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SULLINGTON



St Mary
THAKEHAM

IN THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER

STORRINGTON

Rector

VACANT

Contact Churchwarden – Christine Tuson (905932)
Churchwarden – Michael Taylor (742218)
Church Office (Tues & Thurs mornings) – Vivien Stuart (742888)

SULLINGTON AND THAKEHAM WITH WARMINGHURST

Priest in Charge

VACANT

Contact Church Warden Thakeham – Mike James (07795 02482)
Church Warden Sullington – Gail Kittle (745754)
Parish Administrator – Felicity stwparishes@outlook.com

For all information regarding services provided by your churches, for Storrington contact the Church Office and for Sullington and Thakeham contact the Parish Administrator.

All telephone numbers are 01903 unless otherwise stated.

PARISH
CLERGY



From the Rector of Storrington (Retired!)

I have been struggling to know what to say in this, my final letter, after nearly 10 years as Rector of the Parish of Storrington. What I do want to say is a very big 'thank you' for all your friendship and support over these last

10 years. It has been good to get to know so many of you in the parishes and the community, and a lot of you will remain in my heart and prayers as I move to a new role as a retired priest in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Huge thanks too for the wonderful send-off on 18 February and the most generous cheque. I will put the money towards a decent greenhouse and thoroughly enjoy all the time I spend pottering in it. I have always wanted a greenhouse but could never justify the expense or the time. Now I can!

Horsham in West Sussex is where I spent my childhood and teens, and I had my first post as a curate in the Littlehampton and Wick Team Ministry, so coming back to Sussex was in a sense coming home. This was particularly so for mum, Valerie, who lived in Horsham for more than 30 years before joining me in Lincolnshire. But now it is time to move once more and we are returning to mum's house in Navenby in Lincolnshire, back in my last parish. I have just realised that I have spent 24 years in Sussex and 27 years in Lincolnshire, so I guess I am half 'yellow-belly' and half whatever the Sussex equivalent is! The rest of me is Swindon, Cardiff, Reading and Southampton! At least I can't claim to be a 'pork-bolter', unlike my brother in Worthing.

New beginnings are always filled with some trepidation, as well as with hope for the future. At this point of new beginnings there are some words I try to hold on to: "For all that has been, thanks; for all that will be, yes!" The quote may not be quite correct, but the gist of it is. The words were written by Dag Hammarskjold, one time Secretary General of the United Nations. I find these words help me put into perspective both the past and the future. 'For all that has been, thanks'; not always easy to say, but in this case a heartfelt 'thanks' for 10 good years. 'For all that will be, yes!'; not easy when faced with an unknown future: I'm going to miss being a parish priest and having an automatic role in a community. Yet both statements are necessary if there is to be some reconciliation to the past and a declaration of hope for what is to come, and thus a moving forward into the future hand in hand with God.

Every morning each of us stands at the beginning of the rest of our lives. We might look for more light on the future, but at present there is none. We can only put our trust in the God who is always present; who always encompasses us in love; who never abandons us but encourages us to journey further with him. The God of the past, the present and the future. 'For all that has been, thanks; for all that will be, yes!'

May God be with each of us and bless us today, tomorrow and forever.

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— St Mary's Thakeham —

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Tuesday 2 April – Trinity Methodist Church will lead

Tuesday 7 May – Catholic Church will lead

One in faith and love and praise

FEATURES

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Loving God
and loving our
neighbour



1 Peter 3:8

St Mary's Thakeham

www.stmarysthakeham.org

Churchwardens

Mike James (07795 024842)
Heatherdown, Washington Rd
Storrington
RH20 4DE

Pippa Harder
31 Furze Common Road,
Thakeham
RH20 3EG

Treasurer

Liz Slaughter
stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson

PCC Secretary

Allison Goodfellow (740499)
allisongoodfellow@btinternet.com

Electoral Roll Officer

Virginia James
Contact via church office at
stwparishes@outlook.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

Safeguarding Officer

Allison Goodfellow (740499)
Lyndene, Newhouse Lane
Storrington RH20 3HQ

PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR

Please contact Felicity at the Parish Office to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage.

Parish Office open Tuesday and Wednesday from 9.30am to 5pm.

SOME OF OUR REGULAR SERVICES ARE CHANGING! DON'T B



ST MARY'S THAKEHAM

Garden Sale

Saturday 4 May
10am - 12.30pm

THAKEHAM VILLAGE HALL

Plants • Gardening Tools
Books & Sundries • Light Refreshments



Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group

Tuesday 16 April at 2pm - 4pm

Everyone Welcome

Thakeham Church Room

Further information available
from Wynn Lednor on 743025



ST MARY'S THAKEHAM INVITES YOU TO

MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY 6 APRIL Thakeham Village Hall

8.15am for cooked breakfast served at 8.30am

Booking essential for
catering purposes -
please call Lis or Derek
on 01798 813012 or
Lis on 07807 077054

With guest
speaker



“Love one another as brothers and sisters
and be kind and humble with one another”

Let the beauty
of Jesus be seen
in us



St Mary's Sullington

www.st-marys-sullington.org

Churchwardens

Gail Kittle (745754)
leave message on answerphone
Sullington Manor Farm,
Sullington Lane,
Sullington,
RH20 4AE

Treasurer

David Baxter (744346)

Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson

Churchwardens Emeriti

Heather Cotton (745751)
Douglas Parkes (743106)
Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

Pastoral Care

Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

PCC Secretary

Position vacant

Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Officer

David Baxter (744346)

Electoral Roll

Heather Cotton (745751)

Organist

Position vacant

Church Flowers

Altar Rota Jean Hoadley (01798 812658)

Safeguarding Officer

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

Lift Co-Ordinator

Anne Owen (743973)

Church Fabric Officer

John Williams (07841 204330)

THAKEHAM AND SULLINGTON:

Please contact Church Warden, Gail Kittle to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage.

Email stwparishes@outlook.com. Details of Church Services on page 18

BE CAUGHT OUT! CHECK TIMES OF NEW SERVICES ON PAGE 18



Celebration of the Baptism of Nico at Sullington Church on 11 February. The ceremony was taken by Father Paul Seaman, Rector of Pulborough and Rural Dean.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

To be on the Church Electoral Roll, you must have been baptised and support a particular parish church (you can support two). If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll for Sullington, please contact Heather Cotton (07759 567831).

SUSSEXDOWN CAREHOME

Monday 29th April

2.30pm

Communion for the residents of Sussexdown

Chapel at Sussexdown, Washington Road, Sullington.

Please come and join us – all welcome.

For more details phone Margaret Slinn on 746769.



Dates for your diary St Mary's Church, Sullington

31 March

Easter Egg Hunt

10.30am at Sullington Church

1 June

Special fundraising event

- more to follow

20 September

Cheese and Wine evening - more to follow

Please keep an eye on Pews News as we are planning lots of lovely events this year.



PLANT SALE!

10 and 11 May

At the Old Workshop Barn

Could you grow plants for us?

Could you grow vegetable plants for us?

More to follow but contact Jean Hoadley on 01798 812658 for more information.

Tea with the Vicar

Thursday 4 April – 3 to 5pm

Please see pew sheets or website for venue details.





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

David Rice (746816)
21 Longland Avenue, RH20 4HY

Parish Secretary

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

PCC Secretary

VACANT

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

Christine Tuson (905932)

Recorder

Alison Hammond (07840 522832)

Electoral Roll Officer

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

Safeguarding Officer

Stephen Bloxham

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.

Choir: Fridays, 6.40pm – 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: Jean Hunt (01798 813681)

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)

Home Group: Thursday mornings at 23 Orchard Gardens, 10.30am – 11.45am. All welcome. Contact Sonia Fox (745703) for more details.

STORRINGTON REGISTERS

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

29 Feb Michael Thomas Corcoran (93 years)

VESTRY MEETING AND APCM 28 April at 11.45am

The Vestry Meeting for the election of Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in Church after the 10am Parish Communion Service on Sunday 28 April.

At this meeting we shall be electing members of the Parochial Church Council. We are looking for new members of the PCC. The PCC is a registered charity and PCC members automatically become Trustees of the Charity and would need to complete a 'fit and proper person' form. To join the PCC you must be (a) over 16 and (b) on the Church Electoral Roll. If you are interested, please talk to Christine Tuson, Churchwarden, or any of the current PCC members to find out what is involved.

ROGATION SUNDAY – Sunday 5 May

It is all too easy to take our daily food for granted, forgetting that every bit of it is the result of the work of farmers and growers. On Rogation Sunday we ask for a blessing on the land, and on those who work to produce our food.

ASCENSION DAY – Thursday 9 May

Ascension Day celebrates the completion of Christ's earthly ministry. There will be an Ascension Day Eucharist Service at 7.30pm at St Mary's, Storrington.

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

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

The Church Electoral Roll is a list of baptized people who consider themselves to be supporters of a particular parish church; at this time of year we aim to bring it up to date. If you are not yet on the Roll and would like to be, please find the appropriate form at the back of Church or at the Rectory Office, returning it to Storrington Rectory Office. Deadline for doing this is 13 April.

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)
Electoral Roll Officer

PARISH VISITING TEAM...

The contact for St Mary's Parish Visiting Team is Christine Tuson. Please contact her on 905932 if you would like to arrange for someone on the team to either speak to you or visit you.

St Mary's Church, Storrington


Cafe in the Church
2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Wednesday 10 April
10am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30 Cafe in the Church

Wednesday 24 April
2pm Holy Communion (BCP)
2.30pm Cafe in the Church



All welcome to either or both – come and join us for a friendly 'cuppa' with the Clergy



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Grahame, Anna and Gail Kittle

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Beryl Hardie, organist of Thakeham and Sullington Churches and a part of the fabric for many, many years, passed away peacefully on 15 February, aged 88.

She served God faithfully with her musical skills, playing the organ and singing.

Beryl will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.



A PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

You are the love of each living creature, O God.

You are the warmth of the rising sun.

You are the whiteness of the moon at night.

You are the life of the growing earth.

You are the strength of the waves of the sea.

