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June 2026

3 Herald's

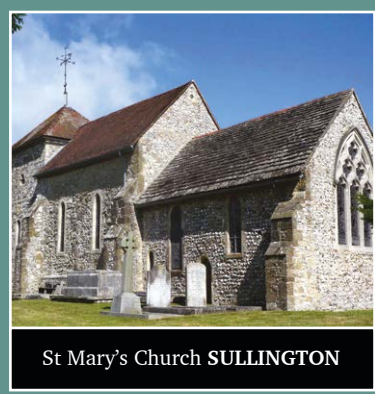
STORRINGTON  SULLINGTON  THAKEHAM



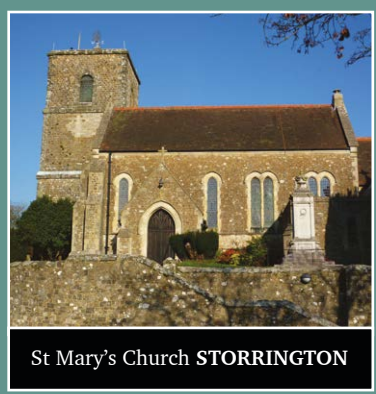
Festival of Flowers

3 - 6 June 2026

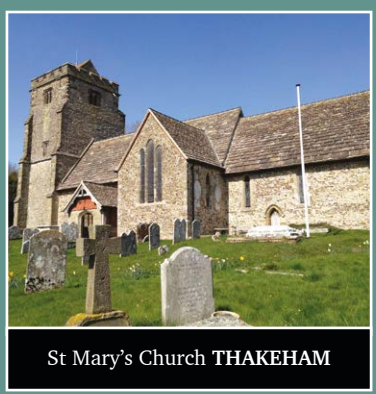
CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL



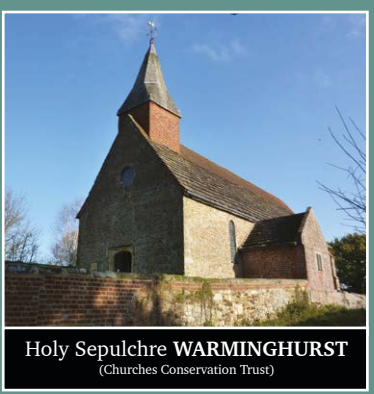
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CLERGY

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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.



I was recently rereading an old, but helpful book, and was struck by a sentence which, although written over forty years ago, still seems remarkably apt:

*“The world is going down the drain,”
we say with a shrug.*

But whose fault is it?

Who is to blame?

(John Stott: *Issues Facing Christians Today*,
1984, p.66)

Given the current state of affairs both at home, and in the wider world, I’m sure many of us would agree with the opening statement. I’m sure we can also all think of a few names in answer to the final question!

Given the ever-changing nature of our world, and a world in which the old orthodoxies of the *Pax Americana* and the so called ‘peace dividend’ from the ending of the Cold War, it is easy to feel overwhelmed, helpless and even hopeless. However, if that is how you feel, I’d like to encourage you to visit one of your local churches. The exact dates of St Mary’s Storrington, Sullington and Thakeham are unknown, but Storrington and Sullington seem to date to the 11th century, and Thakeham seems to be a 12th century church replacing an older one mentioned in the Domesday Book. It would be great to attend a service, but if that feels a step too far, then I’d encourage you to spend time in these spaces; I rather suspect that you will be struck by the security of a place that has had a single purpose for close on a thousand years, and which continues to follow that purpose today of worshipping God, and providing hope to the hopeless. I hope that by doing so you will encounter that sense of hope, and a sense that as bleak as things might seem, history will go on.

For those of us who are regular attenders of our churches, perhaps we need to hear the challenge which John Stott, the author, issues later in the same paragraph. He goes on to write:

“If the house is dark when nightfall comes, there is no sense in blaming the house, for that is what happens when the sun goes down. The question to ask is “Where is the light?” Just so, if society deteriorates and standards decline till it becomes dark as night, there is no sense in blaming society, for that is what happens when fallen men and women are left to themselves and human selfishness is unchecked. The question to ask is “Where is the Church? Why are the salt and light of Jesus Christ not permeating and changing society?”

(John Stott: *Issues Facing Christians Today*, 1984, p.66)

JOEL WILLMER

Priest-in-Charge of Sullington and Thakeham with Warminghurst

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 2 June – Church of England will lead

Tuesday 7 July – Trinity Methodist Church will lead

One in faith and love and praise

A SUMMER PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

“Heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty: open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”



FEATURES

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Loving God
and loving our
neighbour



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

Revd 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.

We're proud to be known as a warm and welcoming church, and we'll always enjoy doing our very best to help everyone feel at home. If you'd like to join us on a Sunday morning, we'll do all that we can to make you feel comfortable and at ease.

We hold a variety of services throughout the month, and you can find details of them all in the "What's On" section of our website.

Please do come along and visit us, in our beautiful old church. We'd love to welcome you!



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).

Upcoming social and fundraising events

10 Jun **Tea with tales from the Palace 3.30pm**
3-5 Jul **Flower Festival**

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



Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group
Tuesday 16 June 2pm - 4pm

Thakeham Church Room ~ Everyone Welcome

If you don't knit or stitch you are welcome to come along for company and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of cake
Further information from Wynn Lednor 01903 743025



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.



"LIFE IN ROYAL SERVICE"
An Afternoon with Harold Brown RVM

Come and enjoy a talk by Harold Brown RVM with 35 years experience in Royal Palaces.

The afternoon includes a delicious Cream Tea, served in the beautiful setting of St Mary's Church.

When: **Wednesday 10 June - 3:30-5.30pm**
Where: **St Mary's Church, Thakeham**
Tickets: **£10.50 per person**

To book tickets, please visit:
<https://buytickets.at/stmaryschurchthakeham/2153406>
or scan the QR code.




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

Revd 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

3, 10, 17 & 24 June - **Wednesday Celtic Communion**

19 June - **Quiz**

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

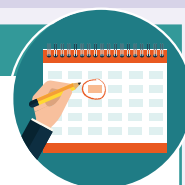
3 & 4 October - **Pop-up Preloved clothes sale**

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*



St Mary's Church, Sullington

QUIZ NIGHT!

At Sullington Great Barn, Sullington Manor Farm,
RH20 4AE

£15 per person

Ploughman's supper included!
Cash bar available for drinks

Book your table now

Gail Kittle: **01903 745754**

19 June 2026

6:30pm for a 7pm prompt start

Tables of up to 6 people available
Smaller groups welcome - teams can be combined

MIDWEEK CELTIC COMMUNION SERVICE

St Mary's Church, Sullington

Every Wednesday at 10.30am

Led by Revd 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.





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)
pcc treasurer.storr@outlook.com

Parish Secretary

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

PCC Secretary

Marj 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

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

27 Apr Ronald "Ron" Noon (88 years)

5 May Daphne Jean Parker (95 years)

Interment of ashes only:

18 Apr Betty Margaret Brackston (93 years)

18 Apr Michael William Brackston (97 years)

8 May Neil McLeod Tewesley (83 years)

DAY OF THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY COMMUNION (CORPUS CHRISTI)

A service will be held in Storrington Rectory Garden at **7pm on Thursday, 4 June.**



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

St Mary's Church, Storrington

Café in the Church
2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Wednesday 10 June
10am Holy Communion
10.30 Café in the Church

Wednesday 24 June
2pm Holy Communion
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.

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

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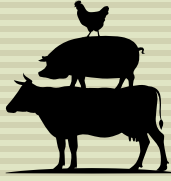
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A GREAT EASTER CELEBRATION AT STORRINGTON'S 10AM ALL-AGE WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Fr Jonathan's talk inviting us to encounter an exciting Easter journey in our lives walking alongside the risen Christ. The unknown adventure – perhaps akin to the excitement of space travel. 5-4-3-2-1 we have lift off!!! We launched our little rocket in the churchyard, with the assistance of some young helpers during the service and proclaimed our easter people anthem with a big Alleluia!

We celebrated after the service with some sparkling wine and tasty treats.

Our grateful thanks to everyone who helped prepare for our Easter celebrations, particularly to our flower arrangers and church upkeepers.



GOOD FRIDAY IN STORRINGTON – PROCESSION OF THE CROSS

On Good Friday morning about 50 Christians from across Storrington led the Procession of the Cross as an act of witness for this most solemn day. The rain did not deter our walk. Starting at Our Lady of England RC church, the procession of the cross went to the Parish Church of St Mary, Storrington, The Village Hub, Old Mill Square shopping centre, and finishing at Trinity Methodist Church. Rector of Storrington, Fr Jonathan, addressed the crowd and passers by in the village centre at The Hub. At each stop we listened to a reflection and sang a hymn.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.



