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September 2025

3 Heralds

STORRINGTON



SULLINGTON



THAKEHAM



Sullington Flower & Craft Festival Pictures *pages 16-17*



St Mary's Church **SULLINGTON**



St Mary's Church **STORRINGTON**



St Mary's Church **THAKEHAM**



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STORRINGTON



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SULLINGTON



St Mary
THAKEHAM

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STORRINGTON

Rector

The Revd Jonathan Swindells (07538 011579)
The Rectory, Rectory Road, Storrington RH20 4EF
(frj.stmary@gmail.com)

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Contact Church Warden Thakeham – Mike James (07795 02482)
Church Warden Sullington – John Williams (07841 204330)
Parish Administrator – Arabella stwparish@gmail.com

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

PARISH
CLERGY



THE SACRAMENT OF THE PRESENT MOMENT

As I sit at my bureau writing, there's already an autumnal nip in the air in the mornings despite it still being August. My garden is also ahead of itself and things which would normally flower a month from now are almost over. And yet I love the changing seasons which somehow seem to reflect the chapters and repeated rhythms in the procession of our lives.

Amidst these blessings contemporary society drives us forwards, persuading us that the next thing and the next thing will always be better.

The French Jesuit Priest Fr Jean Pierre de Caussade (1675-1751) wrote his *Abandonment to Divine Providence*, also known as the *Sacrament of the Present Moment*, at Nancy. A sacrament - an expression of God's love for us in creation. In his treatise he describes how blessings are neither to be found behind us or in front of us but now in the present moment if we can only dare to still ourselves, to shut out the white noise of our lives and be truly present, because it is in the present moment that we witness God active in our lives in the power of love.

The gentle and generous discipline of being truly present can often seem out of reach amongst the pressures of our lives. But autumn and the cathedral of nature can allow us to rediscover the sacrament of the present moment.

I love the autumn harvest of joyful apples, blackberries and sloes. And soon the leaves will turn to their golden hue and begin to fall.

I commend to you a walk out into the woods as the leaves begin to fall and still yourselves. Take a moment to delight in the coolness of the soft, damp earth beneath your feet, witness the play of light upon the trees and your face and the music of the breeze upon the leaves and you will begin to hear them fall. It is at this moment that you will have begun to rediscover the sacrament of the present moment. A spiritual discipline and focus that transforms our experiences, not only of the world but also, importantly, with those we encounter and accompany along the way.

RUPERT TOOVEY

Associate Vicar, St Mary's Church, Storrington

STORRINGTON FLOWER CLUB

Wednesday 24 September 2.30pm

Sullington Parish Hall

Demonstrator: Ellouise Hasler Stott

Theme: 'Autumn Leaves'

Competition: 'Linear Design'

New members and visitors welcome



FANCY BEING AN EDITOR?

After over 11 years, I am hanging up my hat as editor of this magazine, and so we are looking for someone to take over.

No previous experience is needed as all the layout and artwork is done by our graphic designer, and it only takes a few hours a month.

It is not an onerous task and I have enjoyed it immensely but it's time for me to move on.

Want to know more about what's involved? Then do contact me on 07702 945960 or email 3heralds@gmail.com.

Let's ensure this valued magazine, with its outreach to the community, continues.

Amanda Hislop



Support your local church with the annual Sussex Historic Churches Trust



RIDE+STRIDE

Saturday, 13 September 2025 • 9am till 5pm

Sussex Churches will be open on Saturday 13 September for this annual event when people are sponsored to cycle, walk or ride from church to church. Money raised is divided between the Sussex Historic Churches' Trust and the participant's own church.

If you would like more information, please go to www.ridestride.org.

FEATURES

The Season of Creation	10
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Woods on Prescription	33



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

Vacant

Electoral Roll Officer

Virginia James
Contact via church office at
electoralrollstmary.thakeham@btinternet.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

Pippa Harder
31 Furze Common Road,
Thakeham, RH20 3EG

PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR

Please contact Arabella 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.



Join us once again for a **Murder Mystery Dinner**, where your taste buds will tingle and brain cells boggle.

Each performance will have sumptuous food, interspersed with drama, intrigue and of course, death.

MURDER AT THE MANOR

Matinee: 1.30pm for 2pm
includes an afternoon Cream Tea
Tickets: £20 Children under 12: £10

Evening: 7pm for 7.30pm
with a 3 course Dinner, Bar & Raffle
Tickets: £30 (includes one free drink from the bar)

Saturday 18th October
Thakeham Village Hall

Tickets available: StMarysThakehamEvents@gmail.com or scan the QR code

All proceeds to St Mary's Church, Thakeham



Dates for your Diary

26 Sep - **MacMillan Coffee Morning** - Church Rooms

5 Oct - **Harvest Lunch** - Thakeham Village Hall

18 Oct - **Murder Mystery & Dinner** - 2pm & 7pm
Thakeham Village Hall

4 Nov - **Bridge Day** - 10am to 2.30pm - Thakeham Village Hall

8 Nov - **Christmas Fayre** - 11.30am to 2pm - Thakeham Village Hall

14 Dec - **Christmas Lunch** - 12.30pm to 3pm - Thakeham Village Hall

3 to 5 July 2026 - **Thakeham Flower Festival and Open Gardens**
Please try not to take your holiday then, as we'll need your help!

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

Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group

Tuesday 16 September
2pm - 4pm
Thakeham Church Room
Everyone Welcome

If you don't knit or stitch, you are welcome to come along for company and join us for a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of cake

Further information from Wynn Lednor 01903 743025




COFFEE MORNING RAFFLE

St Mary's Thakeham
Church Rooms
Friday 26 September
10am to 12 noon

Please come along and support this charity
Enjoy delicious homemade cakes with tea or coffee
The ever-popular bacon rolls will be available.

Further information available from Wynn Lednor 01903 743025



"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

John Williams (07841 204330)
Sandgate Lodge,
Washington Road,
RH20 4AF

Carol Lusher

Treasurer

David Baxter (744346)

Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson

Churchwardens Emeriti

Heather Cotton (745751)

Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

PCC Secretary

Philippa Stallard-Penoyre

Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Officer

David Baxter (744346)

Electoral Roll

Philippa Stallard-Penoyre (745751)

Organist

Position vacant

Church Flowers

Altar Rota Jean Hoadley (01798 812658)

Safeguarding Officer

Jane Williams (742956)

Sandgate Lodge,
Washington Road,
Sullington RH20 4AF

Church Fabric Officer

John Williams (07841 204330)

THAKEHAM AND SULLINGTON:

Please contact the Churchwardens to make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage

Email stwparish@gmail.com. Details of Church Services on page 18

St Mary's Church Sullington proudly presents:

POP UP PRELOVED Clothing Sale

Saturday 27
and Sunday 28
September, 2025
11am - 3pm

SUMMER CLOTHES
bargains to be had!

The Old Workshop, Sullington Manor Farm

Dates for your Diary

We have many exciting events at Sullington
to look forward to this year:

27 & 28 September

Pop-up Preloved clothing

5 October Joint Harvest Lunch at Thakeham Village Hall

15 November Christmas Fayre 11am to 3pm at Sullington
Parish Hall



St Mary's Church, Sullington

Annual Quiz Night

Friday 26 September

Postponed! New date is being organised



Come along to
enjoy a range of
local makers
stalls selling
anything from
homemade jams,
gifts, jewellery
etc, our own
Pop-Up Preloved
clothes and
accessories sale.

Feast on tasty
home baked cakes
with tea and
coffee.

15 November
from 11am to 3pm
Sullington Parish Hall

Please contact Carol at popupstm@gmail.com if you
would like to have a stall or for further information

We would love to
hear from you!

HOUSE PLANTS!