Speak to me this night, O God,
speak to me your truth.

Dwell with me this night, O God,
dwell with me in love.

from *Celtic Prayers from Iona*

J Philip Newell



Storrington Macular Society Support Group

23 April

**Fourth Tuesday
of the month**

1.30pm – 3pm

**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

0300 3030 111

help@macularsociety.org
macularsociety.org

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease



PLANT SALE

Sunday 19 May
2.30pm to 4.30pm

Storrington Rectory Garden

In aid of funds for St Mary's Church,
Storrington

Light refreshments available

If you can help with a stall or supply
some plants please be in touch with
Viv Stuart at Storrington Rectory Office
(vivienstuart44@googlemail.com) or
Christine Tuson (ctuson@lineone.net)

KEEPING THE SHOW ON THE ROAD!

Here we are with our Rector retired and moving away. We gave Kathryn a big send-off at the end of February. However, rectors may come and go, but a church just keeps going.

As anyone who's ever volunteered in any organisation knows, keeping the show on the road doesn't happen by accident and good luck, although occasionally it feels like that. There may be some paid staff, but usually there's the need for a small army of volunteers. Being a bit of a numbers nerd, I counted all the different church tasks listed in 3 *Heralds* and added a couple of missing but vital tasks, like organising the coffee rota! I reached 29. That's right, 29! Imagine if each task was done by a different person; that would be amazing! Alphabetically the tasks run from Administrator, through Bell Tower Captain, Electoral Roll Officer, Flower Arranger to Safeguarding Officer and Treasurer. On top of all this, there are the "one-off" tasks; making Christingles or the posies for Mothering Sunday.

At the heart of all this activity are the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and the Church Wardens. When there's no rector, the Church Wardens and PCC have to keep the Church going as well as get involved in finding a replacement rector, but they can't do it just between themselves.

First of all we need some PCC members; anyone who has been confirmed and has been on the Electoral Roll for at least six months is eligible to represent the congregation as a PCC member or to represent the church at Deanery Synod, which then makes you a PCC member as well. Then, of course PCC members can't do everything, so they need help from everyone else. So

Please, have a think; is there a task you could offer to do? If you don't know what's needed, please talk to a Church Warden and ask where they really need help.

*Written by Christine Tuson on behalf of herself
and Michael Taylor – your Church Wardens!*

EVENTS 30 YEARS AGO

Thirty years ago: what shall we do?

April came: Holy week, Easter, a very successful *Angel Voices* production.

Also an enigma. What shall we do in Kingston Buci to please God with our efforts? Does God think that the people of Kingston Buci are stiff necked? Kingston Buci is a hidden parish! People who live there do not know where they live! Also, thousands of babies were born at Southlands Hospital and are now grown up not knowing that they were not born in Shoreham!

Kingston Buci is a square mile on the coast between Shoreham and Southwick, an important place in Norman times, named Kingston after the King's stone where everyone local had to go to pay their taxes. There are many Kingstons around the country: Kingston Gorse, and Kingston by Lewes nearby, so 'our' Kingston needed a suffix; Ralph de Buci was granted the manor at this time so added his surname from the place of his birth in Normandy,

But who knew? Certainly not the map makers, as it is written as Kingston-by-Sea on many maps; the map makers thought the locals were illiterate so they made it like Shoreham-by-sea!

The important places that are in Kingston Buci, besides Southlands Hospital, are Holmbush shopping centre, the lifeboat station and the lighthouse. In 1994 a fire station and an ambulance station were also there, but are now long gone. Shoreham claims them all, but Shoreham is wrong!

Also, Roger Jones, the composer and conductor of *Angel Voices* had said he wanted some new ideas for more Christian musicals. So that got us thinking!



Chrystalle Kersley

On Thursday 22 February, a special service was held at the beautiful old Church of St Margaret of Antioch, East Wellow, near Romsey.



The service was to welcome Sara-Jane as the new Associate Priest to The Benefice of Thorngate and Blackwater. The Church was full and Sara-Jane was so pleased to have many of her family members there. Also in attendance were The Revd Canon Paul Seaman, our Rural Dean, and Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow. Members of Sullington and Thakeham congregations battled intrepidly past motorway closures and through heavy rain to support Sara-Jane as well!

The Rt Revd Geoff Annas, the acting Bishop of Southampton, presided over a wonderfully happy and informal service. Sara-Jane received the warmest of welcomes, and all bodes well for her future there. The only low point of the evening was that as we left, after some very good refreshments, many of us found ourselves stuck in the mud of a water-logged church field. It was at this point, that Bob, dressed in his best suit and shoes, took control and demonstrated what an important job it is to be a Vicar's spouse. He marshalled the troops and, after much squelching and pushing, we all escaped! It was a special, very wet, very muddy and very memorable evening!



GAUDETE! GOOD JOB

On Sunday 17 December, the Third Sunday of Advent, Lady Emma Barnard, Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, attended the 10am Parish Communion Service at St Mary's Church, Storrington. During the service, Lady Emma presented John and Michael Taylor with a Letter of Achievement for Long Service.

Both John and Michael have served the Church here in Storrington for well over 50 years and it was time that we celebrated their dedication and service to parish life at St Mary's: John, serving as Bell Tower Captain, PCC member, Verger, and Sacristy; Michael, serving as Church Warden, PCC member, Verger, and Sacristy.

All who have worshiped and continue to worship at this Church sincerely thank them for their dedication and duty in their roles. Many have benefitted from their teaching and advice over the years.

The Third Sunday of Advent in the Church is referred to as Gaudete Sunday, which simply means Rejoice! We rejoice in all the work John and Michael have done and continue to do at St Mary's.

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It's complicated!

Some time ago, when I worked in big organisations, we used to say we needed people who could deal with "complexity". Nowadays, there seems to be pressure to make life very simple, binary even. Green or not green. Patriotic or not patriotic. But, in my experience, life really is quite complicated and many things are connected.

We want and need nutritious and affordable food. Cheap food is most easily produced by industrial style methods to get the economies of scale. Most of us buy most of our food from large supermarkets one way or another; even One Stop is part of Tesco. Tesco and Sainsbury's between them have over 42% of the market. They are "guided" by the Groceries Supply Code of Practice. This does not regulate prices or relationships between supermarkets and their suppliers like farmers.

The cheapest food, "junk" food, often has very low nutritional value. Children who are poorly nourished find it difficult to concentrate at school. Adults who are poorly nourished are likely to be less productive and have more chronic health issues.

We want more emphasis on "food security" and less imported food. Agriculture is still labour intensive, especially to harvest fruit and vegetables. This work is seasonal and low paid. In a survey of farmers in 2022, 50% of farmers said they planned to diversify into non-farming areas in order to maintain farm income.

Intensive agricultural practices have led to loss of habitats for all forms of wildlife. In the UK, the distribution of invertebrates has fallen by 13% since 1970. The 2023 State of Nature Report suggests one in six species in the UK is threatened with extinction. Most pollinators are invertebrates. Recent agricultural policy has given farmers incentives to remove land from food production in favour of habitat maintenance or creation.

In the UK nearly 10.5 million tons of food is thrown away each year. The resources used to produce it are wasted. By 2025 local councils will be required to provide households with a weekly food waste collection, financed by council tax, and using more resources.

I could continue with many more statements about loss of wetlands and flooding, consumption and pollution, building and water neutrality and so on, and so on. I saw a picture recently of a tower of cards with a person standing on the top saying "Why should I care about climate change?" Each card is essential to the structure.



Like I said it's complicated. This train of thought was prompted by listening to the farming programme at 5.45 am during the week, and reading about a local initiative to provide food banks with fresh food

from supermarkets, and the realisation that when I donate to a food bank, I tend to buy cheap to maximise quantity.

There are no easy answers. Here's what I'm trying to do on the food front.

- Buy from local farm shops and markets
- Eat seasonally – no strawberries in April!
- Buy smaller quantities more frequently – walking or cycling to the shop
- Use leftovers
- Grow my own – I love home grown tomatoes and soft fruit
- Use my freezer – stewed gooseberries in March are the taste of summer for me

Links to sources of information:

<https://www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/> for lots of ideas

<https://stateofnature.org.uk/> for the 2023 report

<https://www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/topics/biodiversity/overview-for-biodiversity-and-the-circular-economy>



Just one thing

Not eco, but uplifting. During February I joined the challenge to walk 1k a day for Dementia UK. I walked the same walk most days, and took a picture of daffodils each day watching them progress from one or two open to masses. Contact with nature has a positive impact on human wellbeing which has a positive impact on productivity. Like I said, it's complicated!

Christine Tuson
ctuson@lineone.net

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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).



Hunting for Medicinal *Rhodiola Rosea* on the Tibetan plateau



February's meeting featured a presentation by Professor Tony Brooker, a senior lecturer in Ethnopharmacology at the University of Westminster, honorary lecturer at University College London, who has also been a visiting professor at China Medical University in Taiwan. He lives in Storrington, and is a member of Storrington Horticultural Society.

Ethnopharmacology is the scientific study of substances and practices used medicinally, especially folk remedies, by different ethnic or cultural groups, looking into their quality, safety, traditional uses, and the potential for development of new drugs. Today, 50-70% of pharmaceutical drugs are derived from plants.

Rhodiola Rosea, now classified as *Sedum Roseum*, has a history of medicinal use in the Northern Hemisphere, and first appeared in European medical documentation in 1748. It has been used for treating stress-induced anxiety and fatigue, and also for sports performance, body-building, and as an aphrodisiac. There are over 200 *Rhodiola* species documented, found across the world, in Russia, the USA, but most significantly in China.

Professor Brooker found 50 products sold as *Rhodiola Rosea* easily available in the UK, on the internet or in health food stores, and analysis showed that 25% of these were adulterated, mainly with *Rhodiola Crenulata*, although those with government registration (normally those with Braille on the packaging) were found to be OK. He initiated a study to determine why and how it is being adulterated, and to do this, decided to visit a place where both grow, in Sichuan Province, South West China.