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

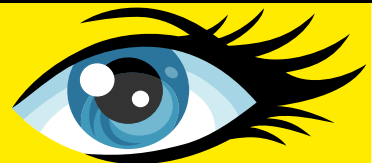
Everyone will be very welcome (men and women, any age or ability). Either bring along something you can already do, or have a go at something different.

For more information contact Barbara (741236).

Storrington Macular Society Support Group

23 June

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



— St Mary's Thakeham —

FLOWER AND CRAFT FESTIVAL

'What a Wonderful World'

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GARDENS
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& SUNDAY
2-5pm**

3rd, 4th & 5th July • 10am - 5pm

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Sullington Manor Farm

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A warm welcome awaits in this beautiful ancient farmstead at the foot of the Downs. Charming holiday cottages with a pool, tennis court and walks straight from the door. 2 or 3 bedrooms. Or, if you are looking for a wedding venue for a celebration in your own style then Sullington Great Barn could be perfect! For café openings and events please see the website.



Grahame, Anna and Gail Kittle

Sullington Manor Farm
 Sullington Lane, Storrington
 West Sussex RH20 4AE

01903 745754

info@sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk
 www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk

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 Main Hall with a stage
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All with kitchens and car parks

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Covering Storrington and surrounding areas

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 Email: stevemolelandscapes@gmail.com • www.stevemolelandscapes.co.uk

The Festival of Flowers is a four-day spectacular in the setting of Chichester's 950-year-old Cathedral, taking place from 3 - 6 June 2026.

The 2026 Festival marks a special milestone — its 30th anniversary. Since its beginnings in 1996, the Festival of Flowers has grown into one of the region's most significant and best-loved events, attracting visitors from across the UK to experience its breathtaking displays and the Cathedral reimagined through flowers. More than 50,000 blooms will transform Chichester Cathedral in a spectacular celebration of nature and creativity.

Guided by the 2026 theme Nature's Embrace, the Festival explores humanity's enduring relationship with the natural world – highlighting wellbeing, sustainability and the joy of working with living materials. This year's lead Festival designer is Caroline Daines, and the theme provides a natural framework for encouraging and inspiring the next generation of designers and horticultural creatives.

Chichester Cathedral's Festival of Flowers is a biennial event organised by Chichester Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust (charity no. 1156729). The Festival has raised over £1.4 million for the Cathedral since its inception in 1996.

Tickets can be purchased online – £21 in advance or £25 on the door.



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 24 June

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

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

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

APHA LCC

Is there more to life than this?

Try the free Alpha course at The Village Hub in Storrington.

Alpha is an unpressurised, fun and informative course, giving you an opportunity to ask questions about life, share your thoughts, and explore the Christian faith. Enjoy some cake and drinks followed by an inspiring presentation and meaningful discussion about life and faith. Each session includes a short film addressing a key issue relating to questions about life, followed by a chance to discuss what you've heard, air your views and ask anything you like.

Alpha is a free course running every Wednesday until 8 July, no commitment is required. Session will take place at 7.30pm at the Village Hub (7 The Square, Storrington, RH20 4DJ).

For more information and to book (need to know numbers for catering) please email alpha@lccstor.org, telephone 01903743547, or visit the Village Hub.

Laura Vogt says "I started Alpha unsure of what to expect, feeling nervous about the unfamiliar setting and meeting new people. However, Stuart and Christine were so welcoming it felt like walking into a friend's home. The atmosphere was relaxed, filled with treats and genuine kindness. I felt safe sharing my thoughts without judgement and found the answers I was seeking. The Holy Spirit Day was my highlight. It was a truly uplifting experience made even more special by sharing a meal with new friends. If you're hesitant, please just go. It is absolutely worth it. Would I do it again? In a heartbeat!"

**GOT QUESTIONS
ABOUT LIFE**



Join us at our

Worship Café

With new and old songs
Free Cream Tea Included

Thakeham Village Hall
Saturday, 13th June | 2–4pm

Email: music.stmarysthakeham@gmail.com to book your place



SULLINGTON 160 YEARS AGO

SUMMARY OF THE DIARY OF CANON PALMER – JUNE 1866

Fri 1: –

Sat 2: –

Sun 3: TRINITY 1 – Very warm indeed, fresh warm breeze from the E. thundery towards evening. Have had a hard day: domestic prayers; Sunday school, full afternoon service; full afternoon service at Warminghurst - 2 mile away - a christening after 6, and a full evening service at 6.30. Garfit with G.T. and domestic prayers! Preached a first sermon on the Beatitudes! In the morning then afternoon on the 'Rich man and Lazarus', old. Gospel and in evening on the 'Early Christian Church', old. My 'Smyrna' debenture bond arrived, a new paper to me.

Mon 4: After a very close night, with some heavy rain, a dull clear day with most rain at nightfall. Has been a very flowing day most valuable. The present dry and backwards state of vegetation. Many have begun to cut their seed, some have carried them. Drove 'Lady Jane' down to Worthing with Garfit. She did the distance well and was not troublesome. Garfit invests in fish. The Drawing room bow is leaky in consequence of a sparrow nest and the bloom off the climbers.

Tue 5: Dull morning after a wet night. Rained again heavily from 2 pm. S.E. The weather seems quite broken, and this rain will do a great deal of good.

Wed 6: Some rain in morning which broke away to fine. Freddy and I ride to the Pulborough schools to enquire after a mistress: Mr Allen very likely to hear of ours. Austria ----- to come for the conference excepting on unreasonable terms and so war is uncertain.

Thu 7: Early drizzle. Fine and warm. Played cricket: Storrington v Steyning 110 to 131 - 7 19 and 1 catch. Chappelle 50 odd and Hammond 40: S-----

Fri 8: Fine and warm. Tired more than I ought to be. George & Ellen go to Tonbridge Welles: Kate and Freddy up here. I call at the Hardwicks who show us the baby and their garden. Peas just ready to gather, I adjust their lawn mower. George & Ellen don't wish to Make use of this House, and I am left in a fix.

Sat 9: Very hot and still. Thundery toward evening. Glass falls. As I write I am afraid, in for a thunderstorm: my seeds a part of my front meadow lowered today. We read this afternoon instead of evening, so hot was it. Called on Major I did not see any of his party, which was sorry for. The failure of the Age & Masterman has produced a most painful impression, in consequence of its having been the depository of the savings of many workers, who have forfeited life and health -----and who were now resting on their earnings. The Shaud Union Work Infirmary is uncovered by accident and reveals a terrible picture.

Sun 10: TRINITY 2 – Hot till afternoon, when a fog brought up a cool air. As haymaking has begun, our congregation fell off in the morning though plenty in evening. Preached on the 2nd Beatitude, Blessed all the mourners and in evening on the subject of Christ, our Judge. Masters has got Eaton as his curate and wishes me to write to the Incumbent of W. Cowes in the matter of an exchange.

Mon 11: Quite cold, yet bright. Fresh strong which brought the glass down 3/10 and looks rainy. To Steyning riding, to pay in "Queen Anne", and to deposit a Debenture for £100. All hay front meadow cut today. Bismarck has issued a somewhat fierce circular to the representatives of Prussia at the foreign courts. Austria desirous of war, and eager to become an 'honourable bankrupt.'

Tue 12: Dull and scuddy from the S.W. New moon. Though there has been no haymaking today, the cut grass has received no damage. This is the wedding day of Princess Mary of Cambridge who is married to Prince Teck in Kew church. Her marriage is very popular, far more so than that of the Princess Helena. our school makes tiresomely slow progress.

Wed 13: Heavy showers throughout. Heard this morning of the death of Mr Elliot: my remembrance of him will be always a delightful one, frank,

cheery, high spirited even to boyishness and a perfect gentleman. He left a sunshining track wherever he went: he was at the Battle of Waterloo, afterwards joined the Navy and finally was in John company's civil service, as chief magistrate at Madras for many years.

Our watch at Wiston, for which the day was unfortunate, we had a fair muster but no ladies to lunch and plenty of amusement. We played the Return match of Clergy v. Laity and again won. Royston tells us that he is going to take Hursts' duty for a month: the latter 'worthy' thinking of retiring from 'active clerical work'. Haymaking nowhere. Austrian Ambassador leaves Berlin.

Thur 14: Dull, showery, cold. This evening wrote letter thought the day has been one for winter coats. The Royal wedding went off well, and Her Majesty did the gracious. I to lunch in Goring: saw Neds' box of arms and ropes, which we shall inspect tomorrow. The Fenians have actually 'taken' a small village of Canada, called 'Fort Erie', and the populations of the district are in great excitement.