Do you have more house plants than you need
and would like to donate them to St Mary's
Sullington for our Christmas Fayre? If so, either
please drop them off at Church or phone Jane
01903 742956 for collection in our local area.



EVENSONG 7 September at 3pm

This month our continuing theme is Charity and we are pleased to
have Dr Tim Fooks, the High Sheriff of West Sussex to talk to us. Do
please come and meet Revd Joel Willmer this will be his first service
at St Mary's, Sullington

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, SULLINGTON

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Church and all that we do?

Then join Friends to receive our newsletter and news
of social events.

For details contact Muriel Astley on 01798 812706.





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

Marij Mitchell

Retired Clergy

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

Verger and Sacristan

Michael Taylor (742218)

Sacristy Team

John Taylor (745477)
Lueen Francis

Captain of Bell-Ringers

John Taylor (745477)

Parish Visiting Scheme

Stuart Lee (743661)

Recorder

Vacant

Electoral Roll Officer

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

Parish Safeguarding Officer

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

Readers

Sam Ward (893794)

Director of Music

Stephen Bloxham

Assistant Organist

Ian Miles

Sidesmen

David Rice (746816)

Church Flowers

Wendy Cliffe (744467)

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

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Church Services see page 18.

Holy Communion and Café in the Church:

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

Choir: Fridays, 6.40pm – 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: Jeannie Bell (07875 220426)

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

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

STORRINGTON REGISTERS

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

13 July Aria-Grace Michele Wiggins
(daughter of Suzanne Burch and Iain Wiggins)

3 Aug Charlotte Toni Osborn
(daughter of Catherine and Matthew Osborn)

Marriages – to love and to cherish ...

9 Aug Samuel Aldridge and Jemima Roblin

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

18 July Iris Rutherford (93 years) (Funeral service at Trinity Methodist Church and burial in St Mary's Churchyard, Storrington)

Interment of ashes only:

26 July Doris Short

26 July Derek Stanley Chandler (90 years)

30 July Sylvia Smith (92 years)

BATTLE OF BRITAIN COMMEMORATION SERVICE – Sunday 21 September at 10am

At this service we welcome many of the young people who belong to 2464 (Storrington) Air Training Corps, together with members of the Royal Air Forces Association and the Royal British Legion. Everyone is welcome: medals to be worn.

10am ZOOM SERVICE

We have continued to live stream our 10am Church Service to several parishioners and if you would like to join in our service this way please contact Val Rice (valrice77@gmail.com) for details.

PARISH VISITING TEAM...

The St Mary's Parish Visiting Team contact is Stuart Lee. Please contact Stuart on 01903 743661 if you would like to arrange for someone on the team to either speak to you or visit you.

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

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Sunday 5 October

8am Holy Communion

10am Harvest Celebration
Everyone is invited to bring gifts of produce (especially tins and packets, etc) which will be given to the Family Support Work in Storrington. The Church will be decorated for Harvest on Friday 3 October starting at 9.30am.

12 noon Harvest Lunch
We will have our Harvest Lunch in the Old School on 5 October; more details in the weekly Church News Sheet and next month's 3 Heralds

6pm Harvest Evensong

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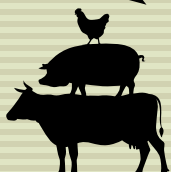
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Every Wednesday 2.00pm - 4.00pm



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



FSW CREAM TEA

On Wednesday 23 July, the Cafe in the Church team held a Cream Tea in aid of Family Support Work in the Storrington Deanery, part of the Love Storrington week. Lots of cake was eaten! The all-age finding trail was popular, with both children and adults finding the fruit sour Haribo sweets under the altar! Raffle prizes were aplenty. Our grateful thanks to everyone who made this event a success; baking cakes, donating raffle prizes, and publicising the event, raising £370 for FSW.



Christians in Storrington Monthly Inter-Church Prayer Meetings Everyone welcome

Do join us in Storrington Priory Library, School Lane, Storrington 9.15am to 9.45am on the first Tuesday of each month

Tuesday 2 September – Life Community Church will lead

Tuesday 7 October – Chemin Neuf Community will lead

One in faith and love and praise

A PRAYER FOR CREATIONTIDE

Living God,
You call us to be good stewards of this earthly home,
strengthen us to care for your creation;
forgive us when, through our greed and indifference,
we abuse its beauty and damage its potential.
Empower us, through your Spirit, to so nurture and love
the world, that all creation sings to your glory. Amen.

From 'Creation Care Prayers', C of E Environment Programme



DID YOU KNOW?...

The oldest computer was owned by Adam and Eve.
It was an Apple with very limited memory.

Just one byte and everything crashed!



1st Sunday every month 9.30 - 11am
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Messy Church is about fun, friendship, faith and
discovering God's love in Jesus. It's for everyone and all ages.
Craft activities, games, songs, Godly Play and delicious treats!

SEPTEMBER 7TH – Godly Play story telling

OCTOBER 5TH – Harvest Samba Celebration!

NOVEMBER 2ND – Poppy making and remembering

DECEMBER 7TH – Christingle crafting



To find out more contact fr. Jonathan at St Mary's Church

07538 011579

storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

St Mary's Church, Storrington

Café in the Church

2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Wednesday 10 September

10am Holy Communion

10.30 Café in the Church

Wednesday 24 September

2pm Holy Communion

2.30pm Café in the Church



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

THE SEASON OF CREATION

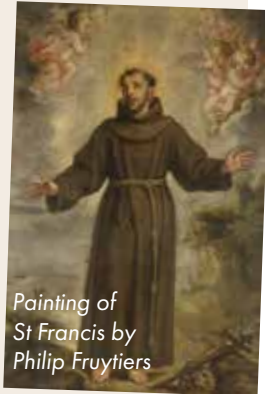
September marks the beginning of the Season of Creation, a period of reflection and prayer for the environment. It ends on 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of ecology, beloved of many Christian denominations. It's an opportunity to give thanks for God's gift of creation and to renew our commitment to caring for our planet home. Throughout the month-long celebration, the world's 2.2 billion Christians come together to care for our common home.

Every year, the Season of Creation ecumenical steering committee comes up with a theme to help churches around the world strengthen our united response during this shared season of reflection and action. A Rocha is part of this steering committee. A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment. See <https://arocha.org.uk>.

The official Season of Creation theme for 2025 is *Peace with Creation*.

So let us pray together for our environment and get involved, in any small way, in helping to preserve our precious world.

On 29 November 1979, Pope John Paul II declared Francis the patron saint of ecology. On 28 March 1982, John Paul II said that Francis' love and care for creation was a challenge for contemporary Catholics and a reminder "not to behave like dissident predators where nature is concerned, but to assume responsibility for it, taking all care so that everything stays healthy and integrated, so as to offer a welcoming and friendly environment even to those who succeed us". Wise words indeed!



Painting of
St Francis by
Philip Fruytiers

NEW CELEBRATORY HYMN

The Director of Music at St Mary's Church, Storrington, Stephen Bloxham, has written a hymn to mark the 950 years of the Diocese of Chichester. He recalls how he had come back from a church service and immediately started to frantically write themes of the hymn on a back of a Saga Cruise envelope! He had been inspired by Bishop Ruth's sermon at the Deanery Confirmation Service about how we need to be confident to tell and live out our faith boldly. He shares the text of the hymn and some of reasoning behind the text and music.

The hymn is in praise of God for the diversity of Sussex landscape; the history of the Christian faith in Sussex brought to the people by Bishop Wilfred. The hymn is set to Sussex, a traditional English melody adapted by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 -1958), who gathered many Sussex folk tunes for hymns published in the *English Hymnal* in 1906. Stephen decided to dedicate the hymn to the service of all the retired clergy of men and women with Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Chichester. Stephen says, "Many come to serve in this diocese to 'retire', but they bring so much richness to the spiritual life of the diocese and individual parishes, particularly in times of interregnum".