The team travelled from Taiwan to Shunxiang, at 3000m, and from there, on a mule, up on to the Tibetan plateau, to a base camp at 4500m. This is where the Yi people (who are not Han Chinese) collect the roots of *Rhodiola Crenulata*, which grows between 4000m and 6000m, whereas *Rhodiola Rosea* grows at lower altitudes. The group they accompanied collects about 100 tonnes per year, which represents about a third of their income, and move it to market by mule. They travelled and lived with this group as they went about their work, experiencing extreme cold, very simple living conditions, and altitude sickness.

Returning to lower altitudes, they visited a large market trading in many plants and herbs; at the market, roots are sold as simply '*Rhodiola*', with no differentiation. In the samples brought back from the market to London for analysis, five different species were found. Tests found that *Rosea* and *Crenulata* are very different chemically, but also, there is quite a lot of variation within species, so trials and research could have variable results.

In conclusion, the study found that confusion between species is unlikely at the point of collection, but that once dried, the roots can be easily mixed-up. It is also clear that wild collection is not sustainable in the long term, as it is the whole root that is harvested.

Both *Rosea* and *Crenulata* have now been added to the CITES list, which limits the trade of endangered species in the wild, and guidelines on collection have been issued, for example only part of each root should be taken, leaving part in the ground to continue growing. It is however permitted to cultivate, and this has been started in Alberta, Canada.

The next meeting of the Society is **19 April, at 7.30pm**, when Melanie Barton-Gibson will be speaking on *Parks and Gardens of Flanders*.

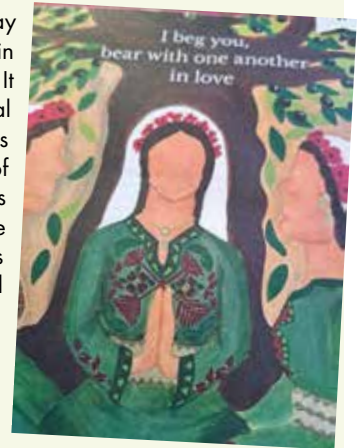
Jo Myland

WEST CHILTINGTON AND STORRINGTON MOTHERS' UNION



On 27 February we held the MU Wave of Prayer at West Chiltington Church. The wave goes all around the world, wherever MU is active. We pray for those countries we are linked to and over the course of a year every diocese is prayed for through our Prayer Diary. Chichester Diocese has three active links worldwide: Mundri in South Sudan, Seoul in South Korea and Madi and West Nile in Uganda. Communication from these members was read out during our service and prayers were said for each. After our service we gathered in the hall and enjoyed refreshments and chat.

On Friday 1 March, World Day of Prayer was hosted by Chemin Neuf at the Priory in Storrington. It is a women-led, global ecumenical movement. This year it was prepared by Christian women of Palestine. We heard their stories and were urged to bear with one another despite the difficulties and differences. We exchanged book marks to 'put peace in one another's hands'. It was well-attended by our MU and local church members. Delicious homemade cakes and tea was provided afterwards and time to spend with one another.



On 7 March eleven of our branch members and four guests met at Squires Garden Centre and enjoyed a happy afternoon together with refreshments and lively conversation.

We would love some new members to join us. Our meetings are held monthly at West Chiltington Church Hall at 2pm. Do come along and join us.

Dates for your diary:

4 April

Karen Hill, our Diocesan President, will talk about Mary Sumner, our founder

2 May

Brenda Bull presents flower arranging experiences, including the flowers at Westminster Abbey for the Kings Coronation

4 May

Spring Gathering at St John the Evangelist, Brighton at 10am

Sonia Fox

On what was once again a cold, wet evening, members of Sullington Windmills gathered for the February meeting. The President welcomed members, one new member and five visitors, three of whom were paying a second visit. The speaker for the evening was introduced, Sheila Willis, a member of Wisborough Green WI, her talk entitled *Handbag to Handcuffs*, the journey of women officers in the British Police Force. Sheila had grown up on the Isle of Wight and as soon as she was old enough she followed her life-long dream of becoming a police officer. Sadly her height did not meet the statutory requirement for the police force on the Isle of Wight, so it was suggested she should try the Surrey Force, which she did and luckily was accepted. She had to train in Coventry as there were no training facilities for females in the area, and once she had completed her training she was based in Reigate as WPC 43. This was back in the 1960s when there were just 45 WPCs in Surrey. Sheila continued by saying no WPC had the luxury of a police car; she had her trusted old bicycle named *Nellie* on which she would conduct her daily patrols.

Not having a radio, at the beginning of each shift she was given a card showing at what time she had to report in by means of designated red telephone boxes, and it was rather unfortunate if a member of the public was in the telephone box at that time as a quick tap on the window and they had to curtail their conversation. Gradually radios were introduced and Sheila talked about how inadequate the early ones were, but still they were a huge step forward from having to use the public phone box.

With the aid of slides, Sheila showed how fashions for WPCs had changed over the decades, and today they are just referred to as PCs. Sheila continued her interesting talk by explaining when women in the police force were first allowed to become involved with the Mounted Branch, Dog Handling Section, given powers of arrest and, eventually in 1975, received equality in pay with the men. Finally, she explained how women were able to achieve the ranks of sergeant, inspector and chief constable. Today, women head 15 of the 46 Forces in the UK, including British Transport Police, with the introduction of the first female Police Commissioner in 2023. Sheila was warmly thanked for her amusing yet informative talk.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer delivered their reports, followed by refreshments and raffle.

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 17 April**, when the speaker will be Mimi Bogel, her talk entitled *Wardrobe Edit and Organisation*.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in Sullington Parish Hall at 7.30pm. New members or visitors are always most welcome. Should you require any further information regarding the WI, please contact the President on 741078.

Pat Snape



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EXTRACTS FROM CANON PALMER'S DIARY – APRIL 1864

Fri 1: Heavy storms from W throughout, with bright intervals. Busy carpentering in morning knocking up a frame for a light. Called on shy Mr Holland, the new curate of Washington, for the first time. Dined with George Gibson and his 2 friends B & D and cared very little for my dinner or my company.

Sat 2: Fine, with brisk wind from NW. Annie busy sowing flower seeds for a hotbed. Trees begin to look a little 'buddy', but I have only noticed a horse chestnut actually burst.

Sun 3: Easter 1. Wet fog and rain from south. Miserable congregations today 14 & 15! Even the men won't venture to the house of God. Preached from the last sentence in epistle in the morning and from the 'Walk to Emmaus' in the afternoon.

Mon 4: Claggy light shower or two in morning. Fine thorough change, therm. 10° higher than yesterday. What us people call a 'growy' day. 10 - 1.30 & 2.30 - 7.30 in garden, here, there and everywhere. Begin a letter to Edward in evening. Our cook 'moony' on account of her young man.

Tue 5: Thoroughly wet and cold. Heavy rain. NE glass high! A sad change after yesterday, and pleasant hopes. Rose early for sermon on the subject of Stephan's Heavenly Vision; mean to regard it in its ordinary aspect, or submit it as a good recipe for all ills and rising from things material. Worked today at a bee box, on Nutt's' principle of ventilation. Erskine Elliot returns this evening, very jolly and cheery.

Wed 6: Raw morning, which turned to mild evening, Dull. A heavy couple of games of Fives with Erskine Elliot to begin the season, as today was holiday. In afternoon he took a ride, walked to Union for Blakiston, where read them a sermon from 'Ridley's Plan'. Made Sandy Lane calls on my return. Stansfeld has resigned his seat in consequence of the row about Greece: public opinion was decidedly against him.

Thu 7: Milder, but dull. Begin writing to Edward, putting Erskine Elliot into harness once more and entertained our elegant neighbour, Boyle, with some Fives.

Fri 8: Dry and hard with cold - fine and bright. Cobden on parish matters with my mother. Dined at Highden with Emmie and Elliot - meeting Brian and a Miss Molyneux .

Sat 9: Bright and warm in sun - cold S and SE with slight frost at night. Boyle and George lunched after Fives. Brian called after inspecting the house at Findon, which he thinks, will do. I have a Union funeral. The rest call on Major Sandham and the Chesters, who are there for a month. Some cricket in the evening. Gladstone's speech very fine, they tell me.

Sun 10: Easter 2. Dull hazy and at times close. Our family but 'so so', my mother neuralgic; and Emmie half the day in bed with a headache. Our congregations good, my sermons from Stephen's death, and 'the Story revealed' and an old one on Thomas' Unbelief.

Mon 11: Fine but hazy and warm. A sluggish day; temptation to do no work at all. However, contemplated a sermon though could not write any. Worked an hour in my garden. Rode to East Wantley and Threales and had a couple of hours cricket in the evening with a little reading after tea.

Tue 12: As yesterday, sultry. Lunched with Gibson meeting Holland. Emmie given a ride. Fairbairn refuses Vesey's curacy, but suggests Ingles.

Wed 13: Hot sun, cold wind from E, very dry, slight frost at night. Letter from Edwards dated Delhi (he spells March 6 Delhie). Sends a photo group taken at Kussolie in which he but faintly visible, and a brief account of himself plenty of work, he says, as he is taking Adjutant and Paymaster work. Erskine Elliot and I dined at Pulborough, meeting the usual company with 2 exceptions of a Mr and Miss Phillips, he a former curate of Chilington and a striking likeness of Mr President Lincoln: She pleasant and plain. Bacons take Emmie away for a day or two. Powers call, and I am not much taken with the PP.

Thu 14: As yesterday. This weather enables me to proceed with ploughing quite merrily, but all sorts of farm work now presses, and the least important

is put by like tradesmen's bill to be paid when possible. Dined with my mother, Annie and Erskine Elliot at Bacon's: amusing evening as usual, his servant providing much towards the general festivity. Old Barttelot, Brown and the Ballards. Old Bart announces the birth of another boy this morning, Erskine Elliot poorly, this evening - Garibaldi the hero of the day.

Fri 15: Milder, a low glass, a little thunder and a few drops of rain but it passed. The first really soft day that we have had. Gardening in morning, storm in afternoon. Our first cricket practice in evening. Carew Gibson and his ladies, gives me £1 for the tools for the game. Mrs and F Chester called.