Fri 15: Showery driving mist from S.W. Lunched at Fryern to see the Rhodos which are very beautiful this year: G 'trotting' beside me: envy my neighbours' kitchen garden, thought there is no wall, fruit this season. Did solus with Sir C. and accept his leavings of skulls and horus, sent be Ned. Knight of Washington brings his bride home today.

Sat 16: Stormy all day though no rain - Glass fell. No haymaking to be done this weather. Get up one load from the front meadow, bur hardly in a fit state to be carried.

Sun 17: TRINITY 3 – Stormy and ----- sharp N.W. showers. There has been nothing to hurt the hay today and nothing to damage the congregations, which have been good. C f spent the day with us and Preached on the 3rd Beatitude, and the Life of Samuel. (the latter the first of 3 sermons on the same subject in 61)

Mon 18: Heavy rain all day and night, cold. Sat shivering over fires; gazing ruefully at the soaking hay, and clad in winter garments. Midhurst came to play Storrington at cricket, and the 2 Universities were to have met at Lords.

Tues 19: High ---- wind, fine, glass rising. I hope that our severe weather is over of the present. Rode with G round his farms of Gossland, Apseles etc. and discussed his project of farming them himself. C. --- came to S. yesterday and was overturned at the door! Charles comes to us.

Wed 20: Fine but very little sun, thundery in evening, glass fell in evening. Have had a thorough days' haymaking: from 9 till 5 and found that my presence was of value independently of work done. Got one up greenish load from top of front field. The Ministry are 'checked' in the stage of the reform Bill – Rateable Value v. Clear annual, the latter of which they supported. Eyle, late governor of Jamaica, is censured for not keeping his subs in order after the rebellion was over and the Government remove him from his post.

Thu 21: Fine and hot, but heavy thunderstorms and rain at 8pm. Today were visited by Archdeacon Garbett at Pulborough, he gave us an excellent charge of 45 minutes. Garfit went to Petworth. I took Knight. Hay at a decided discount.

Fri 22: A clearing day, some heavy clouds. Didn't do much today, last nights rain has soaked us thoroughly: so we are in poor plight did much haymaking.

Sat 23: Brilliant – Cooks settled down ----- Did a hard days' haymaking, carrying seeds, but they are a good bit damaged.

Sun 24: TRINITY 4 – Sermon 'John Baptist'. Brilliant. I teach on 'Spiritual Appetite in morning and a second on Samuels' life in evening. Am reading 'Hesseys'' work on 'Sunday', and find it rather stiff to digest, his array of authorities are appalling. Our congregations not good this hot day.

Mon 25: Fine and hot. A hard day on pick and meadow. Rode to Ashington in evening, to discuss the proposed domiciliary visits: Annie attends a meeting of 'Ladies' at Fryern in the 'work'.

Tue 26: As yesterday glass falls a little – brisk N.E. Finished the front meadow and had the other cut – mowers strike for higher wages – more than 5p per acre!

Wed 27: Fine and very hot. ----- An easy day in the field, so began to cut the lawns. Had one thunderstorm.

Thu 28: Intensely hot. Picked up a load from barn field, only ---- ---. Drove to meet Clayton at Pulborough rather put out with some disappointments for tomorrow. The Austrians lick the Prussians in Silesia.

Fri 29: Dull and hazy, little sun, close. Played our first match against Lancing and won it easily by 9 wickets, though a poorish team. Woodard, Ingram and Ellman beni our main supports: had a very pleasant day.

Sat 30: Fine and warm till evening ----- . A very busy day with Garfit, the hay, and -----Mr & Mrs Sinclair and Mr Trip.

Ann Salinger



Chichester Cathedral will host SussexFest on Sunday 14 June (11 am – 4pm) – a free community fete celebrating the heritage, identity and creativity of Sussex.

The event brings together families, residents, cultural organisations and Chichester-based businesses for a full day of activities on the city's historic Cathedral Green. A service will take place in the Cathedral before festivities commence at 10.00am, all are welcome to join.

Visitors can enjoy free drop in family friendly activities delivered from cultural, creative and heritage organisations, including Fishbourne Roman Palace, Tangmere Military Aviation Museum, West Sussex Library Service. The day also marks the launch of the Festival of Chichester – a month-long arts, music and culture festival held in Chichester every June and July.

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

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



All chit chat and tall tales welcome

READING FRIENDS

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



ON 1 JUNE THIS MONTH!



Storrington Library

Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
01903 839050

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.

FUNDRAISING EVENING FOR THAKEHAM COMMUNITY

BRING YOUR OWN COCKTAILS & DRINKS

CARIBBEAN Night

SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH

Thakeham Village Hall

7PM TO 10.30PM

Special Guests
WORTHING STEEL BAND

SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK

TICKETS £22 PER PERSON

Supported by

AUTHENTIC CARIBBEAN SUPPER INCLUDED

Let the train take the strain

My husband thinks that our grandchildren, all grown up now, believe all holidays start at Gatwick Airport, and that there is no other way of crossing the sea. I am a little more optimistic, but I suspect there's an element of truth in what he says. Do you remember a time when taking a flight was a major adventure? Even as an adult? If you're under 40 and possibly under 50, probably not. Many of us are completely blasé about flying. In our heads it's the only way to get off this island home of ours.

So, what's wrong with flying? Apart from the sheer discomfort of it – waiting around for hours at airports, being crunched up in narrow seats that refuse to be adjusted, being served cardboard food because eating is a good distraction from the consciousness that you're in an aluminium tube with anything between 200 to 500 other people up some 30,000 feet in the air? You can tell I like flying, can't you?

Actually, all this vitriol is not just me indulging a personal hate; there are sound environmental reasons for limiting air journeys. Air travel has by far the biggest carbon footprint of any mode of travel, even allowing for the numbers than be transported at the same time.

This is not a completely scientific comparison, but a little bit of research threw up these carbon footprint numbers for getting to Paris (our desired destination later this year so we can see restored Notre Dame).

- Short haul flight – 122 kg per person
- Car with two passengers – 60 kg per person
- Bus / coach – 27 kg per person
- Eurostar – 11 kg per person

Useful link with some other comparisons: <https://www.seat61.com/CO2flights.htm>

So, my next question was how long does it take to offset 10 kg of carbon? A fast-growing mature tree in the UK takes between 10 and 18 months to absorb 10 kg of carbon dioxide. The key word here is "mature;" so if you're paying to plant trees to offset your holidays, they don't really start delivering for something like ten years.

There are other ways to take a holiday. Having had success last year taking Eurostar to Amsterdam, and several years



Heron on Amsterdam canal

ago taking our bikes on the train to the Isle of Wight, we have another big adventure planned. We are going to take the sleeper train from Euston up to Inverness. Then we shall gently work our way home by train over a fortnight, taking in Glasgow (art galleries), Newcastle (my sister) and Lincoln (neither of us has ever been there before).

It takes a little planning, but there isn't a major city in the UK that can't be reached by train. Did you know you can take a train from Pulborough to Cambridge with no changes? You want to go



Tea shop on the Isle of Wight



Ferns in Scotland

to Eire? Train to Liverpool or Holyhead, ferry into Dublin. Or take the train to Fishguard and then the ferry to Rosslare. And if you have a rail card, it costs a lot less than you'd think.

This is not quite a train story, but I find it a bit inspirational. There was a lovely friend in our house group years ago – Daphne. She was in her eighties, and her children were a tad too protective. She fantasised about packing a suitcase to be away for a week or so, and then going to the bus stop and taking the first bus as far as it would go. On arrival she would stay a couple of days and then take another random bus to somewhere else. And so on. You could have an interesting holiday on the same principle using the trains.

Christine Tuson
ctuson@lineone.net

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 Sait**

Tickets: £10.50 pp. includes a glass of wine
Buy in advance here:
www.buytickets.at/stmaryschurchthakeham/2196695

WEST CHILTINGTON AND STORRINGTON MOTHERS' UNION

We welcomed Vikki Cook to our May meeting. Vikki had come all the way over from Battle to talk about her very memorable and emotional trip to the Holy Land in 2023.

MOTHERS' UNION
Christian care for families

It had come about as she was chatting to a Baptist minister and he said that he that was going to run a summer bible club in Ramallah and invited her to come along, so she did!

