embroidery or another project. We can teach you if you'd like to learn!



THURSDAY



Baby Club – 10am to 12pm (term time only)

Join our supportive community group and connect with others. Older siblings welcome!



Monthly High Tea – last Thursday – 2.30pm to 4pm

Meet new friends, enjoy homemade delicacies for £4 per person. Book tickets in advance from The Village Hub.



Thursdays Together – For over 65's, every Thursday except last of the month – 2.30pm to 4pm

Join us for tea, games, and company. Bring a friend and join in!

SATURDAY



Repair Café – every third Saturday of the month from 10am to 12pm

Looking to repair your broken or damaged items? The Repair Cafe is here to help, so bring in any items needing mending, from clothes to appliances and more.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS ON FRIDAYS

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Sparks Toddler Group – 10am – 11.30am



Come and connect with other parents and guardians at our baby and toddler group for the local community. Each week there are toys, bouncy castles, crafts, a bible story, a song and some refreshments (for children and adults). Entry is £3 per child and £2 for each additional child, and if it is your first time it is free! There is no need to book in advance.

Fireworks Kids Club – 6pm – 7.15pm



For KS2 children from year three to five. A safe place outside of school where children can come to have fun, learn about the Bible, develop life skills and meet their friends. Each week there are games around a different theme.

Wildfires Youth Group – 7.30pm – 9pm



For children from year 6 upwards. A fun, relaxed time for young people to hang out, bring friends, and join in with games and activities.

Groups meet term time only. Run by Life Community Church.

Another busy month has passed at Storrington and we're ever closer to the end of the academic year. We have a number of exciting events coming up in the last part of the year which the children are busily preparing for and I look forward to sharing these in the future.

Sir David Attenborough's 100th Birthday

We had so much fun celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday today! We all hope he had a wonderful birthday!

The Eco Reps planted Buddlejia davidii 'Black Knight' (commonly known as Butterfly Bush) in the sensory garden to mark Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. With thanks to Tates Garden Centre for their generous donation of the plant.



Rocksteady

We were delighted to welcome Rocksteady into school for an exciting introduction to our new band lessons. Led by Ros – who was not only incredibly talented but wonderfully engaging – the whole school was soon rocking to the sound of drums, keyboards, bass and electric guitars, and vocals filling the hall.



It was brilliant to see the confidence of the children – and the staff – who stepped up to have a go during the workshops.

We can't wait to see (and hear!) our budding bands jamming together throughout the term!

Quadkids Athletics Achievement

A huge well done to all the children who proudly represented our school at the recent Quadkids Athletics competition. The children worked incredibly hard across a range of events, showing determination, teamwork, and a fantastic sporting attitude throughout the day. Their efforts paid off, as they finished first out of all the schools that took part – an outstanding achievement.

Thanks to this brilliant performance, the team progressed to the finals, where they competed against schools from across the local district. They did not finish high enough to compete in the West Sussex finals but

we are extremely proud of everyone involved!

Year 5 DT

In Design and Technology, Year 5 have been inspired by their work on endangered animals as part of their Russia topic. The children have designed and created their own stuffed toys, carefully crafting them from felt. They practised sewing using a blanket stitch, developing valuable practical skills. We're sure you'd agree that the finished toys are fantastic!



Year 4 poetry

Year 4's Maple and Juniper classes have been busy becoming rainforest poets as part of their Amazing Amazon topic. The children created their own riddle poems inspired by the incredible animals that live beneath the canopy.

They experimented with a range of poetic techniques, including alliteration, repetition, kennings and prepositional phrases, to build suspense and paint vivid clues for the reader. Each poem cleverly described the creature's behaviour, appearance or habitat without revealing its identity until the very end.

The results were imaginative, descriptive and an absolute joy to read – a fantastic celebration of language and creativity. Well done, Year 4!

I hope you've enjoyed reading about some of the fun activities taking place here at Storrington Primary School. I look forward to updating you again in the near future.

Mr Choate

Who Am I ?
I climb through the branches.
I wait and wait.
I have sleek golden fur.
I am a night-hunter.
A silent-stalker.
I stalk my prey but I ... POUNCE!
I am a powerful, sharp-clawed animal.
I creep among the shadows.
I am a forest-lurker.
I am a Big-Silencer,
a tree climber.
I have sticky fur.
I sleep within the shadows.
I have powerful, padded paws.
I am Big, powerful and sneaky.
Who am I ?
I am a Jaguar!