Sat 16: A heavy, misty, muggy morning turned to rain, which fell off and on. Yesterday's warmth and today's wet have clothed hedges and like with a sudden segment of green - yesterday there was little or none to be seen. Had my first lawn mowing this afternoon, as ploughing and potato planting were stopped. Yesterday no fires, today resumed. Read great debate on our Western in Parliament's Malt tax motion: nearly all leading members of the House took a part, and there was some interesting matter elucidated on the subject of beer. Almost all speakers condemned the tax, but, few agreed to the actual motion before the house, which wouldn't touch it but ineffectively by reducing it less than a quarter or 1,800,000 so our colonel was quenched in a house of 466 by 248. Rev Gerald Vesey cannot provide himself with a curate; but then he only advertises £80 per annum and a knowledge of music.

Sun 17: Easter 3. Fine, with a brisk N wind. No one of the labouring adults in Church this morning but a perfect crowd in the afternoon. I preached rather an overhead sermon I'm afraid on Christ's Freedom and it's temptations from the Epistle, and a sermon: *Extempore* on the appearance of our Lord at the sea of Tiberias. Walked with the young squire after church, he talks knowingly of business.

Mon 18: Fine and brilliant, but wind cool. Gardening, teaching, cricketing, teaching. The shy Washington curate calls on me, a decided oddity.

Tue 19: Fine brilliant with cool air. George Carew Gibson most kindly lends me his pony trap to go to the great meeting at Madehurst on the occasion of the reconsecration of the Church and consecration of the burial ground. The meeting was A1, and I glad to be at the meeting. Service at 11, a sermon by Vincent, of a very inferior complexion. The Bishop seemed very well, and his skull cap looked very much like an Abbot of old, he got through the service. The church is very prettily and solidly done, and no collection was made, old Fletcher having paid all up. A great and sumptuous *déjeuner* at Dale Park afterwards; a treat to me, as I saw many new faces, and a very gorgeous view sea wards; perhaps, the view in Sussex: all the 'Philistines' were there. Made my way a little with the Calcutta ADS and am going to send young Gilbert a circular or two. Got home by 7.30 and had a little dinner with the squire, and some rather satisfactory, because confidential, conversation - he shows by no means a trifling power in reading character and in doing business. Nightingale on my way home.

Wed 20: As yesterday. Thermometer at 60°. Cuckoo this morning. Same entry as last year's. I see Erskine Elliot and I had a slight skirmish this morning over history, and I am forced to tell him a plain truth: it has upset us during the day but, no doubt, we shall be improved in our future relations. HH called for his usual and stopped an hour, being more confidential than I have ever known him to be: I do hope I may be having some real influence over him. He related to me an episode in the history of the Brooks family - showing heat on both sides.

Thu 21: Fine, bright with cool air. Busy in garden and field. A game of cricket at Sandgate this evening, our party was diminished by one - a twin, who had the mumps! George entertained us all at tea, having his 2 sisters, Sydney and Bertha, with him. Garibaldi must leave England immediately so says Fergusson his Physician, as the excitement is too much for him: some say political not sanitary reasons are the real ones, but a



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF WARMINGHURST CHURCH

strong disclaimer in both houses. From Clarendon (just returned from an interview with the Emperor in Paris) and squash the mystery mongers.

Fri 22: As yesterday. This weather is most charming, have had a day's 'outing'. George Carew Gibson takes me in his tandem to Arundel to meet 3 from Pulborough there, who were to row our 4 home. We were 5 minutes late, and tide waiting for no man, off they went to Bury where we had been invited to lunch. We pursued them through the park (the trees sycamores, beeches and ash just showing) to Kings where lunched, and home as agreed to Pulborough.

Sat 23: Frost last night, very hot during day. Has been an over powering day. Fires are off and almost one's clothes.

Sun 24: Easter 4. Fine and very brilliant, but not so warm. Preached in morning from 'Letter and Spirit.' In afternoon an old one on the Lord's questions to Peter. The parish issues getting ill – Hard of Cobden has a very bad throat, and had been delirious with it. Mrs Frances is very prostrate and old mother Barnard has had a 'stroke', which has deprived her of her right arm! Took a stroll after dinner today, a fresh one – found it quite cool. Therm at 48° but meadows springing, and all green things rejoicing.

Mon 25: As yesterday, air cold from E. Long description of the capture of Dybbol from the 'Own Correspondent...' the position was clearly untenable, and a good retreat was made to Alsen. I pay a visit to Cobden to enquire after young Hard who was reported dangerously ill, but I can make out that he has had more than a bad quinsy. Nicholls comes over to some cricket but has to return again very soon. Our RN and RB heroes send us good news. The first that a medical board won't bring him guilty of severe illness and so he must go on leave and from the other that his Dr has made application for him to be sent off with invalidity up to Kussolie; and off he goes for 6 months of the hot weather. The battery itself is to be moved to Meerut.

Tue 26: Heavy rain 6 – 8 am. Then dull. Prepared for an early start to Town this morning with my mother for dividends and.... but the rain frightened her. Erskine Elliot to Brighton for the day. I gardening in morning sowing carrot, radishes and co. Parish in afternoon. Mrs Francis being really ill with a complication of disorder, chiefly pulmonary. Went for a nurse for her to Rock. Found the Ballard couple playing croquet!

Wed 27: Cold morning with fine afternoon and some heavy rain in evening. All day in Town escorting my mother through her dividends. Started from this house at 6.15am and reached it again at 9pm. Took awhile in St Paul's, and admired much the way in which the arrangements have been made for a sudden congregation. Always glad to take a look at the statues.

Thu 28: Dull damp and NE hazy. Sowing 1 acre of mangel wursels. Visit Mrs Francis and made a prayer with her – she exhibits a good deal of seriousness.

Fri 29: Raw morning, afternoon fine and jolly. Planted in morning, sowed in church walk, peas: Gave Erskine Elliot a paper on Henry VIII. Had lawns mown. Went to Rowdell with Annie for croquet and then to Mrs Francis, then to cricket practice, where took to round hand slows, and hope to get them in time. I find it wholesome on a day of brightness to spend a few minutes by a sick bed: it does not clash with other things but only makes me look at them in their fine light and give God thanks for my own powers of enjoyment.

Sat 30: Fine, bright midday and evening. My mother and Annie to Brighton for summer costume; they nearly kill themselves by unpunctuality. George writes from the Downs that they are under orders for sea: himself on the sick list. I ride to my patients and Mrs Whittington.

MAY FAIR

Saturday 18 May 10.30am to 2.30pm
with Plant & Cake Sale

This will be a celebration of our countryside with invited stalls for garden, food, rural crafts and more. Refreshments, raffle. Entrance is free.

Shingley Arts Festival Concert

Sunday 12 May

Andrew Bernardi's Music group present 'Shelley Unwrapped' Join us for a performance presenting the life and loves of poet Shelley. Conceived by pianist Nigel Foster. Percy Byshe Shelley will be portrayed by actor Nigel Parkin.

Tickets – <https://bernardimusicgroup.com/event/shelley-returns-to-warminghurst/>

Harpichord Concert

by keyboardist Jack Gonzalez-Harding
Saturday 3 August at 7pm

Hear this well known harpichordist play in the beautiful acoustic of Warminghurst Church. The programme is planned to include music by Bach, Couperin, Gibbons and Byrd. Information on tickets to be released soon.

For more information on any of these events, or information about the church, which is open every day of the year for visitors, please contact the Friends on 01903 891312 or email info.fowc@gmail.com



NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

Cuppa and a chat




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Transport may be available, register your interest with Storrington Community Bus: **01903 740 282.**

CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

DATE	FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY	STORRINGTON St Mary's 	THAKEHAM St Mary's 	SULLINGTON St Mary's 
7 April	Second of Easter	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Family Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service	8.30am BCP Communion 6pm Evensong with Archdeacon Luke Irvine-Capel
14 April	Third of Easter	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
21 April	Fourth of Easter	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion with Prayers for Healing	8.30am Celtic Communion	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Holy Communion
28 April	Fifth of Easter	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	10.30am Holy Communion	10.30am Morning Prayer
5 May	Sixth of Easter ROGATION SUNDAY	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Family Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service	8.30am BCP Communion 6pm Evensong

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

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

OTHER CHURCH DETAILS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Lady of England, Monastery Lane

Mass – Saturday 6pm, Sunday 8am and 10am

Daily Mass: Monday – Friday 9am.

For other midweek services, confessions etc., please contact Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Dingley Email: storrington@abdiocese.org.uk

STORRINGTON CHAPEL

North Street

Sunday Services 10.30am and 6.30pm

Enquiries to Storrington Chapel Evangelical Church, North Street, Storrington RH20 4DH

Email: contacts@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 Dr Frank Okai-Sam Tel: 01273 597122

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 9.45am 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 £3!



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

Sunday 14 April

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

Tickets £4.00 are available from

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington



WHAT'S ON

APRIL	
Mon 1	Easter Monday
Tue 2	
10am	Inter-Church Prayers – RC Church (side-chapel) – p3
2pm	SPACE – Arts & Craft Club – p 13
2pm	The Arts Society West Sussex – Talk – p22
Thu 4	
11.30am	Storrington Pop-In Lunch Club – p 18
2pm	MU – Meeting – p 14
3pm	Tea with the Vicar – p5
7.30pm	Storrington Camera Club – Meeting – p30
Sat 6	
8.15am	Men's Breakfast – p4
6pm	Barn Dance – Old Barn, Sullington – p26
Sun 7	
Second of Easter	
Mon 8	
2.30pm	Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p15
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p24
7.30pm	Thakeham Gardeners' Club – Meeting – p29
Wed 10	
10am	Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
7.30pm	Rotary Film Night – Scrapper – p21
Thu 11	
2pm	Memory Moments Café – p15
Sat 13	
10.15am	Junktique – Collectables & Clutter Sale – p15
Sun 14	
Third of Easter	
1pm	Sunday Lunch Club – p 18
Mon 15	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p24
Tue 16	
10am	Autism and SEN Group – p20
2pm	Knit and Stitch – p4
2pm	SPACE – Arts & Craft Club – p13
Wed 17	
7.30pm	Sullington Windmills WI – Meeting – p15
7.30pm	Storrington Camera Club – Meeting – p30
Thu 18	
10.30am	Cuppa and a Chat – p17
Fri 19	
7.30pm	Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p14
Sun 21	
Fourth of Easter	
Mon 22	
10.30am	U3A Open Day – p26
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p24

Tue 23	
9.30am	Dog Behaviourist Event – p20
2pm	Storrington Macular Group – p9
Wed 24	
10am	Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p6
10.30am	Trinity Sunshine Choir – p22
Thu 25	
2pm	Memory Moments Café – p15
Fri 26	
7pm	Taylor Maid Concert – p10
Sat 27	
9am	Storrington Tennis Club Open Day – p28
Sun 28	
Fifth of Easter	
11.45am	Vestry Meeting & APCM – St Mary's, Storrington – p6
Mon 29	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – p24

Details of all church activities on pages 4,5,6, 9 and 18.