They were a group of 12 people, teaching crafts, sports and bible teachings. In the mornings she taught 80 children and in the afternoons they went on excursions. The Garden Tomb was very emotional for Vikki as she reflected on the story of Jesus and His pleading with His Father. There is a stone which some believe is where Jesus laid His head. They also had the most meaningful communion service there. They floated on the Dead Sea and visited Tiberias which had lovely sunrises and she swam in it before breakfast! They witnessed several baptisms in the River Jordan and plunged into David's Waterfall. As it was so hot in Israel, this was very welcomed!

They also visited Jerusalem and walked along the Via Dolorosa. From there they went to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. In the small chapel there is a small crack in the wall which they think was caused by the earthquake when Jesus died! A trip of a lifetime, one not to be forgotten!



Vikki Cook

Dates for your diary:

Date and time TBC

June trip

Wednesday 10 June at 5pm

150th Celebratory Service: St Paul's Cathedral, London

Thursday 11 June, 10:30am - 4:30pm

Annual Gathering, The Emmanuel Centre
(next to Mary Sumner House)

Saturday 20 June at 2pm

Anniversary service and tea at St Wilfrids, Chichester

Thursday 2 July at 2pm

Garden Party

Maria Radford



WEST CHILTINGTON FLORAL CLUB

Tuesday 16 June, 7pm for 7.30pm start
We welcome Gill Homer with her demonstration entitled "Container Inspired"

Visitors are most welcome - £7.00

Sales Table, Refreshments and Raffle

The meeting will be held at

West Chiltington Village Hall, Mill Road, RH20 2PZ.

For more information, please contact: Brenda on 01798 813712 or Carol on 01798 813608

Email: wchiltfloralclub@gmail.com

Website: www.westchiltingtonfloralclub.co.uk



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



STORRINGTON CRICKET CLUB | 1791

Storrington CC in partnership with



For the rest of this year memorabilia of Storrington Cricket Club that was established in 1791 can be seen on display in the Club Corner at the Sussex Cricket Museum at the Hove County Cricket Ground. Admission to the Museum is free.

Items on display include a poster of scores when Storrington beat Sussex in 1800, photographs of players in the second half of the 19th century, our oldest scorebook from 1858, the Storrington & District Cricket League Challenge Cup 1908, a silver inkstand presented to Hugh de Selincourt in 1930 and a signed first edition of his minor classic 'The Cricket Match' about a fictitious cricket team called Tillingfold whose players were based on the real life cricketers at Storrington in the 1920s. The displays include items loaned by the Storrington Museum.

Book coming this summer



A book about the emergence of cricket in Storrington during the 19th century and earlier is due to be published during the summer. It contains details of hundreds of matches played by the Club as well as the army crammer College and Brook House School that were part of Storrington's past. Cricket played on frozen ponds. There is a wealth of information about Storrington's most famous cricketer, John Hammond, who played for England and Sussex, and other Hammonds who were prominent players in the 19th century.



The book has been written by our President, Chris Winter, who can be contacted on chris.winter918@gmail.com by persons who could be interested in buying a copy.

CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

DATE	FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY	STORRINGTON St Mary's	THAKEHAM St Mary's	SULLINGTON St Mary's
4 June (Thursday)	DAY OF THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY COMMUNION (CORPUS CHRISTI)	7pm Special Service in Storrington Rectory Garden		
7 June	Trinity 1	8am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Benefice Church for All Service	8.30am BCP Communion 6pm Evensong
14 June	Trinity 2	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Holy Communion / Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
21 June	Trinity 3	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	8.30am Celtic Holy Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Benefice Holy Communion
28 June	Trinity 4	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion
5 July	Trinity 5	8am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	6pm Songs of Praise	10.30am Benefice Church for All Service

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. Midweek Holy Communion Service at St Mary's Church, Sullington, 10.30am every Wednesday

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

14 June at 1pm

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

Tickets £5.00 are available from

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington



WHAT'S ON

JUNE	
Mon 1	
2.30pm	Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p15
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p21
Tue 2	
10am	Inter-Church Prayers, Storrington Priory Library – p3
2pm	SPACE – Arts & Craft Club – p 9
2pm	The Arts Society West Sussex – Talk – p23
7.30pm	Storrington Museum – Talk – p33
Wed 3	
10.30am	Celtic Communion Service – p5
10.30am	The Arts Society South Downs – Talk – p25
4pm	Stay and Play event for SEND children – p29
7.30pm	Alpha, Village Hub – p13
Thu 4	
11.30am	Storrington Pop-In Lunch Club – p18
Sat 6	
10am	Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party (TBC) – p26
Sun 7 Trinity 1	
Mon 8	
11am	Community Café at Storrington Library – p26
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p21
7.30pm	Thakeham Gardeners' Club – Meeting – p22
Wed 10	
10am	Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
10.30am	Celtic Communion Service – p5
3.30pm	'A Life in Royal Service' Talk – St Mary's Church Thakeham – p4
4pm	Stay and Play event for SEND children – p29
7.30pm	Alpha, Village Hub – p13
Sat 13	
2pm	Worship Café, Thakeham Village Hall – p13
Sun 14 Trinity 2	
1pm	Sunday Lunch Club – p18
Mon 15	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p29
Tue 16	
2pm	Knit and Stitch – p4
2pm	SPACE – Arts & Craft Club – p9
7pm	West Chiltington Floral Club – p17
Wed 17	
10.30am	Celtic Communion Service – p5
4pm	Stay and Play event for SEND children – p29
7.30pm	Alpha, Village Hub – p13
Thu 18	
10.30am	Cuppa and a Chat – p34
Fri 19	
6.30pm	Quiz, Sullington Great Barn – p5
7.30pm	Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p24
Sat 20	
7pm	Caribbean Night, Thakeham Village Hall – p15
Sun 21 Trinity 3	
Mon 22	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p21

Tue 23	
2pm	Storrington Macular Group – p9
Wed 24	
10am	Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
10.30am	Celtic Communion Service – p5
10.30am	Trinity Sunshine Choir – p13
2.30pm	Storrington Flower Club – Meeting – p26
4pm	Stay and Play event for SEND children – p29
7.30pm	Alpha, Village Hub – p13
Thu 25	
Sat 27	
	FOSS litter-pick along the River Walk (TBC) – p21
7.30pm	"Feelin' Lucky" Music Event – p30
Sun 28 Trinity 4	
Mon 29	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p21

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

JUNE	
1	THE VISIT OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ELIZABETH Justin, c.165
3	The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7 and 1977
4	DAY OF THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY COMMUNION (CORPUS CHRISTI)
4	Petroc, 6th century, one of the patron saints of Cornwall
5	Boniface (Wynfrith), 754 , Bishop, patron saint of Germany, Martyr
6	Ini Kopuria, 1945, founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood
8	Thomas Ken, 1711 , an English cleric considered the most eminent of the English non-juring bishops
9	Columba, 597 , abbot and missionary traditionally credited with the main role in the conversion of Scotland to Christianity Ephrem of Syria, 373, revered as one of the most notable hymnographers of Eastern Christianity
11	BARNABAS, APOSTLE
14	Richard Baxter, 1691, puritan church leader
15	Evelyn Underhill, 1941, an English Anglo-Catholic writer and pacifist known for her numerous works on religion and spiritual practice
16	Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253 , patron saint of Sussex Joseph Butler, 1752, Bishop of Durham, philosopher
17	Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, 1913 and 1936, social reformers
18	Bernard Mizeki, 1896, apostle of the MaShona (South Africa), martyr
19	Sundar Singh of India, 1929, Sadhu (holy man), evangelist, teacher of Christianity
22	Alban, c 250 , venerated as the first-recorded British Christian martyr
23	Etheldreda, c 678 , Abbess of Ely
24	BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST
27	Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, 444, teacher of the faith
28	Irenaeus, c 200 , Bishop of Lyons, teacher of the faith
29	PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 48

Starting with one of his regular parish rounds, we meet the Rector visiting Sandy Lane, where he found Mrs Woods and Betsy Berry “who was not fit to be left with that drunken beast of a Chairman” and Mrs Martha “who was portly and self-confident”. Whit Sunday was warm, but the Holy Communion attendance was poor. The Rev. J W Knight helped out at Sullington, Washington Church was out of use, being rebuilt, the walls had then reached the height of three feet. He heard Mr Palmer read out his (Mr Knight’s) bans of marriage for the third time of asking at the evening service where there was a good attendance.

On his farm, Mr Palmer was pleased to get 5/4 per stone for his beast from Mr Towse the butcher, Venn was triumphant when it weighed in at 87 stone. The weather was not so favourable for agriculture, the dry cold causing slow growth. Catarrh, bronchitis and whooping cough were rife in the parish, but at last the east wind dropped and it turned warmer, although the diary recorded, “the promise of a nice day tomorrow, tho’ I cannot quite understand a rather rapid fall of glass”. Trinity Sunday was “the first real summer’s day” and there was a fair congregation, but the treacherous month of May produced a white frost at night.