FREE SESSIONS
1, 8 & 15
JULY

**STAY AND PLAY
FOR CHILDREN
WITH SEN OR AUTISM**

Wednesdays
4pm - 5.30pm
Term time only

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

A fun packed session for young people to enjoy lots of new activities!

We have a bouncy castle, table tennis, soft play area, quiet area and other activities. Parents are required to supervise, siblings welcome.

For more information please contact your Neighbourhood Wardens:
Email: Storrington-SullingtonWardens@horsham.gov.uk
Email: Ashington.wardens@horsham.gov.uk

ROTARY FRIENDSHIP CROSSING BORDERS



Storrington and Pulborough Rotary Club was delighted to host a visit of fellow Rotarians from its European Link Club of Villeneuve-sur-Lot in France.

The visitors enjoyed a few days staying with Rotarian hosts and were taken to local special attractions in West Sussex - Chichester Cathedral with its Bishop's Garden, Arundel Castle and Gardens, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard and Polesden Lacey Edwardian House and Estate.

The highlight of the visit was joining local Rotarians at West Sussex Golf Club for their annual President's Night dinner hosted by the President - this year John Ollerton - and his wife Helen. The local Rotary District Governor, Olatunji Olaleye was also present. The President of Villeneuve-sur-Lot Rotary, Jacque Marty, who was accompanied by his partner Marie-Claude, entertained the evening with a speech (in English) thanking Storrington and Pulborough District Rotary for its hospitality. He also announced that his Club would be donating 500 Euros to us - a very generous gesture.

Storrington and Pulborough District Club looks forward to a return visit to Villeneuve-sur-Lot.



Photo: L to R: Rotary District Governor, Olatunji Olaleye, Marie-Claude, Jacque Marty, President of Villeneuve-sur-Lot Rotary, Helen Ollerton, Storrington and Pulborough District Rotary President John Ollerton.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries West Sussex Libraries @WSCCLibraries



All chit chat and tall tales welcome

READING FRIENDS

Are you interested in meeting new friends, having a good chat over a cuppa and sharing your love of books and reading?

Reading Friends meet the first Monday of the month
2.30pm – 3.15pm

Storrington Library is offering friendly and fun Reading Friends monthly sessions. It's a chance to chat and connect to new friends through the sharing of stories, memories and experiences.

Reading Friends isn't a traditional reading group. You don't need to be a reader to take part as we use reading, whether books, magazines, newspapers, or anything else, to start everyone chatting and help people get to know each other.

ON 6 JULY THIS MONTH!



Storrington Library
Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
01903 839050

LOUISA AUSTIN

On 28 February Louisa Austin had to vacate the premises in Church Street – I had been there for nearly 34 years.

It wasn't my decision to leave Church Street, circumstances change and I was asked to vacate the premises. However, I was lucky enough to find a new location in the High Street. I cannot lie, it was stressful!!

For those of you that haven't been in the new shop yet, I hope you will pay us a visit. You will get a very warm welcome as we pride ourselves with a reputation by word of mouth and many ladies coming from a fair distance away. We offer a very professional, personal and friendly service and I feel that we have something for most ages and affordability.

I cannot thank you ladies enough that have supported me over the years and hopefully will continue to support me. Also, thanks to my lovely girls that work for me, Mags, Ollie, Ingrid and Carole who help to make Louisa Austin a success. I love and enjoy every minute of what I do and finally I am not ready to retire yet!!

Sue Walters



EVENTS AT THE OLD WORKSHOP, SULLINGTON MANOR FARM

Evening Jazz with Big House

Wed 15 July and Wed 19 August

8pm to 10pm

Join us for an evening of fun with live jazz in The Old Workshop with snacks, wine and soft drinks available for purchase. New guest artists will join us every month, bringing fresh sounds and making sure the energy never stops. Book tickets – <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sullingtonmanorfarm/>

Build an Opera with Songbuilders, five day children's opera workshop

Mon 27 to Fri 31 July

9.30am to 4pm daily

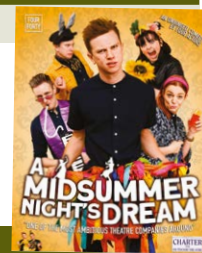
Children (ages 7 – 14) will get stuck into a world of creativity with tips on singing technique, costumes and sets to design, songs to write, sounds to discover and a story to make. Aided by professional opera singer Mark Bradbury, an actor, a scenic artist and professional composer Christopher Hussey, participants devise, compose, and perform a brand new piece of musical theatre in just one week, all inspired by their surroundings on the farm. Find out more here: <https://www.songbuilders.co.uk/build-an-opera-horsham>

A Midsummer Night's Dream by 440 Theatre

Sun 2 August

5pm to 7.30pm

Celebrated for inventive staging, breakneck character changes, and playful dismantling of tradition, 440 Theatre breathe fresh mischief into Shakespeare's best-loved comedy. Fun for all the family, think lots of props, a hint of audience participation and loads of laughter. Tickets to come.