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

APRIL	
1	Frederick Denison Maurice, 1872 - an English theologian, religious author, and prominent Christian Socialist
8	THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9	Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1945 - a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi dissident
10	William Law, 1761 - a Church of England priest and his writing greatly influenced the evangelical movement of his day William of Ockham, 1347 - an English Franciscan friar, produced significant works on logic, physics, and theology.
11	George Augustus Selwyn, 1878 - first Anglican Bishop of New Zealand
16	Isabella Gilmore, 1923 - oversaw the revival of the Deaconess Order in the Anglican Communion.
19	Alphege, 1012 – Archbishop of Canterbury
21	Anselm, 1109 - a Benedictine monk, abbot, philosopher and theologian of the Catholic Church, who held the office of Archbishop of Canterbury
23	George, Patron Saint of England, c.304
24	Mellitus, 624 - first Bishop of London in the Saxon period <i>The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 2003</i>
25	MARK, EVANGELIST - author of gospel and disciple of Jesus
27	Christina Rossetti, 1894 - English poet, wrote the words of <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i>
28	Peter Chanel, 1841
29	Catherine of Siena, 1380 - one of the two patron saints of Italy, proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI and Pope John Paul II named her as one of the six patron saints of Europe
30	Pandita Mary Romabai, 1922 - Indian social reformer, recognised for her contribution to the advancement of Indian women



Rowdell, nr Washington

WEATHER WATCH

Following on from the wet autumn and gloomy rains of early winter, most people were hoping for a drier and sunnier February. Instead, our area was treated to the wettest February on record and the sun made few appearances. On a positive note it was the warmest, both locally and nationally.

The jet stream, a zone of strong upper winds that dictates the location and movement of areas of low and high pressure that influence our weather, has been very convoluted for much of the winter. During February, it led to a prevalence of very mild moisture-laden winds originating from southerly latitudes in the Atlantic. On 18th February the temperature rose to a very spring-like 16.9°C in Storrington; 8°C would be more typical.

The first four days of the month were dry but falling air pressure heralded unsettled conditions that were to last for the rest of the month. There were some very wet days, with 31.3mm measured on the 8th, 20mm on the 17th, 20.5mm on the 25th and the leap day at the month's end had 22.6mm.



Winter hardly made its presence felt. There were just three slight air frosts during February and not a flake of snow fell at my Storrington weather station. Camellias were a floral delight all month, daffodils flowered and swayed in the balmy breezes to join the even earlier blooming of snowdrops and crocuses in a true panoply of spring that was several weeks early and helped to alleviate the often dull, overcast conditions.

Overall, the temperature was around 3.5°C above par across our area. Only five days failed to reach 10°C. Rainfall amounted to 187mm, over

250% of the average and as the month closed many fields and gardens were waterlogged or even underwater. In contrast, last year February, for many, was the driest since 1959!

Will March break the cycle of wet weather? The old country saying, "a peck of March dust is worth a king's ransom in gold" is certainly needed as it means a longer dry spell in March helps growers to get onto and work the land after the rains and low evaporation during winter. March can often prove a dry month, though last year was the wettest since 1947. Well, this year the first day of meteorological spring brought frequent showers and my garden was briefly covered in a layer of hail mid-afternoon. Find out if March regressed into winter or was a gateway to true spring in next month's Weather Watch.

Ian Currie

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

ST DAVID'S DAY CONCERT

It wasn't quite on St David's Day, but 2nd March, and Brighton Welsh Male Voice Choir still did us proud. They sang their usual mix of traditional Welsh tunes, some very familiar as hymn tunes and more modern songs. I was particularly touched by *Hiraeth*, which means a deep, bittersweet wistfulness. Others liked *Anthem* from *Chess* and *I'd like to Teach the World to Sing*.

Iris Warren, as Music Director, gets the best from her 18 strong choir, and they're sensitively accompanied by Sue Fairhurst. In between the sets of singing, we had two lovely harp solos from talented young harpist Ysaline Frelin. She enchanted us with music from South America and France.

Next year 1 March falls on a Saturday, so we already have the gig booked!



NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN UPDATE

We hope everyone had a happy Easter. Now we're getting to the warmer part of the year, that spring in your step is starting to show!

Walking around the village, we get to meet different residents and hear of some of the issues concerning them. Both of us look after elderly parents with Dementia and one of us has a younger family member with Autism, so we both understand the pressures put on family and carers. If you know of anyone who is struggling looking after loved ones, mention that we can help by signposting them to agencies that understand and can assist.

We also run our *Cuppa and a Chat* sessions and our group for parents and carers of Autistic and SEN (Special Educational Needs) children. We are finding an increase in numbers of people attending. They find it good to chat and realise that there are others on a similar journey to them. Due to the success of this group, run with the Ashington Wardens, it is being taken up by other Warden schemes in Pulborough and Billingshurst.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 16 April **10am - 11am**

Autism and SEN group at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre.

Tuesday 16 April **10.30am - 12.30pm**

Wardens' Meet and Greet at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre.

Thursday 18 April **10.30am - 12.30pm**

Cuppa and Chat at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre.

Tuesday 23 April **9.30am - 11.30am**

Dog Behaviourist Event at Sullington Warren grass area.

If you're interested and want to know more, please contact us.



Chris and John

Chris Poore: 07795 046743

John Sampson: 07789 943201

Storrington-sullington.warden@horsham.gov.uk



More Cygnets Indoor Results and Performances

Our U13 squad travelled to Worthing on Sunday 3 March for their final match against Pagham, both sides being in contention to top the League table. We batted first and scored a challenging 116 runs off ten overs, Finlay Evan-Walls and Massimo Phillips both scoring 20. Despite bowling tightly, we were pipped at the post by Pagham with one ball left in the match. Findon topped the table with a better run rate than Pagham's, leaving us in a very creditable third place, bearing in mind that the side comprising U12 players had been playing up a year.

On Sunday 11 February, the U12 squad beat Brighton & Hove by 17 runs in the U12 League. We won the toss and decided to bat, scoring 115-5 thanks to Massimo Phillips' unbeaten 45. At the end of their 10 overs, Brighton & Hove had made 98-4, Massimo having taken 3 wickets for 3 runs in 3 overs. Bastiaan Hawley took the other wicket. The squad then travelled to Brighton on Sunday 25 February for the finals of the U12 League, firstly facing St Peters and then Preston Nomads. Batting first against St Peters, we were restricted to 87-4 in our 10 overs, Massimo retiring on 27 and Casper McDonald scoring 19 before being run out. St Peters cleared our total in 8.1 overs after some wayward bowling from our side. Things didn't get any better for the side in the play-off for third and fourth place against Preston Nomads. We were bowled out for 52 in just six overs, Ben Garrood scoring more than half the runs with an excellent 32. Preston Nomads needed only 4 overs to pass our total, losing just 1 wicket in the process.

Hearty congratulations to three of our U12s for their individual performances: Massimo Phillips who scored more runs than any other player in the League and shared top position with Thomas Clarke for wicket taking and fielding. Ben Garrood and Thomas Clarke also finished in the top ten runs scored.

Out of the blue, the Club has been contacted recently by a couple, Liam and Laura Elliott, who live in Essex but had moved there from the Brighton area. They have been tracing their family histories and have discovered that Laura is the 5th great granddaughter of John Hammond, the most famous of all Storrington cricketers. Laura is descended from John's son Charles Hammond who died in 1901. The writer is now exchanging information with Liam and Laura about this distant connection with the Club.

Chris Winter





FILM NIGHT

At Sullington Parish Hall
Wednesday 10th April 2024



Starring: Lola Campbell, Alan Uzun & Gary Crankson

Performance commences at 7.30pm

There will be an interval and Bar & Raffle.
Tickets £5 from 'The Card Shop' in Storrington.
Unsold tickets will be available for purchase on the door on the night.

For further details please contact Ken Collins on 01903 740745

Rotary Club Members can provide transport to the Film Night for local residents who are unable to make their own arrangements. Anyone needing transport should contact John Ollerton on 07523322554

Storrington & Pulborough District Rotary Club

All proceeds go to charitable causes supported by Rotary. Registered Charity No. 1029115

Georgie, a dreamy 12 year old girl, lives happily alone in her London flat, filling it with magic. Suddenly, her estranged father turns up and forces her to confront reality. This is a story of a grieving kid thrust into adulthood and a father in over his head.



The Festival of Flowers is a four day spectacular in the setting of Chichester's almost 950 year old Cathedral.

Visitors to the Festival will have the opportunity to experience 60 floral arrangements, handcrafted by talented florists and flower enthusiasts from across the county.

The Festival will also see the return of celebrated Sculptor Philip Jackson, who will be presenting an exhibition of sculptures exclusively for ticket holders.

Whether you are a keen gardener or simply appreciate the beauty of flowers, we are confident that you will find something to inspire and delight you.

Tickets for the Festival of Flowers are on sale now and cost £18.00 per person. The Festival is open from 9.30am with last entry session starting at 3.30pm.

Book online or call 0333 6663366.