Before the end of the month, there was news of more smashes in the City. G. had been concerned about not hearing from home for a week, “his father being rather deep in Overend and Gurney and Co, and his bankers, Barretts, upon whom the greater run had occurred”. Then it was the turn of the Consolidated Bank, in which the Rev. Thomas Bacon, Rector of Wiggonholt with Greatham, had shares and Thomas Fairbairn was a director. He had to go to Town “although Arthur was very ill and Mrs Bacon on the point of producing another!” The Bank had paid £15 per cent. Mr Palmer drove over to Wiggonholt to find that Arthur thankfully had shown a little improvement”.

Rain arrived, initiating “a very growing day, most valuable to the present dry and backward state of vegetation. Some have begun to cut their seeds and have even carried them”. At the Rectory there was a problem when the dining room bow window was found to be leaking due to a sparrow’s nest and bloom off the elm. The first Sunday after Trinity, June 3rd, was a hard one for the Rector, beginning with domestic prayers, Sunday School, a full service and in the afternoon another service two miles drive away for the Rev. T Bacon at Warminghurst, a christening and another full service at 6.30pm, ending the day with prayers with G. T. and the domestics. There seems to have been Sunday postal delivery at that time, “My Smyrna Debenture Bond arrived” giving him something new to peruse and confirming his plans for the next day. He was likely to have enjoyed being in the open air, driving his mother and Annie to Rock, Ashington and Chillington. He had obtained G’s grey mare which he rode, thinking “she will require all the exercise I can give her”. This would be no hardship for Mr Palmer who was a good horseman and enjoyed any reason to ride or drive. He gave her the name Lady Jane [Grey] and decided after the drive with the ladies to turn out his old Dorset, it was probably the last time it was between the shafts. Exercising Lady Jane again, he rode to Pulborough with Freddie to the schools, needing to find a schoolmistress. Mr Allen thought he might know of one. The next outing with her was to Worthing, accompanied by G. “She did the journey well and was not troublesome.”

Although there was early drizzle, nothing stopped the all-important activity of the summer – a cricket match between Steyning and Storrington, during which Mr Palmer, who made himself available to any team needing a man, scored 19 runs and took a catch. The well-known cricketer, John [?] Hammond, was also playing and scored 43 runs [his tombstone can be seen in Storrington churchyard]. Mr Palmer was surprised to find himself “more tired than I ought to be”, but he called on the Hardwicks who proudly showed him their baby and the garden where the first early peas were ready for picking. While in the garden, he adjusted their lawn mower for them. A week later, another cricket match at Wiston on a day of heavy showers throughout which was “unfortunate. We had a fair muster, no ladies for lunch and plenty of amusement. We played a return match of Clergy and Laity and again won”.

At the Rectory, he was told that George and Emma [the newly-weds] did not wish to make use of the house. George had also turned down his brother-in-law’s offer to rent the whole of the glebe for £30, by which “I am left in a fix”. There was more serious financial news in the markets: calling on Major Sandham he heard that the failure of the Agro and Masterman had produced a most painful impression in consequence of its having been the depository of the savings of many Indians” [ie civil service and army people working on the sub-continent] “who have forfeited life and health abroad and who were now resting on their earnings. Also the Strand Union Infirmary is uncovered by accident and reveals a terrible picture”. Nearer home it was haymaking time and “we are, I’m afraid, in for a thunderstorm. My seeds and part of my front meadow lowered today”. The congregation was obviously affected at this busy time in the morning but there were plenty in the afternoon and evening [no doubt glad to sit and rest!].

Riding Lady Jane to Steyning, the nearest bank where he could transact business, he needed to pay in “Queen Anne” and deposit his debenture bond for £100. Queen Anne’s Bounty was a fund established in 1704 to receive and use the annates and tithes previously confiscated by King Henry VIII and were used to supplement the incomes of poorer clergy.

International news concerned the issue by Bismarck of “a somewhat fierce circular to Prussian representatives at foreign courts. Austria, desirous of war and eager to become an honourable bankrupt”. The Austrian ambassador left Berlin. Nearer home there was royal news, of the wedding day of Princess Mary of Cambridge and Prince Teck in Kew Church, which went well, “a popular match, far more so than that of Princess Helena. It was a day for winter coats and Her Majesty did the gracious”.

But in Sullington, the Rector bemoaned “Our school makes tiresomely slow progress”. Hearing of the death of Mr Eliot, he recorded his fine remembrance of the deceased... “he left a sunshiny track wherever he went. He was at the Battle of Waterloo, afterwards joined the navy and was in John Company’s service as chief magistrate at Madras for many years”. John Company was the familiar reference to the Hon. East India Company. There was news from Canada of the Fenians causing trouble – they had actually “taken” a small village called fort Eyrie and the population of the district were reported to be in great excitement.

Joan Ham (Village Historian)



STORRINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET
Storrington Village Hall, West Street

EVERY FRIDAY 9.30 – 11.30am

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE
Homemade Cakes, Quiches and Biscuits
Sausage Rolls • Fruit • Veg • Plants
Homemade Marmalade, Jam, Chutney and Honey

PLUS

Carol's pet rugs, cushions, quilts and bunting
Books and free magazines • Locally produced cards
Katie's Forever Living Aloe Vera • Velda's aprons
Elaine's Glass Art and Jewellery • Rich's woodcraft gifts
Sussex Green Living recycling collection point
Cafe – tea, coffee and biscuits

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

This month we would like to send a big thank you to the local residents that spend their own time litter-picking and cleaning the streets where they live. It is a thankless job and it has been noticed by the Parish Council and other residents.

Since our litter-pick with FOSS (Friends of Storrington School) and the pupils of Storrington Primary School (pictured), at which we filled eight sacks of litter from around the Recreation Ground and Memorial Pond, we have been asked how residents can get involved in their local area. The answer is to join the Adopt a Street scheme that is running in the district.



Adopt a Street volunteer scheme

If you want to see your neighbourhood looking clean and tidy, you could join the Horsham District Adopt a Street scheme. Volunteers choose the area they want to adopt, and Horsham District Council will provide all the equipment they need to help with the clean-up, including:

- litter pickers • plastic bags • gloves • hi-vis vests

You will need to contain the litter within sacks, take it back to your address and HDC will collect it from you. They also provide health and safety training and help with coordinating volunteers. See here for more information: www.horsham.gov.uk/waste-recycling-and-bins/litter-and-street-cleaning/adopt-a-street

If you think it would be a good idea to arrange some group litter-picking dates in Storrington and Sullington, please let us know at storrington-sullingtonwardens@horsham.gov.uk.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 3, 10, 17 and 24 June – 4pm-5:30pm
Stay and Play event for SEND children

Monday 8 June – 11am-12:30pm
Community Café at Storrington Library

Thursday 18 June – 10:30am-12:30pm
Cuppa and a Chat at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Saturday 27 June TBC
FOSS litter-pick along the River Walk

Chris Poore: 07795 046743

Dave Bone: 07789 943201

storrington-sullingtonwardens@horsham.gov.uk

CRICKET IN STORRINGTON



Mixed Start to New Season

Our 1st XI started the new season with a friendly match against St Andrews Burgess Hill, winning by 38 runs. We scored 216-6 with Chairman James Harrington retiring after reaching a half century. Thomas with three wickets for just 11 runs was prominent in restricting St Andrews to 178-8. The first League match against Tilgate was a "what might have been but for.." affair as rain meant Tilgate's target score was reduced to 107 runs off 20 overs after we had been bowled out for 140, Mark Haggart 45 and Douglas Sopp 36. Tilgate had lost 8 wickets when their revised target was reached and might well have struggled to score another 34 runs but for the rain. Thomas was in the ascendancy again with four wickets for 28 runs.

Rain caused the 2nd XI's first League match to be abandoned when Ram had reached 231-6, with father and daughter Cunningham sharing four of the wickets.

The U14s lost their first match to Findon by 32 runs but the result could have gone the other way had our bowlers not gifted 57 extras to the opposition! Findon scored 137-5, Tom taking 2-17. Our reply was 105-6 with Massimo having to retire after scoring 29. Their second match was a resounding victory over Steyning by five wickets. We scored 121-5 after Massimo and George had retired with scores of 32 and 26. Steyning were then bowled out for 86, Massimo achieving a hat trick in his splendid analysis of four wickets for three runs off two overs that included a maiden.