Curious Threads, textile exhibition

Thu 17 to Sun 27 September

10am to 4pm daily

A contemporary collective of nine textile artists based in the South Downs, UK, known for their themed exhibitions exploring diverse techniques like quilting, embroidery, printing, dyeing, and bookmaking, often inspired by nature, place, and colour. All pieces are for sale and the café will be open too. Free entry and parking.

For more details please see www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk, contact us on info@sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk or ring 01903 745754.

Sullington Manor Farm, Sullington Lane
Storrington, West Sussex RH20 4AE
www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk – 01903 745754

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27TH JULY**

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Toddler Time Free event just drop-in!

Join our toddler time fun with rhymes, songs and stories.
All toddlers welcome!
Parents and carers are asked to remain with their child for this activity.

**Thursdays
10am-10.30am**

Storrington Library
Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
01903 839050

west sussex county council
West Sussex Library Service



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Saturday 5 September & Sunday 6 September 2026
10.30am to 5pm both days

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Featuring artists and makers, street food stalls, artisan food and drink producers, vintage stalls, classic cars, steampunk, pop-up vintage tearooms, plants, beer tent, music and dancing.

Adults £12 online via website until 28th August or £15 on the gate.
Children £3.50 online or £5 on gate. Under 5's FREE.
Family (2 Adults, 2 Children) and weekend tickets also available

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Drop-in!

Wednesdays
2pm-4pm

Storrington Library
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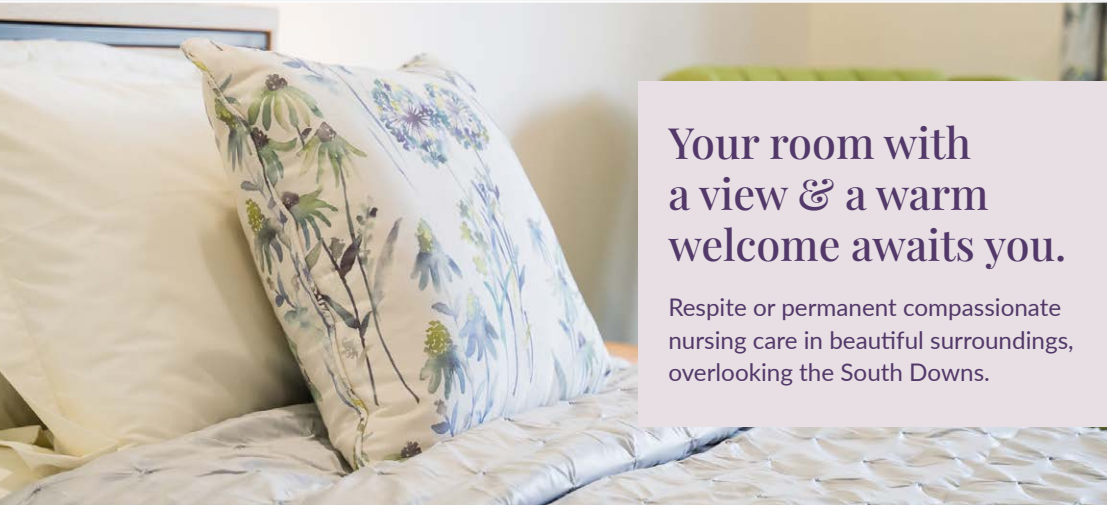
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CELEBRATING 50 REMARKABLE YEARS OF SERVICE

You may have seen our minibuses travelling through local villages, picking passengers up from their homes and whisking them off for enjoyable days out. All of which is made possible through the commitment of our volunteers.

The story of West Sussex Minibus began in the 1970s, when funding pressures led to a significant decline in rural public transport services. A determined group of residents stepped in, committed to helping their neighbours get to the shops each week so they could collect essential supplies and maintain their independence.