We had a very enjoyable February Members' Evening at West Chilmington Village Hall, for the premiere of Jean Trew's one act comedy, *Julia Needs Pizzazz*. Jean has been a member of WCDS for several years and is a keen playwright. This play also saw Amanda Hislop's debut as director and Liz' acting for the first time with WCDS.



Cast from left to right:
Liz Ling, Angela Sloan, Pat Arculus and Sue Goble.

We now look forward to our next production:

Dark Lucy

by Philip King and Parnell Bradbury

Directed by Ralph Wigg

**Thursday 16, Friday 17 and Saturday 18 May
at 7.30pm**

West Chilmington Village Hall

Dark Lucy is initially set in a village vicarage during the last decade or so. Carol, the vicar's highly-strung wife, is apparently assaulted by an unpleasant old woman, living in a dilapidated cottage. Unfortunately for Carol, no one believes her, so when a young woman disappears, Carol sets out to discover the truth about the old woman & the cottage. What she finds is the stuff of nightmares!


This is a much-heralded mystery thriller, so prepare to sit on the edge of your seat!

Tickets available from 4 April online at www.wcds.co.uk and at NISA Local and the Post Office Stores in West Chilmington: Adults - £12 Under 18s - £6.

West Chilmington Dramatic Society welcomes new members for acting and off-stage roles. Please contact Angela Sloan at vicechair@wcds.co.uk or visit our website www.wcds.co.uk if you would like more information on joining or supporting us.

Angela Sloan, Vice-Chair

WEST CHILTINGTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY
presents
DARK LUCY
Directed by Ralph Wigg
A Mystery by Philip King and Parnell Bradbury



16, 17, 18 MAY
WEST CHILTINGTON VILLAGE HALL at 7.30pm



Tuesday 2 April
Prasannajit de Silva will talk on *The Art of Captain Cook's Voyage*.
Cook's expeditions were the first to include professional artists amongst the crew. They recorded the places, people, flora and fauna they saw but how did they react to these novel surroundings?

Tuesday 7 May
Jacqueline Cockburn will talk on "Sorolla - Master of Light"
One of the most extraordinary Spanish artists, Sorolla created a world full of light and colour that delights the senses.

Talks held at 2pm in Fittleworth Village Hall RH20 1JB
Doors open 1.15. Coffee & tea afterwards
Non-members welcome for £8
Contact Jackie Buckler on 01903411086
or email westsussex@theartsociety.org
www.theartsocietywestsussex.org

Dementia friendly but open to all

Enjoy Singing



No audition, No music scores, just the words of popular songs

Coffee and Chat too

24 April
10.30 - 12.00
Trinity Methodist Church, Thakeham Road, Storrington RH20 3NG

Contact: Robert Gamble
robertgamblerc@gmail.com
Tel: 07958 232874



PARHAM HOUSE & GARDENS

SEASON OF EVENTS FOR 2024



We are excited to welcome visitors back to Parham House and Gardens, and are pleased to announce an exciting series of events and activities for the spring and summer months.

The Horsham School of Botanical Artists and Association of Sussex Artists will be staging exhibitions at Parham in May and September.

On 16 June, Sussex Day, Parham House & Gardens will again celebrate the fine produce, crafts, art and artistry to be found in the county. Visitors will be able to browse over 25 stalls from a selection of local businesses, selling a variety of local goods and produce. Normal admission charges will apply.

On 13 and 14 July, 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 as well as trade stalls, local crafts, and a traditional funfair. Tickets can be purchased from <https://www.sussexsteamrally.co.uk>.

On 4 August, Parham will again welcome the members of the Jaguar Enthusiasts Club. Their beautiful classic and contemporary cars will be displayed at the front of Parham for the enjoyment of their members and Parham visitors.

Throughout the open season, Parham will run a variety of special tours which will focus on different aspects of the House and Gardens. These tours are designed for regular visitors who might never have had the opportunity to take a tour before. All places must be booked in advance.

Joanna's Boutique Tearoom is open in The Mower Shed from 12 noon on our standard open days. Visitors can enjoy hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, sausage rolls, cakes and scones.

1-12 May

Association of Sussex Artists Exhibition

The Association of Sussex Artists will be with us for a two week exhibition of their work in the Seed Room.

10 May • 10 July • 5 September at 11am

Tour of the Gardens

Throughout the open season, Parham will run a variety of special tours of the Garden. These tours are designed for regular visitors who might never have had the opportunity to take a tour before. All places must be booked in advance via our website. Your ticket also allows entry to the gardens and from 2pm, into the House. Spaces are strictly limited.



23 May • 5 July • 18 September at 11am

Tour of the Needlework

Throughout the open season, Parham will be running two tours of the Needlework collection. These tours are designed for regular visitors who might never have had the opportunity to take a tour before. All places must be booked in advance via our website.

29 May • 12 July • 12 September at 11am

Tour of the House

Throughout the open season, Parham will run a variety of special tours of the House. These tours are designed for regular visitors who might never have had the opportunity to take a tour before. All places must be booked in advance via our website.



Sun 16 June

Sussex Day

Parham will host a small number of stalls from local producers as part of the county-wide celebration of all things Sussex.

Sat 13 & Sun 14 July

Sussex Steam Rally

Sussex Steam Shows Ltd will hold the Sussex Steam Rally on the East Plain at Parham. Tickets can be purchased from the show organisers via their website: www.sussexsteamrally.co.uk.

Sun 4 August

Jaguar Enthusiasts Club Visit

These beautiful classic and contemporary cars will be displayed near the entrance to the House and Gardens, for the enjoyment of those visiting on the day.

4-22 September

Horsham School of Botanical Artists

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

11 September at 11am

Tour of the Clocks

The beautiful clock collection at Parham dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth century and was collected by the Bishopp and Pearson families.



Mon 23 September

Botanical Workshop Leigh Ann Gale

A botanical painting workshop with tutor Leigh Ann Gale. To learn more and book your place, please visit: www.la-botanicalart.co.uk.

2-13 October

Autumn Flowers at Parham

The Parham Flower Team will be putting on a special display of autumn flowers within the House for all to admire and enjoy.

The House and Gardens will be open to visitors on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays and Bank Holidays from Easter Sunday to early October.

Tickets for advance bookings are on sale now. For more information, please visit www.parhaminsussex.co.uk.

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 22

Continuing his Italian sojourn

"Sabato Marzo 30 – Our *parlatrice* today was very amusing." Here Mr Palmer cannot resist showing off his Italian – "after telling us of '*mi altera disgrazia*, viz, two murders; one woman quarrelling with another (*le dere giovanel*) breaks the latter's head with a club, whereupon the wounded one feeling the blow to be mortal, takes up her brother's gun (*ficile di suo fratello*) and shoots her assailant through the breast..." This does not seem the Italian they need to know, so "We asked for a *conversazi di quulche cour!*" So their *parlatrici* embarked on a long story of her friend, Telene, and a young man Giovanni "... all of which is duly recorded in my scrapbook and discloses the extortionate spirit of Italian damsels." Visiting the *Cascino* in the afternoon, they saw on the road "a long string of poverty-stricken looking hags, bearing on their backs enormous loads of dried, fallen wood which they had picked up from the forest, a privilege given them for three months in the year.

We saw the camels, 36 in number, nicely stabled and well kept, the oldest was 20 years, the youngest five years. Then along the sea road to the pine woods where grow the stone pine, oaks and grand ilexes in a dark sombre avenue. In the forest there is much game, *cinghiali* or boars, *lepore*, deer and stags." That seems to have been the conclusion of their stay in this part of Italy, with its rich and poor contrasts, after a little over two weeks.

"Domenica Marzo 31 - I read prayers for Mr Parry this morning and listened to a sadly weak discourse from him. All our applications for Pensions at Florence have failed, so I must go tomorrow and see about it myself. Our little Frenchman again amused us, he was much surprised to see Sir Hugh Cairns at private prayers when with his family in the Louvre Hotel – *il ne parait qu'il est beaucoup de devotion parmi les Anglais!*"

"Lunedì Avrilo 1 - Have been all day at Florence searching for pensions, the town is very full and I can get nothing but back rooms in a Pension in the Via Palestro. Subscribe to a reading room and spend the evening *solus*, reading all the English newspapers – telegraphed to Annie – '*Tutta serena*' etcetera. A number of ordinary people at the *table d'hote* amounting to some 30."

"Av. 2 Martedì - Has been the most unpleasant day since we left England, quite typical of what we were led to believe to be the Italian Spring – smiling or cruel. A and C arrived about midday and afterwards we round about generally." They were now in Florence and were determined to immerse themselves in art, beginning on the 3rd, which was a pleasant day. "Our main object will be for three or four days the Pitti Palace: we breakfast at 9 and go at once to the pictures" [no, not the cinema!] "Have only seen one room today thoroughly well, the Sala Verona, but have got a good firm hold of the paintings in it. In afternoon to the *Cascine*, where saw all the rank and fashion: - quite a Rotten Row and Hyde Park, a very pretty park of some two or three miles – trees very fair size." So the next day back to the Pitti where "Have had a successful day; studied two rooms and among the many fine pictures that left the most vivid impression on my mind were a grand Taking down from the Cross Andrea del Sarto, the two well-known Madonna of Murillo, and the Seggiola of Rafael [sic], a splendid portrait of Cardinal Guido Bentivoglio by Van Dyck and a Rubens of St Francis." A rich start to their art appreciation tour. "Between whiles they listened to a military band playing to the King at his breakfast."

That was just the morning and in the afternoon they went to the Boboli gardens, only open Thursdays and Sundays. The grandeur and splendid formality surprised them; white marble statues set against dark bay and cypress and ilex. The views on all sides were magnificent. They were glad to see so many townfolk enjoying the gardens, "... wish our Londoners had such a retreat and could appreciate it as well as these people seem to do. Saw the King as he drove to the *Cascine*: there could no difference be seen except as to the ugliness between him and his

subjects." Letters arrived from Emmie and Hodgkinson and in *Bell's Life* report of the University crews to Putney, won by the Cambridge men.