In their first outings, the U10s lost to West Chiltington & Thakeham by 52 runs whilst the U11s lost by a bigger margin to Littlehampton, Clapham & Patching.

On Sunday 3 May players from all four sections of the Club teamed up to play a touring side from Halstead near Sevenoaks, Kent. The visitors won the toss and elected to bat, scoring a challenging 228-2 off 35 overs. On debut, four of our juniors, the twins Archie and George along with Lea and Emily all bowled well. In reply, our score of 131-4 off 35 overs was well short of target. Massimo and Laurence Nash were the top scorers with 29 and 27.

Our three Sussex Pathway girls, Bella, Marley and Frieda-Mae, will be starting a series of intra-Sussex friendly matches during May, whilst Massimo has already had a couple of warm-up matches for Sussex. Dylan, our U11 Sussex Pathway selection, also has matches during May.

Practice sessions continue as follows:

- Thursday Evenings:** Men's hard ball and Women's soft ball
- Friday Evenings:** Juniors (boys and girls) and Women's hard ball
- 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



THAKEHAM BRIDGE CLUB

We are a friendly Bridge club with weekly sessions
Fridays 1pm and Wednesdays 6.45pm at Thakeham Village Hall.
New members welcome.

Please ring Harold Linfield 01798 812276
or Christine Wright 07840 777410. Email caw2023@gmail.com

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.



£2.50
per week
No joining fee or
charge for weeks
missed!

PETWORTH HOUSE & PARK

EVENTS



Expressions in Blue: Monumental Porcelain by Felicity Aylieff

Until 27 September

Towering sculptures by renowned ceramicist Felicity Aylieff are being exhibited for the first time at Petworth House and Park. The exhibition takes place across the whole property, including installations throughout the house, film and photographs revealing the remarkable 'making' process in the exhibition room, and two soaring obelisks standing between the house and the Upper Pond.

Free with admission, no booking required.

Creative Workshops

To coincide with our Expressions in Blue exhibition, we will be running several workshops with expert tutors to allow visitors to explore their creativity. Places can be booked on our website or by calling 0344 249 1895.

Expressive Line & Mark Making

Saturday 13 June 10.15am – 3.45pm

Join Felicity Aylieff, the renowned artist behind our Expressions in Blue exhibition, on her one-day drawing workshop that explores line and mark-making through movement, tools, and creative process.

£75 per person

Botanical Drawing for Beginners

Tuesday 16 June 10.30am – 4.30pm

Learn step by step approaches to enable your creativity to flourish in this beginners one day botanical drawing workshop, with local tutor Amanda Duke.

£65 per person

Indian Block Printing

Wednesday 24 June 10.30am – 1pm & 2pm – 4.30pm

Experience the joys of Indian Block Printing, and learn how to hand-print fabric and paper creations using designs inspired by nature. Suitable for all levels.

£45 per person

Willow Weaving: Foraging Basket Making

Saturday 4 July 10.30am – 4pm

Have a go at a heritage craft in this one-day workshop to weave your own rustic foraging basket, suitable for beginners.

£62 per person

Willow Weaving: Weave a Swallow

Sunday 5 July 10.30am – 1pm & 2pm – 4.30pm

Weave a decorative swallow in the beautiful gardens of Petworth House.

£36 per person



THAKEHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

The club was fortunate so welcome Ray Broughton back as our speaker at the April meeting. Ray spoke about soil management and home composting and he also gave us lots of other helpful tips along the way with the odd joke thrown in which brought out laughter and a smile to faces. We learnt that vermiculite is better than perlite, that shoddy, which is sheep's wool, dug into the ground opens up the soil and will rot down in 7 years. He also mentioned that experiments are underway to use human sewage as fertiliser once the antibodies are removed. He related the quick cook method of making compost where you start with on a solid base, such as paving slabs, add a third composting material followed by a third soil, 2 handfuls of sulphate of ammonia, and a shovel of lime and then top up with a final third of composting material. This doesn't need turning and should be ready in 3 months' time. We hope to welcome Ray again in the future as his talks are always very enjoyable.

We also held a very successful Spring Plant Sale on Saturday 2 May with folk queuing before the sale opened at 2pm! By 2.30pm the majority of the plants had been sold so remember if you intend coming to our next sale in September come early!



Before



After

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 8 June** when we welcome Clare from Clare's Chillies with 'Chillie Chat'. The club competition is 'A Rose'.

The club is also celebrating its 50th Anniversary on **Saturday 27 June** when we will have guest speakers telling us about Thakeham through the last 50 years, and a supper buffet followed by music and dancing. This event is for members and invited guests.

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

Sandra Jenkins

STORRINGTON & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Storrington & District Twinning Association is hosting a visit from its twin town of Villerest, situated in the Rhone Alps, France, from Thursday, **11 June**

- **Sunday 14 June**. We have events planned for this period. If you are interested in joining any of the events or any future events, or offering accommodation for visiting adults, please email: secretary@storringtontwinning.co.uk



Tuesday 2 June 2026

Talk by Andy McConnell
The Genius of Rene Lalique

René Lalique was the 20th century's greatest glass designer/entrepreneur. Lalique's extraordinary work was unrivalled, combining his unique visual sense with a perfect understanding of glassmaking technologies and revolutionary approach to marketing. This talk is a visual feast, covers Lalique's early work in jewels and furniture before he dedicated the remainder of his life, c1905-45, to glass. His output spanned simple, pressed cosmetic pots through car mascots and stemware to the unique cire perdu [lost wax] vases that today can command tens and even millions of pounds.



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).



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



Annual Parish Meeting

Our annual parish event was held on 22 April. We would like to thank our speakers: Laura Vaughan-Hirsch from The White Stork Project, Sarah Abercrombie from the Regional Sussex Wildlife Trust Group and Cllr Martin Boffey, Leader of Horsham District Council. Our agenda for the evening was too ambitious in the time available, and the front end overran significantly which impacted the public question session. We are now actively exploring a series of Chat & Cuppa events from June, each involving a couple of councillors and parishioners can book a slot for discussion on anything parish related.

Cllr Alan Manton

We would like to thank Cllr Alan Manton for his service to the Parish Council over the past few months. He brought a fresh perspective to the council and ensured that all meetings are now recorded and available to the community.

White Stork and Nature Festival

A big thanks to all the speakers, stall holders, musicians, and volunteers involved in this year's Festival. Special thanks also to our sponsors: The Hunter Group who redevelop country estates and farms and GL & Co Estate Agents, in Storrington High Street. We are also grateful to Carters who generously sponsored the Dog Show.

White Stork Mural

The White Stork mural was unveiled in May on the wall of GL & Co overlooking Place Villereest. This beautiful mural was designed by Daryl (@SinnaOne) who has undertaken similar street art in Brighton. The work is being crowdfunded and fundraising is still underway. If you would like to contribute please scan the QR code.



Storrington & Sullington Logo

Nearly 23 years ago, the parishes of Storrington & Sullington merged but for various reasons the logo was not updated. Finally, we have blended Sullington White Windmill with the Storrington Storks' visuals into one beautiful logo. We will introduce the new logo to our print and digital and signs from May. We would like to thank local designer, Sean Langridge of Firefly Creative who designed the visual for us.

Leisure Centre Expansion

The Parish Council was pleased to authorise the Leisure Centre Trustees to request planning approval from Horsham District Council for an internal extension with a new mezzanine floor over the main hall giving space for more public facilities. These works if approved would take place next Spring.

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

REFILL STATION IN STORRINGTON



REFILL YOUR BOTTLES & YOUR POCKET!

A big brand in a shop: **£27.89**



LAUNDRY LIQUID 2.5L

A new Faith in Nature bottle: **£22**

Faith in Nature Refill only: **£13.75**

SHOP LOCAL

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre
Spierbridge Road
RH20 4PG

Bottle refill: shampoo, hand wash, body wash, washing up liquid, etc.

Open every day

Dry food: porridge oat, pasta, rice, organic muesli

Supported by:



www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/storringtonrefill

ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HUB

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



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.



STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Sustainable & Wildlife Gardening for our Changing Climate

At the April meeting we enjoyed a talk by Beverley Exall, about gardening for our changing climate. Beverley has worked in Horticulture for over 30 years, including at RHS Wisley, and is now a gardening consultant, specialising



in sustainability. She writes articles, talks to schoolchildren, and runs a 'Let's Talk Gardening' discussion group.

Many aspects of our climate have been changing over recent years. Rain falls with increased frequency, in heavier outbursts; there is more flooding, and more extreme and intense storms. It is estimated that for every 1 degree of temperature increase, there will be 7% increase in rain. It is also forecast that most of the UK will be frost-free soon, and that by 2100 there will be no more lying snow in England.