In 1974, armed with a borrowed minibus and a great deal of community spirit, the first trial service left Pulborough and headed to the local shops.

The idea quickly proved its value. Before long, neighbouring villages began asking whether they

could benefit from a similar service. A route from Fittleworth was soon established, using a shared ambulance as transport—something that seems almost unimaginable today.



Thanks to successful fundraising efforts and a generous donation from the Chancionbury Lions Club, we purchased our first minibus in 1976, and West Sussex Minibus was officially born.

Over the decades, new village services have been introduced, our fleet has expanded, and countless journeys have been made. Remarkably, that original idea – to help people stay independent – remains just as relevant today as it was 50 years ago.

However, we are much more than a transport provider. Our organisation is about helping people stay active and connected to their community. There is nothing better than seeing new friendships form on journeys, knowing every passenger by name, and witnessing the care and dedication shown by our volunteers.

Even during the challenges of the pandemic, when our transport services were temporarily paused, our volunteers continued to support our members by delivering shopping and providing practical help.

In 2016, this remarkable contribution was recognised nationally with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – a fitting tribute to the people who make everything possible.

As we celebrate 50 years of service, we celebrate the people behind it all. This story belongs to every volunteer, passenger and supporter who has played a part in helping our charity thrive.

As we look to the future, we invite you to become part of our next chapter. Please get in touch to find out more.

www.westsussexminibus.org.uk



WEATHER WATCH

First, an apology for resending my March column instead of the April in last month's 3 Heralds.

May 2026 will stay long in the memory of many readers for it was an outstanding month especially for the heatwave in the last week that broke long standing records and helped to make it England's warmest spring. It was also one of the driest Mays and was quite sunny especially during the last 10 days.

The month began on the warm side with 25°C in London and on the 4th and 5th Wiggonholt between Pulborough and Storrington registered the warmest temperatures in the UK at nearly 20°C and on the 9th again it came out top with 23°C. Yet on the 12th I was

writing the date on my car in ice just after dawn as the weather had turned chilly and the temperature struggled by day to reach 14°C. It was this period that most of the rain fell too and thunder with some dramatic skies like 'mountains and cliffs' called cumulonimbus clouds that bring showers. Thunder and hail occurred too on the 13th with lightning and some loud thunder on the 14th. Heavy rain amounting to 16mm occurred on the 18th. All this due to low pressure but then began a steady rise of air pressure, and a dramatic change of weather conditions that was about to make news headlines.

Despite that brief unsettled spell around mid-month May too like March and April was drier than average and as the temperature rose under clear skies the ground dried out and heated up quickly. The high pressure acted like a lid to trap the warming air and evaporated away the clouds and by the 24th the temperature reached nearly 30°C. The following day Sussex lost a long-term national record for the month of May. In 1944 a high of 32.8°C was measured at Horsham. This was blown out of the water on the 25th when 34.3°C on the 25th reached in London. The next day this milestone was broken again when at Kew Gardens in southwest London touched 35.1°C. This would be outstanding even in the height of summer. Our area registered 31°C. It certainly induced my bottle brush tree, a native of Australia, to bloom and my olives to flower. Could I get some home-grown olives this year?



We escaped some heat induced storms during the heatwave. Just a few drops of rain that gave that lovely smell called petrichor when falling on ground after a long dry spell. I noticed on a visit to Goring on the 26th some distant storm clouds over France in one direction and some far-flung storms in Wiltshire and the South Midlands to the northwest. Some of these clouds were so tall that they could be seen well over 100 miles away.

In 1944 when the previous May record was recorded June saw an abrupt change of weather and it even temporarily postponed D-Day. June this year has too seen a complete change in weather conditions with temperatures dropping over 10 degrees with rain and showers. Would the heat and sunshine return – see next month's Weather Watch!

*Ian Currie, Weatherman, Speaker, Broadcaster,
Editor of Weather Eye magazine and Fellow of the Royal Met Soc*


**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WARDENS**



FREE

**FUN DAY AT
STORRINGTON**




Our Storrington Neighbourhood Wardens, Chris and Dave, are hosting a fun day at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre for children to enjoy a fun-fuelled afternoon of activities.

Including a remote climbing wall, bouncy castles, stalls and sports activities*, there will also be a Mobile Community Hub that provides young people a safe space to meet, grab a bite to eat and talk about any problems they may have.