The hymn celebrates faith in all places where Christian people are encouraged to share their faith, particularly with those who have no Christian context or church contact. The hymn also reflects the penitential aspects of our Christian journey through the ages where power and schemes of the world, including history of abuse, have clouded the goodness of the good news of the gospel in Sussex. Stephen urges people to go and visit the current exhibition of faith in the Cathedral that has been carefully curated by the Canon Treasurer, Revd Vanessa Baron, with an excellent timeline of events in Christianity and the world.

Stephen also wanted to celebrate those who have come to this diocese over the years, particularly refugees from overseas during conflicts (eg Hans Feibusch) who contributed to the art, music, theology, and activism in the diocese, and the country at large. Also to all who have richly contributed to art across Sussex, particularly the inspiration of Vanessa Bell and Duncan Grant at Berwick Church, and in the cathedral at Chichester during the tenure of Dean Walter Hussey.

The popular trope of the prayer of St Richard of Chichester is included in the penultimate verse and the hymn concludes with a simple doxology.

Celebrate the gospel in Sussex,
beach and downland, weald, rejoice!
For the faith that Wilfred brought us
stirring in our lives today.

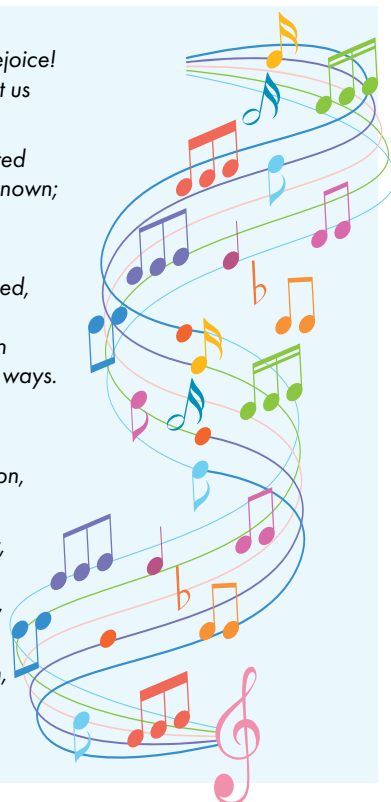
Through the ages we have planted
ways to make your love made known;
now today in work and leisure,
we proclaim a faith we own.

Moments when your glory shaded,
we repent our shameful ways –
where at times our worldly vision
missed the call of your kingdom ways.

In this place has been a refuge,
sheltering those away from fear;
art and music, thought, and action,
richly to our history share.

May we know you more clearly,
may we love you dearly, more,
may we follow you more nearly,
day by day, our lives adore.

Praise to Father, Lord of creation,
Praise to Jesus, risen Son,
Praise to Spirit, ever present
in our daily lives. Amen!



Words: Stephen Bloxham (b.1979)

Tune: Sussex, Traditional English melody arr. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

They will soar on wings like eagles. They will walk and not grow weary. They will run and not be faint. – Is. 40:3

Abraham

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Contact: Felicity Hadley
✉ storrington@chemin-neuf.org
☎ 01903 742150
🌐 chemin-neuf.org.uk/abraham

Chemin Neuf

"Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will not grow weary, they will not be faint."

Illustration created with the help of Canva AI

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Baby Rhyme Time

Join our baby rhyme time
 fun with rhymes, songs
 and musical instruments.
**All babies and
 toddlers welcome!**

Parents and carers are asked to remain with their child for this activity.
 Please note – sessions are very popular and may become full.

Tuesdays 10.00-10.30am

west sussex county council
 West Sussex Library Service

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

Local heroes

So, here we are in September and it's autumnal, and naturally in churches all over we're thinking about harvest festivals because this is the time we celebrate the work of our farmers, and our gardens and allotments are full of produce. Do you have a glut of plums, runner beans, tomatoes? No space in the freezer and no inclination to make jam or pickle? My local heroes and this month's eco champions can come to your rescue! I'm talking about the Community Market.

A bit of history first; the Community Market started in 1943 as a WI market. WI markets actually date back to 1919 but were particularly important during the long period of rationing during and after the Second World War. They enabled people to sell excess produce from all the "dig for victory" activities in an era before efficient refrigeration, and ensured a more even distribution of food in short supply. Fast forward to 2025 and we still have a great resource in our Village, but you can get rather more than just someone's excess beetroot!



When and where?

Every Friday morning, opening at 9.30am in Storrington Village Hall (near the Tesco garage).

What?

In keeping with its origins, one of the market's most popular stalls is the home-baked goods stall. I am particularly addicted to the Viennese Whirl biscuits, plus a home-made quiche saves cooking. The stall also sells cakes, scones, and savouries, all baked less than a mile away. In addition, there's locally produced honey and jams. You can usually get fresh eggs at the market and, most recently, there's a new stall selling Asian cuisine. No need to go hungry!

Whatever fresh vegetables and fruit are brought along on the day are sold alongside plants on another stall. In fact, the market has several suppliers of plants, so no need to spend a fortune at the garden centre.



If you enjoy seed sowing, then home-collected seeds are often available for free.

Stuck for a card or a present? Two or three people produce beautiful home-made cards for every occasion. It's my 'go to' place for a birthday or anniversary card. And as for presents, there's a whole range of hand-crafted items from purses, to jewellery, to wooden items. You're bound to find something for everyone here.



If the saving in food miles and production costs isn't green enough for you, you can pick up a bargain from the second-hand clothing rail, the bric-a-brac table or the bookstall. You can recycle your soft plastics or get your scissors sharpened (on the first Friday of each month).

Finally, to pamper yourself, indulge in a natural beauty product from one of the stalls or a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit from the café.

Who?

The market is run by volunteers and is self-supporting. Some suppliers came along and enjoy the atmosphere of the market; others deliver their goods and come back later to take away any unsold items.

How do you get involved?

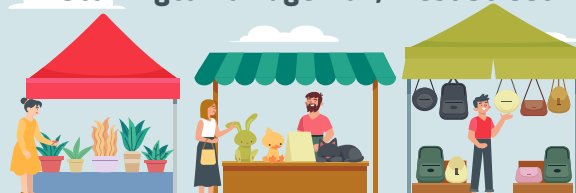
You can volunteer. The tasks are not onerous, and the camaraderie is great. You can be an occasional seller, leaving produce to be sold on the day; just bring it into the Village Hall on a Friday morning by 9.15am. Or, you may want your own stall; either way, contact Katie by phone or text on 07909 681884.

The Community Market is a real asset for the Village; let's keep it going for another 80+ years.

Christine Tuson, ctuson@lineone.net

STORRINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET

Storrington Village Hall, West Street



EVERY FRIDAY 9.30 – 11.30am

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE

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

PLUS

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

On 3 July we had a very successful Garden party, kindly hosted by Sally and Norman Boyland in their beautiful garden at Tanglin in West Chilton. It was a lovely summer's day and we all enjoyed sandwiches, cream teas and strawberries supplied and made by our members, raising £220.



On 7 August Jeannie Bell, our Branch leader, and myself hosted a quiet day at St Mary's Church, Storrington. We invited other members from around

the Chichester diocese and were delighted to welcome members from Selsey, West Wittering, Warburton and Midhurst. Starting off with coffee and biscuits, we had a



very enjoyable day of fellowship and quiet reflection on our theme of *Join us, Join in*, contemplating ways of encouraging new members into the MU fold. It was a pleasant way for our guests to explore our lovely Parish Church and churchyard.



After lunch we took a short stroll to Matts Woodland meadow before heading back to Church for tea and cake before saying our goodbyes.