The most important element of our gardens is the soil – it stores air, water, and carbon. To increase the amount of water held in the soil (and therefore not running off as floods) we should add organic matter. A 1% increase in organic matter across an acre of soil, will enable it to hold 27,000 gallons more water. Also, if we leave bare soil in winter, the increased rain will run off and cause floods, so we should retain planting all year. Soil holds more carbon than the atmosphere, so when we dig or plough, carbon is released back. The concept of 'no dig', or applying a thick dressing of compost or mulch, is therefore much better for the environment – and will cover weeds.

We all share our gardens with wildlife, and putting wildlife first is also good for us. Decaying wood or bark is good for many species, nettles encourage butterflies to lay eggs, and piles of stones allow toads and newts to colonise the crevices. Purpose-built bug-hotels are becoming popular – they can be made from anything, but do need a roof to keep the inhabitants dry. Shallow water with pebbles in allows insects to land and drink – and any amount of water is a great addition to the garden for wildlife.

Increasingly people are joining the 'No-Mow May' movement, but even if you like to mow, it is good to also leave an uncut area of grass in part of the garden, which is an amazing wildlife habitat. And some people like to 'Chop and Drop', leaving the grass cuttings where they fall to create habitats, and allow the goodness back into the soil.

It is estimated that we have lost 65% of our insects, but there are signs that we are beginning to turn the corner – possibly because of initiatives like No-Mow May, and increasingly councils leaving road verges to grow. One issue of climate change is that insects and the plants they rely on are no longer emerging at the same time. We can help fill the gaps with our planting by aiming to have pollen available for as much of the year as possible – starting with the early snowdrops, hellebores and ivy. Leaving nettles and dandelions, growing single blooms rather than double, and leaving some vegetables to flower, will all help pollinators. And for the birds, planting suitable food sources – berries and nuts – is much better than feeding them with bought bird food.

Beverley's advice was - as we are gardening, we should all stop and think 'How wild can I go?'

The evening concluded with light refreshments and a raffle.

Our next meeting is **Friday 19 June** and includes a talk by Aimee Felus, on West Sussex Rivers.

Jo Myland

STORRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

What a fantastic month we have had at Storrington Primary School, with lots of wonderful activities and visitors to the school. The summer term has started fantastically and we have many exciting activities taking place over the following couple of months.

EYFS – Under the Sea

As part of understanding about life under the sea, Reception children were super fortunate to have a visit from Marine Biologist Ruth Stemp. Ruth spoke to them all about life in the ocean. They learnt so many interesting facts including that Daddy Sea horses have the babies! It was all fascinating!



We couldn't be prouder of our Reception children, who were so respectful, listening beautifully and asking incredible questions - well done!

The Water Diviners Tale performance

We are incredibly proud to share that a select group of Storrington students had the extraordinary opportunity to take part in a major countywide musical event at the end of last term. As one of West Sussex Music's designated *lead schools for music*, Storrington was invited to participate in a very special performance of *The Water Diviner's Tale*, composed by the internationally renowned Rachel Portman, who also attended the event in person!

Our pupils performed magnificently as part of this huge collaborative ensemble. The entire project was conducted brilliantly by Adam Barker, with choral direction from Mark Bradbury and Emily Barden.

I am sure those who attended would agree that it was a powerful and moving experience for everyone involved. A truly unforgettable moment for our young performers, who represented our school with confidence, musicality, and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of them.



Eco Reps

We welcomed back Laura from Knepp Wildland Foundation who brought her colleague Erica along to help our Eco Reps understand the challenges that White Storks face on

their migration to and from West Sussex each year. From seeking bugs to eat in landfill sites of France, to dodging pylons and cars on their way to Spain and Morocco, our storks face all kinds of peril on their journeys each year. Thanks to GPS tracking, we could follow their paths on a live map. Soon we'll be getting ready to celebrate the return of the storks to Sussex and look forward to taking part in the Stork festival.

Year 5's Fantastic Finale at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Year 5 have had an absolutely fantastic time during their sessions at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, rounding off the experience with an exciting introduction to archery. At first, many pupils found the new skill challenging - balancing the bow, aiming carefully, and controlling their technique. But with



perseverance and a brilliant "never give up" attitude, their confidence grew. Arrow by arrow, they improved, celebrating each small success along the way.

It was a wonderful final session that showcased not only new skills, but also determination, teamwork, and a willingness to try something outside their comfort zone. Well done, Year 5!



As we rapidly move towards the end of the academic year I look forward to sharing more of the exciting activities taking place here at Storrington soon.

Mr Choate



Wednesday 3 June

ARCIMBOLDO AT THE COURT OF THE ALCHEMISTS

Speaker: Rupert Dickens

Next year, 2027, will be the 500th anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Arcimboldo, one of the strangest and most intriguing artists of all time. He captivated his contemporaries with his depictions of the human face composed of objects such as fruits, flowers, fish and books. After centuries of obscurity, he was rediscovered in the 19th century and then revered by the Surrealists who saw him as a pioneer for their mining of the subconscious. Arcimboldo worked at the court of the Holy Roman Emperor Rudolph II, one of the greatest collectors in history who acquired masterpieces by Bruegel, Titian and Durer.

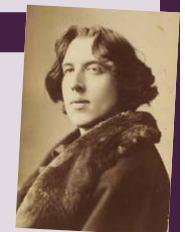


Wednesday 1 July

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 'fired of being in the heights, he plunged into the depths' and became famous for being Infamous.



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:
www.theartsocietysouthdowns.org.uk

Or phone: 01798 813314



EVENTS AT THE OLD WORKSHOP, SULLINGTON MANOR FARM

Quincey Jones tribute with live 18-piece band

Thu 4 June 7pm to 9.30pm

Get your friends together and enjoy an evening dedicated to Quincey Jones, performed by Phoneix Big Band, an 18-piece live band in Sullington Great Barn (formerly Sullington Tiite Barn). There will be wooden-fired pizza and wine, available for purchase. Book tickets – <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sullingtonmanorfarmLtd>

Contemporary Art at Sullington, daily with café open

Thu 11 to Sun 21 June 10am to 4pm

An exciting exhibition bringing in contemporary artists, all curated by esteemed duo Penny Gambrell and Marty Lowell. All pieces are for sale and there's something for everyone. The café will be open daily for the exhibition so grab your friends and make a day of it. Free entry and parking.

Evening Jazz with Big House

Wed 24 June, Wed 15 July, 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/sullingtonmanorfarmLtd>

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>

STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Our congratulations to Sir David Attenborough on reaching his 100th birthday. One of the greatest men of his generation. His wide knowledge of and deep concern for the natural world, his enthusiasm and graciousness are inspirational. We honour him best by heeding his words.

Most of us don't have a high profile or are not celebrities but we can all do our bit for nature. Our gardens can grow wildflowers for vital pollinating insects. We can avoid the use of peat-based compost and harmful pesticides. Choose to buy British and local grown vegetables. It is a great help to have food waste recycling in place. Where possible we can reuse, repair, recycle other items. Just a few examples. Much else besides.



At the end of April the first Conference on Transitioning Away from Fossil Fuels was held in Santa Marta, Columbia. Eighteen nation states met to develop a roadmap to phase out the burning of oil, coal and gas. The lead was taken by the Fossil Fuel Treaty Initiative. Nations and organisations not supporting the initiative were not invited to take part. This in the light of their stalling the necessary action at the 30 annual COP meetings. Polluting industries each year have blocked the relevant resolutions by funding large numbers of delegates. Despite the science which makes it starkly clear that oil, gas and coal are responsible for 86% of CO2 production which is heating the planet and causes one in five deaths worldwide from the pollution. This Conference is only the first step. The next step is a second conference hosted by Tuvalu, an island threatened by rising sea levels. Our support is vital.

It is timely that Faith Birul, head of the influential International Energy Agency, has said the Iran war has broken the international fossil fuel market beyond repair, as shown by the blockading of the Strait of Hormuz. Countries are now being forced to look away from such fuels and to seek renewables and secure affordable sources of energy. If the war, horrible as it is, means the long-term reduction of polluting gases some good may result. A pity that it takes such terrible events to bring it about. Not forgetting that war itself seriously increases pollution.

Accelerating a global just transition is the most urgent act of courage of our time. It is the foundation for a liveable, healthy, fair, and peaceful future that humanity and our planet needs.

The work party on Saturday 2 May met in the Library Car Park to clear the stream and its banks of foliage, rubbish (and a shopping trolley) in preparation for the annual Duck Race. Hope you enjoyed the race day.