Monday 17 August
11am - 3pm

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

*weight and height restrictions may apply.









St Mary's will be there and require some volunteers to help with our "Ministry of Free Cake & Squash" stall on the day. Bakers can we enlist your help please. We need some straightforward traybake cakes. The cakes must list the ingredients and preferably no nuts, no gluten, no chocolate.

**PARHAM
HOUSE
EVENTS**





Until Sun 15th July
Horsham School of Botanical Artists

The Horsham School of Botanical Artists will be staging a two-week exhibition of drawings and paintings in the Seed Room.

Sunday 5th July
The Plant Fairs Roadshow

We're delighted to welcome back The Plant Fairs Roadshow to Parham this season. Some of the South East's best specialist nurseries will be selling a wide range of locally grown and unusual plants.

11th and 12th July
Sussex Steam Rally

Sussex Steam Shows Ltd will hold the 'Sussex Steam Rally' on the East Plain at Parham. This two-day event will feature a variety of exhibits from steam traction engines to vintage vehicles.

Wed 15th July until Sun 26th July
A Bargello Exhibition

A Bargello Exhibition by Odette Campbell will be held in the Seed Room

Open: Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays and Bank Holidays until early October. Tickets for advance bookings are on sale now.

Sunday 2nd August
Jaguar Enthusiasts Club

Parham will again welcome back the members of the Jaguar Enthusiasts Club. Their beautiful classic and contemporary cars will be displayed at the front of Parham, for the enjoyment of their fellow members and for those visiting the House and Gardens.

For more information, please visit www.parhaminsussex.co.uk

STORRINGTON MINIBUS SCHEDULE

A welcoming door to door service for Social & Shopping Excursions

DAY	WEEK IN MONTH	FROM	TO	FARE	PICK-UP
MON	EVERY	STORRINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	10AM
TUES	2nd & 4th	STORR & W/CHILT	SHOREHAM / HOLMBUSH, TESCO, M&S	£6	1PM
	3rd	STORR & W/CHILT	DIAL POST / OLD BARN NURSERY (Coffee / Lunch)	£4	11AM
	4th	STORR & W/CHILT	VARIOUS / MACULAR GROUP (Chanctonbury Leisure Centre)	£3	1PM
WED	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	PULBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB (Pulborough Village Hall)	£4	10.30AM
	3rd	STORR & W/CHILT	RUSTINGTON or HORSHAM (Rotates monthly. Lunch & Shop)	£6	11AM
THUR	EVERY	W/CHILTINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM
	1st	STORR & W/CHILT	STORRINGTON POP IN LUNCH	£3	10.45AM
	EVERY	STORRINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	1PM
FRI	EVERY	STORRINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM
	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	PULBOROUGH / TESCO, SAINSBURY'S	£4	9PM
	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	PULBOROUGH / TESCO, SAINSBURY'S	£4	1PM
SPECIAL OUTINGS (March to December. Bookable up to two months in advance)					
TUES	7th JULY	STORR & W/CHILT	HIGHDOWN GARDENS & CAFÉ	£8	1PM
Annual Membership, £12.00. Lunch and refreshment costs are in addition to all trip fares					





For bookings & enquiries: 0300 772 7735

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Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer during this activity. Please contact Storrington Library for more details.

Saturdays
10.30am-11.30am

Storrington Library
Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
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CRICKET IN STORRINGTON



Wins Proving Elusive

All four sections of the Club were in action during May with little success to report.

The 1st XI got into better stride at the end of the month with a two wicket win over Worthing having lost earlier to Broadwater (we first played Broadwater in August 1799!), Tilgate and Horsham (centuries scored against us in each of those matches). Guy Humphries scored a half century in the Tilgate match as did Laurence Nash in the Worthing match. Steven Livermore and Tim Laker have been the main wicket takers.

This season the composition of our 2nd XI has seen a break from tradition with the introduction of our older juniors, both boys and girls, to the side. The youngsters are already having successes with bat and ball and, encouragingly, even receiving compliments from opponents.

Our U14 girls beat Cuckfield by four wickets with good performances from Lea (who scored an unbeaten 30), Alice, Tillie and Lucy. The U11 girls, however, lost to Chichester Priory Park and Aldwick.

Our U15 and U13 boys have been unsuccessful in the opening rounds of the National Knockout competition, whilst the T20 men's side has yet to chalk up a victory.