Dates for your diary:

4 September at 12 noon

Corporate Communion followed by Ploughman's Lunch at West Chilton Church and Hall

2 October

Interesting Insects. A talk by Dr L Allen-Williams

6 November

Small Projects by Cilla Page

Branch meetings are at 2pm on the 1st Thursday of the month at West Chilton Church Hall unless otherwise stated. All welcome.

Sonia Fox

Organ Recital by John Bartlett

Saint Mary's Church, West Chilton

14 September at 3pm

John, a concert organist, will play a selection of romantic music from 19th and 20th century composers for about one hour. The recital is free, but with a retiring collection to help with the maintenance of the Makin organ, and includes refreshments after the concert.

Please attend if you can, and enjoy inspiring organ music and help us support the church organ.

TRINITY SUNSHINE CHOIR

Are you experiencing memory problems?

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

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



Future dates fixed for 2025 are:

24 September • 29 October • 26 November

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

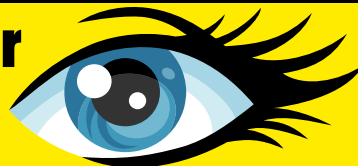
We meet at Trinity Methodist Church, Thakeham Road, Storrington, RH20 3NG.

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

Storrington Macular Society Support Group

23 September

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

Every Fourth Tuesday 1.30pm – 3pm

0300 3030 111

help@macularsociety.org
macularsociety.org

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease

Come and join our SPACE

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



We are taking a break in September and will re-start on 7 October.

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

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

For more information contact Barbara (741236).

LOVE STORRINGTON WEEK

St Mary's Church, Storrington took part in the Love Storrington week organised by the Storrington Community Life Church, a week of sharing God's love, loving God and loving our neighbour. There were lots of activities to get involved with including ecumenical prayer meetings, community litter picks and free tea and cake at The Hub. St Mary's helped out at the Fun on the Green event at the Leisure Centre; we had a stall and our Rector Jonathan led the opening worship, which included Vineyard church's *Our God is a Great Big God* song, which is sung every Friday at the popular Toddler Sessions held at the Leisure Centre. Stephen and Fr Jonathan were enthusiastic with the actions! The Cream Tea for FSW was well under way on the same afternoon and good weather was had by all!



We held a Bee Trail and Butterfly Watch Messy Church event the following day, which was a great success, with families participating in the trails and butterfly watch. They also made their mark on the huge butterfly that had been created by Tim Tuson, with feet, hands and brushes contributing to this colourful painted creature. A butterfly frame was created in the churchyard with fabric and people invited to add their fabric and face (selfie) to the frame and the trail and butterfly frame remained up for the remainder of the school holidays. Our churchwarden, Christine, initiated a free cake-away at the Storrington Community Market on the Friday morning and the Love Storrington



week culminated in a jolly Ceilidh Barn Dance at the Leisure Centre.

The prayer love hearts were installed on the chandelier in Church for the Love Storrington week. On Sunday 13 July we heard the Gospel account of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, where a Jewish lawyer asks Jesus what eternal life in the kingdom of God looks like, to which Jesus replies that it is to "love the

Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself."

During our intercession prayer on that Sunday, we wrote prayers for our neighbours and community in Storrington.



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

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



ON 1 SEPTEMBER THIS MONTH!



Storrington Library

Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
01903 839050

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

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

Trinity Methodist Church
Thakeham Road, Storrington
RH20 3NG



We're Looking for a Choir Leader

- **patient, and musically skilled for our monthly dementia-friendly choir**
- **someone who can create a warm, supportive environment where members feel valued, safe, and uplifted through the power of music**

We meet on the last Wednesday of each month 10:30 – 12:00

Pay is currently £60 per hour – we're open to a conversation about an appropriate monthly fee

Contact:

office@westsussexcoastanddownscircuit.co.uk
for role description and further details
Closing date **5th September 2025**



THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC

ST MARY'S CHURCH, SULLINGTON

FLOWER & CRAFT FESTIVAL

From Friday 4 July through Sunday 6 July, St Mary's Church, Sullington held our extremely popular biennial Flower and Craft Festival to support the upkeep of our beautiful Church. We welcomed old friends and new from near and far including those who travelled from Scotland and New Zealand!

Our Festival opened and the Church was ready and filled with flowers, the arrangements based on our theme *Thank You for the Music*. It all looked beautiful with such imaginative and colourful designs. We would like to thank the flower arrangers who were members and friends of our congregation, including our community friends: The Sullington Brownies, The Hive and Splash, all under the direction of Jean Hoadley our lead Flower Arranger.

Outside the Church there were activities for children provided by *Splash!* and a treasure hunt provided for our young visitors based on the amazing artwork provided by the children of Thakeham School. Thank you for joining in with enthusiasm.

The craft stalls, church stalls and refreshments were in the ancient 16th Century Sullington Great Barn. Here you could find wood-turners, sandals, cards, ceramics and more, along with the Pop-up Preloved clothes stall, garden plants and vintage china.

Our congregation worked so hard to make the festival happen. To all those who served refreshments, stood by our different church stalls, and those who stood in the wind and rain directing traffic and keeping us all safe, a huge thank you; we appreciated all the support kindly given to ensure it was a successful Flower Festival. Special thanks to Graham, Gail, and Anna Kittle of Sullington Manor Farm for their support and for the use of the beautiful Sullington Great Barn.



CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

DATE	FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY	STORRINGTON St Mary's	THAKEHAM St Mary's	SULLINGTON St Mary's
7 September	Trinity 12	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am) 6pm Evensong	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service	8.30am BCP Communion 3pm Evensong
14 September	Trinity 13	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 6pm Evensong	10.30am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
21 September	Trinity 14	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Battle of Britain Commem. Service with Prayers for Healing and Wholeness 12 noon Baptism Service 1.30pm Baptism Service	8.30am Celtic Communion	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Holy Communion
28 September	Trinity 15	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	10.30am Family Communion Service	10.30am Morning Prayer
5 October	Trinity 16	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Harvest Celebration 9.30am Messy Church (ends 11am) 6pm Harvest Evensong	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service	8.30am BCP Communion 3pm 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

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

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

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

www.ourladyofengland.parishportal.net

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

Office contact number: 882297

STORRINGTON CHAPEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH

North Street, RH20 4DH

Sunday Services at 10.30am, with Communion on third Sunday

Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm every Tuesday

Email: contacts@storringtonchapel.org.uk

www.storringtonchapel.org.uk

LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, STORRINGTON

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, Spierbridge Road

Family Worship – Sundays 10am

Enquiries to Katherine Edwards

Life Community Church Office, 7 The Square, Storrington

Office open: Monday – Wednesday.