The work party on Saturday 6 June may not meet at 10.00am at The Glade for the annual clearing of the footpaths, so please check our website for up to date details. All welcome to join us, not forgetting the coffee break and chat.

Also during June on some Thursday afternoons we will carry on with the clearance of Himalayan Balsam from local streams.

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



NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

Storrington Community Café

Tuesday 8 June
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



STORRINGTON FLOWER CLUB

Wednesday 24 June 2.30pm
Sullington Parish Hall

Demonstrator: Vivien Withers
Theme: 'My Floral Journey'
Competition: 'Glow of Summer'
New members and visitors welcome



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All toddlers welcome!

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Thursdays 10am-10.30am

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STORRINGTON AREA HELP SCHEME

The Help Scheme is a registered charity that covers Storrington, West Chiltington, Ashington, Washington and Thakeham.

It was founded over 50 years ago and in 2025 was presented with the King's Award for Voluntary Service. The Scheme exists to help people who live locally - and have no transport of their own - to attend healthcare appointments primarily within West Sussex. This includes visits to hospitals, doctor's surgeries, opticians, chiropractors and dentists. The Scheme is currently run by a team of approximately 50 volunteers made up of Trustees, office staff who operate weekday mornings from an office in the Trinity Centre in Storrington and drivers who use their own vehicles to provide transport to and from the healthcare appointments. As much notice as possible is required, preferably at least 5 days. In 2025 the Scheme was able to respond to over 1300 requests for assistance.

These continue to be busy times and the Scheme always welcomes new recruits, particularly drivers. Volunteer drivers do not have to give a regular commitment and as little as a few hours a month is perfectly acceptable. Drivers can always decline a journey request if inconvenient to them and can also specify the locations they are able to cover. A mileage allowance is paid and passengers are asked to make a contribution for the service they receive.

For more details, either as a passenger requiring assistance for an appointment or to volunteer for the Scheme, please contact our office in Storrington (01903 742124) weekdays between 10:00am and 12:00 noon or visit our website www.sahs.co.uk.





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






WEATHER WATCH

Well, we did have that 'peck of March dust' I mentioned at the end of my February summary meaning some dry weather needed after such a wet winter. Rainfall in Storrington was just 35mm which amounts to only about 55 per cent of the average. Combined with some warm days and sunshine about 30 per cent above par the ground became dry enough for most local farmers, growers and gardeners to work the land except in the low-lying localities with clay soils.



After the mild winter and then warm day time temperatures during March, many spring flowering plants and shrubs were in bloom almost a month early. For instance, on 3 March the Met Office weather station at Wiggonholt, between Storrington and Pulborough, was the warmest place in the

UK at 18.2C, some 8C above the norm for the time of year. Storrington reached 18.6C on 19th. My large magnolia was resplendent throughout the month, so too were daffodils and even tulips in our district and the blackthorn, the harbinger of spring flowered early on too looking as if coated by a thick hoar frost.

There were just 4 slight air frosts during the month though grass frost was more frequent in the latter half reminding us that caution is still needed even in a mild month. When growing tender plants and vegetables it is best to wait well into spring or provide adequate protection. After all "clear moon, frost soon" is often an accurate maxim during March and April. There was a week of dry weather surrounding the Spring equinox and, on some days, it felt almost tropical by early afternoon following a chilly dawn. This year March soil temperatures were as high as 3C above the norm helping to accelerate spring growth.



The lowest maximum temperature I recorded was a mild 9C on 9th, a day when fog shrouded the area for much of the time. Past centuries have seen maximum values well below freezing and in 1952 the month ended in deep snowdrifts and sub-zero maxima. More recently 2018 had temperatures hovering around freezing by day as late as the 18th in what

was termed the 'beast from the east'. March many weathers is often a description applied to the month but this year we had no major storms, snow or thunder but we did have two days when hail fell with 28th bringing a brief cover to parts of our district. The 12th brought some wind gusts to near gale force for a time and gave 9mm of rain, our wettest day. The prevailing wind was from the south and southwest enhancing the mildness.

Will April continue springlike? See next month's Weather Watch.

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

PARHAM HOUSE EVENTS



Sunday 14th June

Sussex Day

Parham House & Gardens will again celebrate the fine produce, crafts, art and artistry to be found across Sussex. Taking place from 12 noon to 5pm, guests can explore over thirty stalls offering a variety of local produce and goods. Attendees can enjoy the festivities without any additional charges as normal Garden & House admission grants access to the event.

Wed 17th June 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.

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

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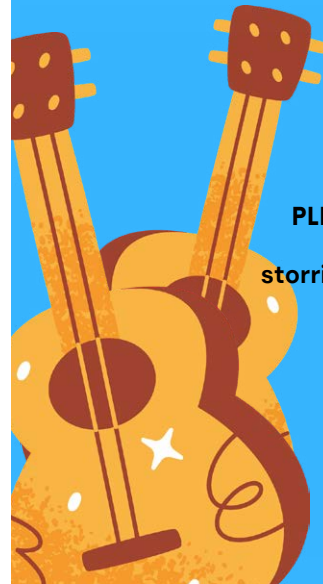
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TUES	2nd & 4th	STORR & W/CHILT	SHOREHAM / HOLMBUSH, TESCO, M&S	£6	1PM
	3rd	STORR & W/CHILT	DIAL POST / OLD BARN NURSERY (Coffee / Lunch)	£4	11AM
	4th	STORR & W/CHILT	VARIOUS / MACULAR GROUP (Chanctonbury Leisure Centre)	£3	1PM
WED	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	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	2nd JUNE	STORR & W/CHILT	FINDON VALE GARDEN CENTRE (LUNCH)	£6	MIDDAY
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					



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GET OUT FOR THE BUTTERFLY COUNT



The environmental charity, Sussex Green Living, is teaming up with local conservation group, Wild About Warnham, this summer to celebrate Butterfly Conservation's **Big Butterfly Count** with a free guided walk in the Warnham Butterfly Fields on Sunday 19 July.



The Big Butterfly Count is an annual survey of the UK's butterflies when everyone is encouraged to get outdoors on a sunny day to count the butterflies they spot in a fifteen-minute period. Counts can take place in your garden, in your local park or in the countryside. This year's count will run from 17 July to 9 August. The Count provides vital information to help Butterfly Conservation assess the fortunes of the UK's butterflies and your findings will help guide future conservation action to help boost butterfly numbers.



Sadly, of the UK's 59 butterfly species, 33 have been in decline in recent years, with favourites like the once common Small Tortoiseshell on the brink of disappearing altogether in parts of southeast England. But there are lots of ways we can all help our butterflies thrive. You can get involved by volunteering with a local conservation group such

as Wild About Warnham, or your local branch of Butterfly Conservation.

Why not take some simple steps to make your garden more butterfly-friendly? Butterflies will visit any garden, however small if it contains some nectar-rich plants to attract them. But don't forget if you want butterflies to breed in your garden, you should also include plants and shrubs on which their hungry caterpillars can feed. As many butterflies lay their eggs on different grasses, just



allowing an area of your lawn to grow long and wild will do the trick! How about a stroll to discover the butterflies fluttering around in your area? The Big Butterfly Walk will take place in Warnham, West Sussex and will be all about spotting the local species and learning about their needs and habitats. Everyone welcome.

Free Sussex Green Living Big Butterfly Walk – book your ticket:

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



More info on **Big Butterfly Count:** <https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help>

Volunteer with **Wild About Warnham**, email: wildwarnham@btinternet.com

Contact **Sussex Butterfly Conservation** for other local events and conservation work parties: <https://sussex-butterflies.org.uk/index.php>

David Bridges

Monthly
Talk

THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR CAME TO SUSSEX

by **Chris Hare**

Tuesday 2nd June 2026 - 7.30pm

The Old School,
School Lane,
Storrington,
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Members £6 Non-members £8



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For all enquiries regarding articles, subscriptions and distribution please contact the editor as above.

Any articles, reports and submissions should be sent by email to the editor or submitted to the Rectory Office by 7th to ensure consideration of inclusion in the following month's edition.

Subscriptions and payments

Payable to: *Storrington & Sullington Parish Magazine*
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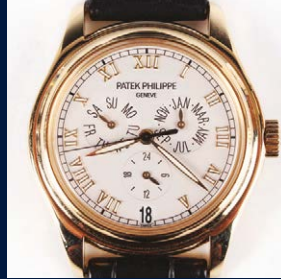
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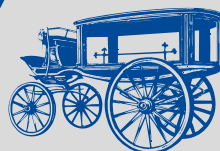
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