Av. 5 Venerdì - An early breakfast at 8 in order to get to the Pitti by 9.15: "Almost the first there, and had the rooms to ourselves, we had but 1½ hours there and managed two rooms (*Salas di Giove* and *Saturnus*). The tables of inlaid work with foundations of porphyry in this room are exquisite. The pictures that remain in my mind are Michelangelo's *Fates*, Andrea del Sarto's portrait of himself and his wife, representing her as stopping his way to preferment at the French Court – an Annunciation by the same where a beautiful group of angels with Gabriel kneeling in front presenting the lily – two Battle pieces by Salvatore Rosa! Silvius II by Raphael, two grand portraits by Annibal Caracci and Guercino... and *The dispute on the Trinity* by Andrea del S. Attended morning prayers at the Chapel of Ease designated the "British Church" in the Via San Spirito No 31, but were not impressed with the manner of the service." He does not say why. Their afternoon exercise was to walk up to the top of the Fiesoli hill where they had a glorious but hazy view during which he noted that A. was 'plucky' and that his pocket Aneroid marked it at 700 feet. The Rector never misses a detail.

"Av. 6 Sabato. Our first object this morning was the Duomo, the work of Brunelleschi, who sits forever in marble, gazing up at his handiwork from the piazza below, by his side, Arnulphus, a co-architect. We mounted bravely 530 steps and were repaid by the views, interior and exterior: this double dome is unique, one shell being within the other separately about four feet between them. You mount to the summit. Florence lies at your feet and looks grander, cleaner and larger, with buildings more regular and better coloured than probably any other capital in Europe – no smoke, no dirty suburbs, all pure and wholesome and picturesque into the bargain... I should much like to have seen this grand view at sunset, but our dinner hour is six, and hunger won't do it! Thence to the Pitti which we have nearly finished; forgot the guide today, so will not jot down any memorials save one, an Anonymous

donna... which for modesty, purity and beauty was unequalled." They took "their usual two hours rest" in the afternoon, but were not beaten. Not with Florence and all its art and beauty on offer! "To S. Marco, a famous church and convent of the Dominicans and is adorned, cloisters and all, with grand frescoes by Fra Bartolomeo – we bought a few photos of them, or rather one particular fresco in the old Chapter rooms, a Crucifixion with a collection of Saints at the foot of the Cross. S. Dominic himself is constantly represented..."

Back to the mundane, it was time for haircuts and a visit to "a capital artist", French, in the Via Tornabuone. "I was longer under the hands of the workman than Annie!" he wrote, "for the first time in my life, was curled with hot irons." The wider news noted was that the Paris Exhibition opened 'very tamely' on 1 April.

Joan Ham (Village Historian)

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.



What's this? A Camera Club article with no pictures! Has Storrington Camera Club gone into liquidation? Well, no – we're doing fine thanks although the current spate of wet weather is enough to dampen the keenest photographer's enthusiasm for picture taking expeditions.

I'd like to write about smartphones. They're wonderful devices, aren't they? I couldn't run my life without mine as nearly everything I do is managed by my phone. I can't remember the last time I wrote a letter but my email inbox is bulging with messages from friends and foes; well, necessary evils such as banks and insurance companies etc.

I can't get into the Amex without the ticket on my phone. Less importantly, my phone lets me travel the world without paperwork, although I don't as I always back-up paper tickets just in case. But smartphones are a wonder of the age and I embrace them in almost all their aspects.

There are exceptions though. Walking my dog is a phone free time and it is turned off at night, the phone that is, not the dog. And I don't do photography on my phone. Sure, I take pictures with it, recording this and that; record shots, grandchildren larking about, all that sort of thing; the sorts of pictures which are, in fact, more important than those we pontificate about at the Club. But my phone is a workhorse and therefore associated with the day to day; I need something different for hobbies and relaxation.

The act of hanging a camera round my neck puts me into photography mode and I start worrying about the technicalities of aperture, shutter speed etc, thereby stopping worrying if the house insurance is about to run out and similar less important stuff. This, in itself, is therapeutic but more importantly I start looking for pictures and that IMHO (smartphone talk!) is what photography is all about. It is, after all, a creative activity.

This is not about photographic technicalities, and I hope I'm not making value judgements as to which are the better approach, but to me phones and cameras are different. I am amazed by the quality of pictures which are taken on phones now, but I cannot rid myself of the nagging feeling that there is something of 'smoke and mirrors' about it; it seems too good to be true and therefore maybe it is.

To me the technical quality of a photograph is indelibly connected to the size of the piece of film or the digital sensor on which the photograph is taken. Witness the wonderful photographs of the polar expeditions from the beginning of the last century; taken on massive plate cameras, their resolution and overall quality is astonishing. Back in the present, digital cameras come in a variety of sensor sizes, generally the larger the sensor the higher the technical quality of the picture, and the more expensive the camera. Large format digital cameras are still stratospherically expensive but the so called gold standard for amateur photographers is a full-frame digital camera where the sensor matches the size of a 35mm frame of film, which is now more affordable than ever, and even I've got one.

The sensor in any phone is tiny, so this seems to break my indelible view as outlined above, hence my scepticism and the reference to 'smoke and mirrors', although I do realise that these marvels are mostly brought about by very clever software, the development of which is funded by the vast revenues phone sales generate. And for sure these camera phones are here to stay.

But I'm sticking with my cameras, and I'm not the only one. Amongst a general increasing interest in film photography there is a company in Brighton, Intrepid Cameras, which has quickly gained a worldwide reputation for making film cameras of the "watch the birdie" style. These take, as a minimum, a sheet (not a roll) of film size 5 by 4 inches and each click of the shutter costs around a fiver. They don't seem to be able to make enough of these throwbacks, and they'll even sell you a black cloth to put over your head as you take the pictures! Am I tempted? You bet!

So, what I'm saying is that I leave my phone to run my life and enjoy taking pictures with my cameras. I've enhanced this by joining a camera club (there's a very good one locally!) and thus have a creative hobby for life, as well as a great crowd of friends. You could do the same.

We'll have some more pictures for you next month, providing it stops raining of course.

Chris West

www.storringtoncc.org.uk or contact
Janet Brown T: 07812 107571 E: chair@storringtoncc.org.uk



Gardening for cats?

This month I'm going to share what I've learned about gardening when cats are in the family. As I wrote the title, I remembered just how many dog-owners there are locally and imagine you all turning the page quickly! I'll pick the brains of some of the gardeners among them for next month's column, I promise.



Last summer, we adopted a new cat, appropriately called Daisy. We'd had cats before, but Daisy required a bit of a rethink to indoors and out. Although an adult, she's the size of a large kitten, extremely inquisitive, quite clumsy and, we were warned, unlikely to have had access to a garden before.



First step was reviewing the houseplants and checking which were a no-no for nibbling. This is especially important for indoor cats who are more likely to want to have a chew, but since all cats need to be kept in for a few weeks when moved to a new home, it's worth knowing which are

dangerous, including cut flowers. This webpage from Cats Protection has advice for houseplants and in the garden:

<https://www.cats.org.uk/help-and-advice/home-and-environment/dangerous-plants>

Yes, several of my favourites were on there so they all found loving new homes and were replaced with Calathea (prayer plant) and Boston fern. We followed the advice to grow cat grass (which she ignored!) but I know other cats like it.

Once roaming free, there's nothing you can do about what your cat will find in other people's gardens, but you can attend to your own backyard. Cats love drinking rainwater, so put a lid on water butts and ensure any creature that can fall into a pond can easily climb out. If you also love birds, consider replacing ground feeders with hanging feeders among trees. Avoid growing foxgloves and pretty much anything with the word lily in it (including day lilies, lily of the valley and those that are sold as lily bulbs). Add some catmint (any of the Nepeta family) or catnip (*Nepeta cataria*) and your cat will be in paradise – there may be little left for you to admire, however.



Cheryl Brown

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ST GEORGE'S DAY 23 APRIL

According to Wikipedia, Saint George's Day is the feast day of Saint George, notably England's patron saint, but celebrated also by Christian churches, countries and regions of which he is the patron saint, including Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Greece, Georgia, Portugal, Romania, Syria, Lebanon, Catalonia, Alcoi, Aragon and Rio de Janeiro.

The strange thing about St George is that no-one knows who he was, where he came from, or why he was made a saint, and there is no authenticated record of him ever visiting England! It seems that he was not even English, but then, only the English would choose such an unknown entity to be our patron saint!

There is the mythical tale about him saving a village somewhere in Europe from a dragon.

An 18th Century Georgian geographer and historian, Vakhushti Bagrationi, once claimed there are 365 Orthodox churches in Georgia named after Saint George, one for every day of the year.

In the UK, there are 243 churches dedicated to St George, that's 15th in the list of church names which is led by St Mary with 2,368 dedications!

Probably the best known church in the world that is named after St George is St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle which is privately owned by King Charles III.



EVENTS AT THE OLD WORKSHOP, SULLINGTON MANOR FARM

Barn Dance

6 April

6-10pm

In aid of Friends of Pulborough Parish Church.

Book tickets: <https://www.friendsofpulboroughparishchurch.org/events/barn-dance-at-sullington-barn>.

Spring Contemporary Art at Sullington

16 – 27 May

10am – 4pm

Twelve artists featuring in this exhibition of hanging pieces, sculptures and paintings curated by esteemed local duo, Penny Gambrell and Marty Lowell. Cafe open daily, except bank holiday.

Spirit of Place

6 June – 16 June

10am – 4pm

Abstract textile exhibition curated by established group, Curious Threads, with all pieces for sale. A true celebration of texture, colour and artistic ingenuity as the Curious Threads textile art group respond to their chosen title. Café open daily.

Under One Roof

20 – 23 June

10am – 4pm

An exciting chance to go to a home interior's fair with specialist companies who might just be able to find you that aspect that you have been missing at home. Trusted and local companies who will be present to discuss and bounce ideas off. Café open daily.

Build an Opera

6 – 10 August

Five day children's workshop (ages 8 – 14) with Songbuilders in our 15th century tithe barn. Construct, build, design & compose a piece to perform at the end of the workshop with trained opera singers. Fantastic opportunity for children to really hone their creative side in the summer holidays.