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

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

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Thakeham Road

Sunday Service 10.30am

Minister: Revd Steven Donnison Tel: 245799

Email: trinitychurchstorrington@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/TrinityStorrington

Our building is now registered for same-sex marriage

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Fri 9.30am Storrington Community Market – Village Hall

STORRINGTON LIBRARY – Tel. 839050

Opening Hours

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

Knit and natter Adults Wednesdays 2pm-3pm

Toddler time Under 5s Thursdays 10am-10.30am

Rhyme time Under 5s Tuesdays 10.45am-11.15am

STORRINGTON POP-IN LUNCH CLUB

Storrington Village Hall

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

Enjoy a nourishing meal with dessert

ALL ARE WELCOME

Buy a ticket at The Hub in Storrington

Co-ordinator: Penny Barnes (01798 815129)

Come and meet old friends and make new ones

All for only £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

14 September at 1pm

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

Tickets £4.00 are available from

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington



WHAT'S ON

SEPTEMBER

Mon 1

- 11am Community Café – p29
- 2.30pm Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p15
- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p23

Tue 2

- 9.15am Inter-Church Prayers – Storrington Priory Library – p 9
- 9.30am Dog Behaviourist Advice – p22
- 1.15pm Arts Society West Sussex – Talk – p29
- 7.30pm Storrington Museum – Talk – p23

Wed 3

- 9.50am Arts Society South Downs Talk – p33

Thu 4

- 11.30am Storrington Pop-In Lunch Club – p18
- 12 noon MU Corporate Communion with Ploughman's Lunch – p14

Sat 6

- 10am Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party – p26

Sun 7 Trinity 12

- 9.30am Messy Church – p9
- 12 noon Baptism at St Mary's, Storrington: Charlotte Florence Morley (daughter of Hannah & Richard Morley)

Mon 8

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p23
- 7.30pm Thakeham Gardeners' Club – Meeting – p21

Tue 9

- 11am Hanover Community Café – p29

Wed 10

- 10am Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church
- 4pm Stay & Play – Leisure Centre – p25
- 7.30pm Rotary Film Night – *Complete Unknown* – p21

Sat 13

- Historic Churches Ride & Stride – p3

Sun 14 Trinity 13

- 1pm Sunday Lunch Club – p 18
- 3pm Organ Recital – p14

Mon 15

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p23
- 7pm Sandgate Choir Term Commences – p22

Tue 16

- 12noon Visiting bellringers from Kingston-upon-Thames at St Mary's, Storrington (ends 12.45pm)
- 2pm Knit and Stitch – p4
- 7pm West Chiltington Floral Club – Meeting – p21

Wed 17

- 4pm Stay & Play – Leisure Centre – p25
- 7.30pm Alpha Course Starts – p30

Thu 18

- 10.30am Cuppa and a Chat – p30

Fri 19

- 7.30pm Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p23

Sun 21 Trinity 14

- 10am Battle of Britain Commemoration Service at St Mary's, Storrington
- 12 noon Baptism at St Mary's Storrington – Lachlan Arthur Teare (son of Rachel & Stuart Teare)
- 1.30pm Baptism at St Mary's, Storrington

Mon 22

- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p23

Tue 23

- 2pm Storrington Macular Group – p14

Wed 24

- 10am Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p9
- 10.30am Trinity Sunshine Choir – p14
- 2.30pm Storrington Flower Club – Meeting – p3
- 4pm Stay & Play – Leisure Centre – p25
- 7.15pm Play Reading for Fun – WC Dramatic Society – p24

Fri 26

- 10am MacMillan Coffee Morning – p4

Sat 26

- 11am Pop-up Pre-loved Clothes Sales – p5

Sun 28 Trinity 15

- 11am Pop-up Pre-loved Clothes Sales – p5

Mon 29

- 11am Community Café – p29
- 7pm Storrington Slimmers – p23

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

SEPTEMBER

- 1** *Giles, c710* – Hermit – founded Abbey of St Giles, France, a popular pilgrimage site. Also patron saint of Edinburgh
- 2** *The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942*
- 3** **Gregory the Great, 604** – Pope Gregory I – patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers
- 4** *Birinus, 650* – Venerated as a saint, first Bishop of Dorchester
- 6** *Allen Gardiner, 1851* – British Royal Navy officer and missionary to Patagonia
- 8** *The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
The Accession of King Charles III
- 9** *Charles Fuge Lowder, 1880* – Founder of Society of the Holy Cross
- 13** **John Chrysostom, 407**– Archbishop of Constantinople
- 14** **HOLY CROSS DAY**
- 15** **Cyprian, 258** – Bishop of Carthage, early Christian writer
- 16** **Ninian, c432** – Christian saint, 8th century missionary for the Pictish peoples (now Scotland)
Edward Bouverie Pusey, 1882 – One of the leaders of the Oxford Movement
- 17** **Hildegard, 1179** – Founded monasteries of Rupertsberg in 1150 and Eibingen in 1165
- 19** *Theodore of Tarsus, 690* – Eighth Archbishop of Canterbury, reformed the English Church and established a school in Canterbury
- 20** **John Coleridge Patteson, 1871** – Anglican bishop and martyr
- 21** **MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST**
- 25** **Lancelot Andrewes, 1626** – Bishop of Chichester, Ely and Winchester and oversaw the translation of the Authorized Version (King James Version) of the Bible
- 26** *Wilson Carlile, 1942* – English evangelist, founded the Church Army; Prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral
- 27** **Vincent de Paul, 1660** – Renowned for his compassion, humility, and generosity – known as the 'Great Apostle of Charity'
- 29** **MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS**
- 30** *Jerome, 420* – Known for his translation of the Bible into Latin (the Vulgate)

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 39

Why were Mr Palmer and his mother so against the match? It may be appropriate here to say something about G.C.G's heritage. He was the son of George Gibson, Deputy Lieutenant of Sussex

In 1825, George John Gibson purchased Sandgate Cottage. The family was armigerous, tracing their ancestry back to Oliver Cromwell. By 1830 G.J.G. had enlarged the cottage, which at the time of his purchase had already had the additions of "domestic edifices, coach house, stabling, pleasure gardens and kitchen garden". It had become, with the addition of more land, an estate which continued to grow with G.J.G's purchase of surrounding land as it became available. Sandgate had already cost £5,431.13.6d by 1839, when he acquired enclosure allotments from the Duke of Norfolk's trustees, of Heath Common, Warminghurst Common, the Longbury Hill area. The 1840 Tithe Map shows that he then owned 740a 3r 7p and the estate was still growing in Washington, Hampers Barn and yard and a plantation. In the following years he had spent a further £20,722 for land at Thakeham, Danehill Farm, Snapes Farm, Combeland Farm, with their connected expenses.

George John Gibson died in 1860, followed within two months by his son and heir, George Carew Gibson. The next heir to this great estate was still a minor, George Carew Carew-Gibson, born in 1842. There were two younger sisters, Catherine b.1845, and Bertha b.1846, and an elder sister, Sidney Elizabeth b.1842. The baby of the family was Frederick b.1848. The Rev. Henry Palmer's often-mentioned friend, G.C.G, attained his majority and assumed control of his inheritance in 1864, as a very wealthy eligible young bachelor. He already knew the lady he wanted to marry and lost no time in courting the Rector's elder sister in earnest, Emmie b.1834, regardless of the fact that she was 9 years older than himself, and had one broken engagement behind her. There is some thought that he may have tried to attract her interest before in his youth, as an undated poem of some 10 verses, found among a collection of Gibson correspondence, describes. It was in his hand, had been folded small and endorsed on the outside, "Dedicated to Miss Emily Palmer", entitled, "A tale of Misery founded on fact."

*"Pity the sorrows of a young old man
Whose breaking heart twice brought him to your door
Whose sighs are lengthened to their longest span
Oh give relief – one smile – he asks no more*

*Hard is the fate of the despised [here are 2 ink blots, swallow [?]]
Where first entranced I stood without the door
No pampered menial, but alas disdains
Drove me from joys in prospect I foresaw*

*Should I reveal the sources of my grief
If soft humanity e'er touched your breast
Your heart would not withhold the kind relief
And tears of pity could not be repressed*

*In former days my quoits were dear to me
My country knows how widely spread my fame
From cricket bat the balls flew merrily
And valleys far resounded with my name*

*But now misfortune sad now I repine
A blighted being in the state you see
The light of beauty on my path did shine
And I became a child of misery*

*A tender girl I saw I dearly loved
She seemed the fairest I had ever seen
To tell my love my heart was deeply moved
One day I sought her in the shady air*

*The thrilling song within the room I heard
In Ecstasies I listened near the door
A smothered laugh and then a whispered word
Next reached my Ears; she said "I hear the Bore"*

*Madly I rushed into the verdant field
My quoits once loved I threw in wild despair
My skill was gone – my fate in life was sealed
Alone, unloved, its many ills to bear*

*But once again I ventured to that spot
The door where first I stood with listening Ear
Her voice I heard and sadder still my lot
A man replied, who proudly called her "dear"*

*O pity the sorrows of a young old man
Whose beating heart twice brought him to your door
Whose sighs are lengthened to their longest span
Oh give relief – one smile. I ask no more.*

We do not know whether Emmie ever read the poem, but she seems to have been aware of the boy's attentions and did not respond kindly. Her adventures in Gibraltar described in her letters and on the voyage home suggest a flirtatious attitude. What changed her mind about her young admirer? We cannot but reflect that he had now unexpectedly become a very wealthy owner of a great estate.