Our women's team had their first match against Chippingdale and is looking for more recruits in order to build up this relatively new section of the Club.



Storrington club proudly had x3 Sussex pathway players repeating the club in a recent inter-Sussex u11 girls hard ball match. The trio played in the same team in a T20 and a 100 style match - winning one and losing one.



Recently our u14 team were awarded a trophy from Sussex cricket for winning the winter u15 west indoor league.

During the month our U14 team (pictured) received the trophy from Sussex Cricket for winning the U15 West Indoor League. The other photo is of our three Sussex Pathway girls who played in a recent inter-Sussex U11 girls hard ball match.

Our Sussex Pathway selections were also in action representing the Club in Sussex matches: Massimo played in county matches against Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire (another match against Suffolk in June), whilst Dylan has played in several Sussex interclub matches. We are hosting the next interclub match at the recreation ground. Emily played in a county match against Kent and scored an unbeaten 39 as well as taking a wicket.

Our four MCC Foundation girls: Alice, Isla, Lea and Tillie all played for the Brighton Hub in a competition for southern Hubs which their side eventually won in the final. In one of the matches Lea excelled with a score of 47. The MCC Foundation is operated by the charitable arm of the MCC and provides a nationwide network of cricket training centres for state educated youth between the ages of 11 to 17. Its aim is to transform lives through cricket.

Practice sessions continue as follows:

Thursday Evenings: Men's & Women's hard ball and Women's soft ball

Friday Evenings: Juniors (boys and girls)

Sunday Mornings from 9.30am: All Stars 5-8 years

All enquiries to Club Captain Martin Fisher on martin_fisher@hotmail.co.uk

Chris Winter

STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

All that was lacking was a fly past by storks, otherwise the Stork Festival was a great day! Wall to wall sun, a large number of stalls, many concerned with care of the environment. Good attendance. Our stall attracted interest, a number expressed support, including a lady and gentleman from Oxford who had been visiting Knepp for the nightingales and so heard about the Festival.



No doubt most of us find the sight of birds in flight a great spectacle, especially large birds (not only storks) raising our spirits as they soar on the wind. A recent RSPB report 'Patterns of Persecution' reveals a sad situation. Nearly 1,000 protected birds of prey were known to have been illegally killed between 2015 and 2024. In this period 319 buzzards, 157 red kites and 97 peregrines, plus 15 other species, such as hen harriers, were recorded victims of crime. Certainly many more went unrecorded. Much of this is linked to the gamebird business. On some estates birds of prey are not only trapped, shot or poisoned, their nests, eggs and chicks are destroyed. The reason? To maximise the number of gamebirds (eg pheasants) available for shooting.

The difficulty is linking anyone to these crimes. Only 24 people were convicted between 2015 and 2024, two thirds were involved with the business, more than half being gamekeepers.

What is to be done? Licensing for gamebird shooting. This would enable licenses to be withdrawn where crimes are shown to have been committed. At present there is little fear of conviction. The aim is to encourage best practice while properly respecting the rights of well run estates.

Scotland has already introduced licensing for grouse shooting. This should be extended for all of the UK. Our magnificent birds of prey, including white tailed eagles, are native species whereas pheasants are not. They are fine looking birds but were introduced from Asia though there are few wild ones in this country. The very great majority are bred for shooting, a profitable business. They can't shoot back!

The work party on Saturday 6 June was at Hurston Warren clearing invasive bracken from the important SSSI. On three June Thursday afternoons Balsam Bashing by local streams resumed. There are some signs there is not so much this year; perhaps last year's efforts? On **4 July** the work party at 10.00am is again at Hurston Warren to continue with clearance work. As ever all are welcome to share in this essential work of conservation. Gardening kit advised. Tools, good company and refreshments provided.

For information about this and our other activities, or on becoming a member, or offering advice, please get in touch with Chairman Mick Denness on 01903 745971, or see our website. www.storringtonconservation.org.uk/.

Stuart Kersley

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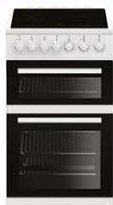
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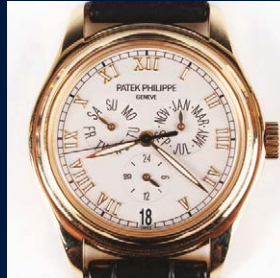
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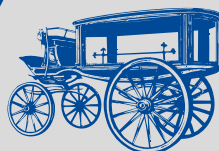
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