Photography Exhibition

5 – 15 September

10am – 4pm

Photography exhibition curated by local & talented group, Storrington Camera Club featuring traditionalist and current methods of photography. Café open daily.



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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!



WEDNESDAY

Bible Encounter – 10am to 12pm

This is a great group for those wanting to pray and learn more and explore the Bible.



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 £3 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!



FRIDAY

Ukraine Drop-in – Open from 10am to 1pm

We're here to help you with a range of services, including form filling and general help and information, with access to authorities to assist with housing etc. We also offer English language classes.



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 £2 per child and £1 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.



THAKEHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

The February meeting was well-attended and our speaker was Richard Withypitts talking about his nursery Withypitts Dahlias at Turners Hill where, for the past 12 years, he has grown dahlias, mainly for the UK Flower industry, sending quantities of 200/300 stems to Covent Garden Market. All his dahlias are grown from cuttings which he and his wife take in the spring, rather than leaving tubers in the ground as this way the stems are taller and stronger, some reaching over 5ft, and flower blooms are larger with a more intense colour.



Dahlias originated from Mexico and were first introduced to the UK by Dr Andreas Dahl, hence the name, and by 1804 were hybridised here and in France, Germany and Spain. Richard showed the 10 various types of dahlia, ranging from *Pom Pom* to *Dinner Plate*, and then went on to talk about their propagation, how to take takings and bring them on, what and when to feed, how to deal with pests and diseases, how to disbud and how to lift and store for winter.

The nursery is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from mid-May to mid-June when garden plants can be purchased. Plants can be ordered on the website for collection in May and tubers can be purchased from December to February. Workshops are run twice a year in March. The website withypitts-dahlia.co.uk is very helpful as most of the information on growing dahlias can be found under *Advice*. Richard was thanked for his very informative and interesting talk, after which members were able to purchase some of his surplus tubers.

The next monthly meeting is on **8 April** when our speaker will be Ben Cross, talking about *British Alstroemeria and the UK Flower Industry*. The Club competition will be a single Tulip. On **17 April** Club members will visit The Mathers Foundation orchid nursery for a talk and tour.

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

Sandra Jenkins

SOUTH DOWNS PROBUS



South Downs Probus Club had a lovely evening in early February when members descended on The Black Horse pub in Findon and played skittles before an excellent meal provided by the pub. It was amazing how some members managed to avoid the skittles altogether!

Also in February, we had our regular lunch for members at The George & Dragon pub in Dragon's Green where we listened to the speaker, Hamish Brown MBE, who had been in The Metropolitan Police Force and eventually specialised in stalkers and the stalked. It sounds a frightening subject, and it was! Hamish started his talk with a case history of a 17 year old girl who was stalked by an acquaintance. He read some of the letters which were sent to her and we understood what an appalling effect they had on the girl and her family. It made us very quiet. Eventually the man was caught. Hamish is a leading authority of international standing on this subject and was going to Los Angeles to speak to a conference there. He was given a cheque for The Suzy Lamplugh Trust from us.

New members are welcome and should contact Don Johnston at donjohnston@btinternet.com to find more about our Club.

Don Johnston



STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

At our well-attended Tea and Talk on 17 February, due to a technical hitch (modern technology is wonderful!), the talk followed the tea. However, our guest speaker, Alice Parfitt, made the hitch worthwhile with a beautifully illustrated and entertaining talk on the work of the Murray Downland Trust which was founded to preserve, protect and restore downland nature reserves, both wildlife and artefacts. At present, it cares for four Sites of Special Scientific Interest, the most westerly being at Heyshot Down, which includes bronze age barrows (Scheduled Monuments). Among flora it provides habitat for orchids and other flowers which attract the Big Headed Mining Bee as well as Bumble Bees, the Downland Bee Fly and Honey Bees. Woodlarks are part of the bird population.

The second SSSI is the old chalk workings at Heyshot Escarpment, home for cowslips and rose moss and habitat for butterflies, such as the Grizzled Skipper and the Duke of Burgundy, and birdlife includes the Tree Pippit. The next SSSI is at Devils Jumps which is a mixture of chalk, dwarf grass and heather, habitat for the Small Scabious Mining Bee. It also has seven rare Green Barrows. The fourth SSSI Alice mentioned was Hurston Warren where we have been working. It is a mixture of heathland, grass and wetland, suitable for acid grassland plants. It attracts moths, the wonderfully named Pantaloon Bee, the rare Field Cricket and a rare Crane Fly. It is also nesting ground for the Nightjar. These sites are managed with the co-operation of farmers and by mowing at appropriate times. Altogether an informative talk, and encouraging to know the Trust cares for these sites and, of course, we are pleased to be able to support their work at Hurston Warren.

On 2 March at 10am the work party was due to be removing scrub at Chantry Hill. The persistent wet weather meant it had to be deferred to the following Saturday, 9 March. The unusual weather is another result of climate change which shows the need to reduce our CO₂ and methane emissions. On **Saturday 6 April** we are due to meet at 10am in the Leisure Centre Car Park. We will be doing the necessary task of clearing litter and rubbish alongside paths and byways in the village. All encouraged to join us, equipment provided.

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

Stuart Kersley

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MEETINGS

4 April – Members' Evening

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5 April – The Crouch Shield Projected Image Competition

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18 April – Club 5th Competition

Judged by Bob Webzell ARPS. Set subjects – Prints – "High Key". Projected Images "Low Key"

2 May – "The way I see it"

a talk by Rosemary Willman FRPS – Past President of the Royal Photographic Society (no less!) – not to be missed.

MORE INFORMATION:
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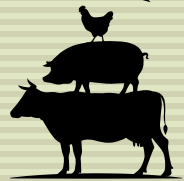



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This is a busy term for us Rangers with many of us heading into exam season. So we plan a few evenings to help us through this tense time.

In recent weeks we have welcomed Ritichings Korean Karate to show us how to keep us safe with self-defence,

based on movement allowing us to manage to keep our distance and avoidance tactics. We had a fun evening, very informative and it was good stress relief too!

We also joined with the Guides in an evening of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). Gatwick employees visited to share their knowledge and build solar powered cars. We tried to boost the solar batteries in preparation for a race using our phone torches! We also had the chance to quiz them about careers at Gatwick and their route to getting there.

Following on from Gatwick visiting, we plan to improve further and test our engineering skills by building two larger robots that we can match against each other, working in teams.

The four girls going to the Azores with Girlguiding are also running a stall at Storrington Duck Race to raise funds for their trip. They also plan to litter pick in Storrington asking for donations in exchange for their efforts.

Running into exam weeks, we have a mindfulness evening; playing our favourite tunes whilst colouring, making friendship bracelets and generally listening to and supporting one another.

We also have an evening of learning British Sign Language. This is definitely a skill that can be built on and possibly added to a CV in the future.

Those that are not taking exams this year are planning, once again with the guides, to attend our annual Division Guiding and Scouting Petworth Park Camp. At the camp we get the chance to try various adventurous activities such as zorbing, paddle boarding, abseiling and crossbows as well as some crafts. We hope for some good, dry weather!

Once exam season is over we plan a good hike together.



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	3RD	RUSTINGTON / SHOP & LUNCH	£6	11AM
THURSDAY	EVERY	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM & 1PM
	1ST	STORRINGTON / POP-IN LUNCH	£3	11.15AM
FRIDAY	EVERY	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM
	EVERY	PULBOROUGH / TESCO / SAINSBURY'S	£4	1PM
SCENIC DRIVES				
TUESDAY	2ND APRIL	BOSHAM HARBOUR / TEA AT WATERFRONT	£11	1PM
TUESDAY	7TH MAY	SHOREHAM A'PORT / HUMMINGBIRD CAFÉ	£9	1PM
TUESDAY	4TH JUNE	SUMNER PONDS & CAFÉ	£10	1PM
TUESDAY	2ND JULY	HIGHDOWN GARDENS & CAFÉ	£10	1PM

Lunch & refreshment cost additional to trip fares



For enquiries & bookings: 0300 772 7735
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STORRINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET

Storrington Village Hall, West Street

EVERY
Friday 9.45
- 11.15am

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE:

Homemade Cakes, Quiches & Biscuits • Sausage Rolls
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- Books & free magazines • Katie's Forever Living
- Aloe Vera • Erika's Crochet creations • Elaine's Glass
- Art & Jewellery • Iryna's Ukrainian dolls & art • Rich's woodcraft gifts
- Velda's aprons • Locally produced cards • Gilly's preloved homeware
- Charli's Neal's Yard products & Flamingo Paperie stationery
- Nick's Vinyl records, singles & LPs from the 60s to the 90s
- Sussex Green Living recycling collection point
- Cafe - tea, coffee & biscuits

Except Good
Friday: market
on Thursday
instead



USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

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DOCTORS	
Out of hours doctors	111
Glebe Surgery	742942
Pulborough Medical Group	01798 872815
HOSPITALS	
Worthing	205111
St Richards	01243 788122
Horsham	01403 227000
Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999
Electrical Emergencies	0800 31 63 105
Water Emergencies	0330 303 0368
Samaritans	116 123
Citizens Advice Bureau	270 444
Storrington and Sullington Parish Council	746547
Thakeham Parish Council	01798 815305
Horsham District Council	01403 215100
Sullington Parish Hall	746547
Storrington Village Hall	744592
Storrington Minibus	740282
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Crossways	743040
Arun Vets	746028
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3 Heralds

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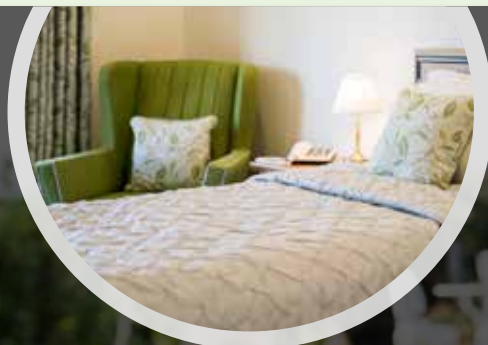
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