Before all this disturbance to the Rector's domestic harmony, he had been engaged with the national upheaval caused by the illness and death of Lord Palmerston, the Prime Minister. The past two decades had been a period of mainly quiet Whig government, dominated by the popular figure of 'Old Pam' who was a sportsman, whose view was that a British subject was *civis Romanus* with the British fleet at his back. He gave voice to the popular feeling of Britain taking a stand against foreign despots – Austria, Russia, Naples and Rome, and at home regarded himself as responsible to public opinion, rejecting the influence of the Court, the Queen and Prince Consort and sometimes even his colleagues, which appealed to the middle classes, even though he was opposed to the extension of the franchise. With his great popularity in the country and the House, there was little domestic turmoil. His time was one of peace and prosperity when nothing seemed to matter very much except for the hiatus of the Crimean War, of which he oversaw carefully selected news, although William Russell was the first war correspondent whose reports enraged the generals, accusing him of giving away military secrets to the enemy. The real hero emerging from the conflict was Florence Nightingale, who exposed the incompetence of the high command and staff work typified by the loss of life and starvation of the troops through the efficiencies of the commissariat and lack of medical supplies, although the British fleet was in Balaclava Harbour, a mere six miles away, but supplies were not being sent up to the front. Army Reform, however, would be deferred for another dozen years after Pam's death. He retained the old Regency attitudes and was against the wholesale abandonment of government patronage and jobbery to a Board of Examiners.

Lord Palmerston's period was one of calm, everything was safe and prosperous – that came to an end with his death. Mr Palmer's diary records on October 28, "The papers were full of accounts of Pam's funeral. The pretentious descriptions being plentifully interspersed with reflections sentimental and moral and even my hairdresser described the rain which fell just as the coffin was being lowered into the grave as 'the elements dropping a tear over his grave'".

That seems to be all Mr Palmer thought worth recording of the Prime Minister's passing and the end of an era. The entry was immediately followed by "Emmie and D.G. [pupil] dined at Sandgate today, the latter after shooting at Cobden where 7 brace of birds fell before him." It was not the only artillery reported by the Rector. "Were startled by what appeared to be very heavy firing today between 1.30-2.15. Wind S.E. and apart from the distinct discharge at intervals of 5 and 10 mins, much cannonading was heard towards Portsmouth: it was quite enough to shake one window and the house generally when we were at dinner." If he found out what it was all about, he does not say.

Joan Ham (Village Historian)

Rotary 

FILM NIGHT

At Sullington Parish Hall
Wednesday 10th September 2025



A COMPLETE UNKNOWN

Timothée Chalet, Edward Norton & Elle Fanning

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

Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District

The Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District, are pleased to announce that the New Season of the popular Film Nights will recommence on 10 September

The first film, on Wednesday 10 September will be *A Complete Unknown*, starring Timothy Chalet, and Edward Norton.

In 1961, an unknown 19-year-old Bob Dylan arrives in New York City with his guitar, and forges relationships with musical icons on his meteoric rise, culminating in a groundbreaking performance that reverberates around the world.

The next film on Wed 8 October will be *Bridget Jones - Mad About the Boy*, starring Renee Zellweger.



WEST CHILTINGTON
FLORAL CLUB (AFFILIATED TO NAFAS)

Tuesday 16 September 7pm for 7.30pm start
 We welcome Brenda Bull with her demonstration
Ancient Routes

Visitors are most welcome: £7 on the door
 Sales Table, Refreshments and Raffle
 The meeting will be held at West Chiltington Village Hall

For more information, please contact:
 Brenda on 01798 813712 or Carol on 01798 813608
 Email: wchiltfloralclub@gmail.com




PETWORTH HERITAGE OPEN DAYS
20 and 21 September

Heritage Open Days are here! England's largest festival of history, heritage and culture kicks off on the weekend of 20 & 21 September with over 5,000 museums, factories, manor houses, breweries, gardens and everything in between opening their doors and sharing their stories... all for FREE.

In Petworth, this will mean Petworth House, with their extraordinary art collection, will be opening their doors free of charge, together with Coultershaw Heritage Site where the historic machinery will be in action, alongside fun craft activities.

Burton Mill will also be open, where they will be milling both days, 11 am to 4 pm.


The Petworth Cottage Museum in the High Street will open free of charge from 11 to 4.30 on both days.




Also free are the hourly Petworth Town Walks where you can join a walking tour of the town to discover more about the local heritage.

Tickets for the Walks will be allocated on that day on a first come, first served basis and can be collected from Church Lodge visitor entrance to Petworth House. First Walk will be at 11 am outside St Mary's Church and each one will last for an hour.

Further details about the Walks or other events from Geraldgreshamcooke@gmail.com



THAKEHAM
GARDENERS' CLUB



Andrew Gaunt spoke to the Club in July on the role and work of Department for Environmental Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) plant quarantine service. Andrew said that many nasties have been brought into the UK on plants entering from abroad. Sudden Oak Death came in on Rhododendron, Azalea and Viburnum plants and was first discovered in Horsham. The department's policy is to talk with the EU on the movement of plants through countries and he stressed they were not allowed to inhibit trade; they could quarantine plants but not deny access. DEFRA has several sections, and the one Andrew was part of dealt with animal and plant health, operating at airports and docks. FERA dealt with identification and advice, NIAB with seeds, and the Forestry Commission with trees. Plant Health was initiated by Queen Victoria in 1877 to prevent Colorado Beetle reaching Great Britain. Several known pests were mentioned, such as Asian Longhorned Beetle and Yellow-legged Hornets which could cause drastic damage if allowed to enter our country. Over 1400 pests and diseases have been kept at bay by the department.

Andrew was an excellent speaker and made his talk extremely interesting and answered questions as the evening progressed.

The Club's Annual Show also took place in July with trophies being presented to the class winners.

The next meeting is on **8 September** when Steve Webster will talk on Deceivers, Death Caps & Fairy Rings and the Club competition will be *A Dahlia*.

Our next plant sale will take place on **Saturday 11 October**.

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 812748B

Sandra Jenkins

ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HUB

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

TUESDAY

In Stitches – 1.30pm to 3pm

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



THURSDAY

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

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



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

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



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

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



SATURDAY

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

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



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS ON FRIDAYS

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Sparks Toddler Group – 10am – 11.30am



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

Fireworks Kids Club – 6pm – 7.15pm



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

Wildfires Youth Group – 7.30pm – 9pm



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

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

THE SANDGATE CHOIR

Join us in September!

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Midsummer Gala on 6 July at Thakeham Village Hall. Wonderful music and a delicious afternoon tea were enjoyed by all.

Our Autumn term rehearsals start on Monday 15 September. Enrolment is at 7pm followed by a 7.30pm rehearsal at Sullington Parish Hall.

We will begin the term rehearsing John Rutter's much-loved *Requiem* which will be part of next year's Spring concert, before preparing repertoire for our popular Christmas Carol Concert on Sunday 14 December.

New members are always welcome to join our friendly choir. No audition required ... just a love of singing. Please call John Fisher on 01903 741256 or visit our website.

www.thesandgatechoir.com

Community Safety Session:

Dog Behaviourist Advice

Tuesday 2nd September
9:30am - 11:30am

On the Grass area in Sullington Warren

The Neighbourhood Wardens and Bone Canis will be helping dog owners with keeping their dogs under control when on and off the lead, through providing guidance on training techniques and by raising awareness on community safety issues.

Bone Canis
Canine Training & Behaviour Services
Dog-Training | Canine Behaviour | Dog-Walking | And More |



STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Carnivorous Plants

At the July meeting we enjoyed a talk by Don Fitzgerald, on carnivorous plants.

Little is known about the origins of these plants, as their structure does not lend itself to fossilisation, though some seeds have been found in fossilised form. For a plant to qualify as a carnivore, it must attract, attack, and digest its prey. There are some plants which fulfil some but not all these criteria known as proto-carnivores.

True carnivores include pitcher traps, where the insect slides down into pool of digestive fluid in the bottom; flypaper traps, which use sticky mucilage to hold an insect down while the plant exudes digestive fluid over them; and snap traps, such as the well-known Venus Flytrap, which use a hair trigger system to set off the trap. Bladder traps operate by producing vacuums in small bladders so that passing insects are sucked inside when they trigger the bladder to open. Lastly there are lobster pot traps, which are easy to enter, but more difficult to leave, forcing the prey ever closer to the digestive chamber.

Don shared tips on care for these plants, most importantly, never use tap water, only rainwater or distilled water as they will die from the accretion of mineral salts found in tap water. Secondly, don't use garden compost or potting compost as they like nutrient-poor soil. Seeds and starter plants can be planted in three-parts sphagnum moss and one-part agricultural sand. They should never dry out, but kept free-draining and damp, and they are hardy with almost all tolerating an English winter outdoors.

After the talk, attendees had the opportunity to buy some of these fascinating plants. The evening finished with light refreshments and a raffle.

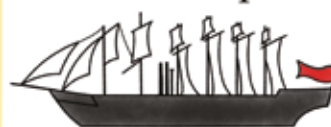
Next month's meeting is on **19 September** when Dr Tony Booker will talk about *Turmeric Plant Hunting in India*.

Jo Myland

Monthly
Talk

THE BRUNEL FAMILY by Bill McNaught

Tuesday 2nd September
7.30pm



The Old School,
School Lane,
Storrington,
RH20 4LL

Members £6
Non-members £8
All Welcome!



STORRINGTON
& DISTRICT
MUSEUM

JustGiving



Father, son and grandson: three generations of one of England's finest engineering families and their achievements.

The father, Marc Brunel, who provided the boots for Wellington's Army, the ship's blocks for Nelson's Navy, and who built the first tunnel under the Thames.

The son, Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who built the Great Western Railway, and the three largest ships in the world at the time, *The Great Western*, *The Great Britain* and *The Great Eastern*.

The grandson, Henry Brunel, another great engineer, but less well-known today, who helped design Tower Bridge and other structures, as well as another ship.

Bill McNaught started work as a Westland helicopter engineering apprentice spending 25 years with the company before moving to manage a number of other aviation/defence companies. Once retired, he started giving talks as a hobby. His talks are a result of extensive research; he includes as many pictures and film as possible. He particularly likes 'fascinating historical characters'.

STORRINGTON SLIMMERS

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

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



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

DAILY LIFE IN POMPEII AND HERCULANEUM

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY



Details of city life, home and private life The Roman love of food and wine

Two morning lectures,
refreshments and lunch

Members of The Arts Society
South Downs £35,
Non-members £40.

Bookings must be made in
advance as tickets cannot be
purchased on the day.

We regret no refunds can be
made.

Fittleworth Village Hall, School
Lane, Fittleworth RH20 1JB

Speaker
Dr Paul Roberts

Wednesday 29 October
10am to 2pm

Further information:
www.theartsocietysouthdowns.org.uk
nicky.donker@gmail.com
Tel 01798 815824



THE ARTS
SOCIETY
SOUTH DOWNS

Images: Naples Museum (MANN) 8630 Pompeii, AD 50-79.
Copyright MANN Naples Museum (MANN) 120031 Pompeii AD 50-79. Copyright MANN

Well, we are having a lovely summer! We enjoyed a Members' Evening at the end of July, when we presented a Murder Mystery to over 40 members and their guests. The play was *Murder in an Indecent Manor* by Chris Martin from Murderplays, and led to lots of head-scratching as the audience attempted to work out whodunnit, with limited success! We also provided a Ploughman's Supper. The feedback on the evening was very positive, so watch out for our next murder Mystery.



Cast from left to right: Holly Fulbrook, Denise Robinson, Amanda Hislop, Jill Scott-Kerr and Ben Vallyley

At the beginning of August, a working party of members undertook the annual task of sorting and cleaning our storage hut. This turned out to be a very productive day and, as ever, we also managed to have some fun!



Taking a break at Hut Day

Upcoming Events:

Play Reading for Fun

The Patient by Agatha Christie

Wednesday 24 September at 7.15pm for a prompt 7.30pm start in the conservatory of The Five Bells, West Chilmington.

This is an opportunity to take part in reading this one-act play or to just sit back and listen. Non-members are welcome, but booking is essential via Angela at chairman@wcds.co.uk. There is no admission fee, but we would ask that you purchase a drink or two from the bar, as the publican lets us use the conservatory free of charge.

November Production

Nobody's Perfect by Simon Williams

20, 21 and 22 November at 7.30pm at West Chilmington Village Hall

This hilarious comedy will be directed by Susan Goble. The play has been cast, but we are still looking for help Front of House to meet and greet, usher, sell programmes, serve tea and coffee at the interval, or run the raffle. As part of the FOH Team, you can also watch the show for free! If you are interested in helping, please contact Angela at chairman@wcds.co.uk.

More information about our friendly Society, including our archive of photos and on how to join, can be found at www.wcgs.co.uk.

Angela Sloan, Chair WCDS

AN INSPIRATIONAL STORY

Young Local Entrepreneur Builds Pottery Studio After Heart Attack at 22

If you'd told me two years ago I'd be running a pottery painting studio, surrounded by clay, paint, and tiny handprints, I think I would've laughed... and then needed a nap.

At 21, I was living with several chronic illnesses when I had a heart attack in June 2024. Everything changed overnight. I had to relearn how to walk and talk properly. The basics became huge milestones. It was frustrating, exhausting, and honestly really emotional. But it gave me a completely new perspective on life.



I started painting pottery during recovery. At first, it was just something calming to do. Something quiet and creative that let me focus on the moment. It became a kind of therapy, a way to feel like myself again. Slowly, what began as a personal outlet turned into something bigger.

Like pottery, I was being rebuilt piece by piece. It wasn't always neat or tidy, but it was mine. And out of that process, Pot Luck Creations was born.

It started with pottery painting. Then we added handmade ceramic keepsakes, clay imprints, fingerprint and paw print jewellery, and custom pottery with handwriting or children's drawings. Every piece tells a story, whether it's a baby's first handprint, a beloved pet's paw, or a special message from someone you love.

One of my favourite things to do in my spare time is throw and make my own ceramics. You can find lots of these special pieces around the studio, perfect for unique gifts. I have to admit I make a huge mess when I am working with clay but it is all part of the fun. Right now visitors paint on ready-made bisqueware but soon we are hoping to offer handmade pieces for you to paint yourself. We are also planning something really fun and unique called miniature wheel throwing sessions where you can try your hand at pottery in a whole new way.

But more than anything, the studio has become a space where people come to slow down. I've met parents making keepsakes with their little ones, grandparents painting with their grandkids, and friends just enjoying a quiet afternoon with a paintbrush in hand. It's a joyful little place, filled with colour and conversation.

Running a business while managing my health hasn't been easy. There are still tough days. But this studio has brought so much joy into my life. It's given me purpose, and it's helped me connect with people in ways I never expected.



We've got more workshops and creative events coming soon, and I can't wait to see where it goes next. But I'll always be proud of how far it's come and how much heart this little space holds. So if you ever want to try something creative, make a meaningful keepsake, or just spend some time in a calm and welcoming space, you are always welcome here at Cobblestone Walk, Steyning. It's a place to be yourself and enjoy the moment.

Holly Cheesman

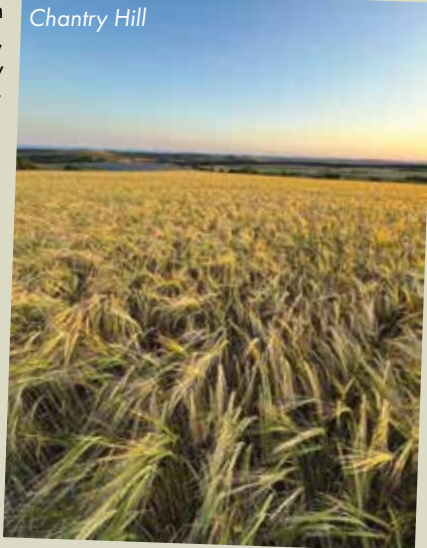
hollie.potluck@gmail.com, phone 0751 383 3050, <https://pot-luck.co.uk>

WEATHER WATCH

The 16th Century poet Edmund Spenser wrote, "Now comes July, boiling like to fire" and this was very apt this year for on the 1st Storrington reached 30°C and was the warmest day of the month. In Kent it reached just short of 35°C. Overall, July this year could best be described as warm, sunny and on the dry side. On the 2nd I enjoyed an evening visit to the summit of Chantry Hill in near perfect weather. A path took me through a field of barley. It thrives in sunshine and dry conditions, though too much heat can be detrimental.

Rainfall during the month was very variable in amount, even across our relatively small area, as it fell mostly as showers. A good example was on Sunday 6th. My wife and I went to see and enjoy the flower display at St Mary's Church, Sullington, and then on to the display of local crafts put on view in the adjacent old tithe barn. It was early afternoon and with a somewhat unsettled sky we took the car rather than walk. Some large convective clouds were developing. By mid-afternoon some rumbles of thunder were heard, and they became more frequent.

Chantry Hill



This sent me outside from the craft hall along with several other visitors to view the active storm in the direction of Amberley. Slowly it moved towards us and a torrential burst of rain sent everyone scurrying inside. A brief lull in the deluge meant a soggy walk to our car in a nearby field that was used as a car park. We did not want to be marooned by any floodwater or mud. Arriving home in the Heath Common area my rain gauge showed less than 2mm of rain had fallen and virtually none was seen at Thakeham and Ashington whilst I had reports of flooding at Amberley Museum.

On the 21st further storms developed to the north of us towards the A272 and beyond bringing heavy rain and frequent lightning and thunder whilst Storrington remained dry. On the 31st again there were active storms but overall my monthly rainfall total of 50mm amounted to only 90% of the average. This made it the fifth month in a row this year with less rainfall than par. In the very north of Sussex some places measured 125mm during July.

Only two days were cooler than 21°C (70°F) only by a fraction and 15 were warmer than 24°C (75°F). It was sustained rather than record breaking heat that made it equal with 2022 as the warmest July since



Storm clouds from Sullington Manor Farm

2018. Nationally it was the 5th warmest in a timescale going back over 150 years. With 15 dry days, generous amounts of sunshine, light winds and good visibility, it was often a pleasant month to get out and about. I had a nice excursion on the 28th organised by the Nature Group of the Arun Valley U3A to Woods Mill reserve at Small Dole. It is not far from Bramber and is run by the Sussex Wildlife Trust. Butterflies abounded but up above the sky was particularly interesting with examples of 'flying saucer' clouds and colourful coronas.



Alto cumulus Lenticularis (flying saucer) clouds

Will August be the sixth consecutive drier than average month? See next month's article.

Ian Currie

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



Free Weekly Sessions
10th Sept - 22nd Oct

STAY AND PLAY FOR CHILDREN WITH SEN OR AUTISM



Wednesdays
4pm - 5.30pm
Term time only

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

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

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

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








Privileged to Play at Lord's

On Sunday 27 July, our Sussex Pathway juniors, Massimo Phillips and Thomas Clarke, played in two T20 matches at Lord's in a Sussex Cricket Board U13 side against a Lord's Youth U13 side. Thomas batted in the first match that Sussex won by 8 wickets and Massimo batted in the second match that the Lord's Youth side won by 5 wickets. The Sussex players were also given a tour of the grounds.

The following day, Will Morgan, playing in our U12 side, scored an unbeaten century in a match against West Wittering. Alfie Lane and Archie Sadler each took 3 wickets in the West Wittering innings.

Sussex Junior League cricket finished in July to make way for Junior Festival competitions in August. Our U13 boys finished joint top with Findon in the West Area League after winning seven of their eight matches whilst the mixed boys and girls U13 side finished third in the North Area League. Our U13 girls finished second in the West Area League despite being undefeated in their matches. Tillie Tomlinson top scored in two of the matches whilst Alice Cunningham, Lea Diana and Christie Kelly were the most successful bowlers.

Our 1st XI had victories over Worthing and Horsham but lost to Ifield. In the Worthing match, skipper Tim Laker took four wickets for just eight runs, whilst in the Horsham match Ben Murray and Douglas Sopp scored 75 and 66 runs respectively, with Tim just missing out on a half century.

Our 2nd XI overwhelmed Billingshurst but lost to Steyning and Slinfold. Frankie Brown took five Billingshurst wickets for a meagre 11 runs supported by Massimo Phillips taking three wickets in the ten wicket victory. Graham Humphries scored 65 in the Steyning match.

The Sunday XI won their only match against Barns Green when Massimo and Thomas Wroe both scored 38 runs and Justin Hayles took three wickets.

The mid-week T20 Slam side lost to Eastergate and Watersfield, Tom Fisher having to retire on 31 in the latter match.

Off the field, we achieved the Crowdfunding target of £15k to secure a matching sum from Sport England as part of our fund raising for the pavilion redevelopment project.

Chris Winter

JUNKTIQUE COLLECTABLES & CLUTTER SALE

West Chiltington Village Hall (Mill Road, RH20 2PZ)

Saturday 4 October

10.15am to 12.30pm

(No Public Entry BEFORE 10.15am)

Cakes/Produce/Plant Stall
(Refreshments Available)

SELLERS 9.15am

TABLES £12.00

Must book in advance
before 2 October

Tel: 01798 813608, or 07803 658377, or 01798 813712

Adults
£1

Children under
12 FREE

STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

It has been said that weeds are only flowers in the wrong place. A reminder that many plants we uproot as weeds in our gardens are beautiful wildflowers valued by pollinating insects. But some plants are certainly in the wrong place, especially plants introduced from abroad, such as Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens Glandulifera*) which thrives and crowds out native species. Too late it became clear how easily spread and harmful it is, though



now it is illegal to plant or propagate it. Other invasive species now banned are well known, such as Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria Japonica*) and Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum Mantegazzianum*). Also banned are New Zealand Pigmyweed (*Crassula Helmsii*) and Skunk Cabbage (*Lysichiton Americanus*). A patch of the latter was discovered and eradicated by Mick and Sue Denness when bashing balsam. It may be surprising to learn that Rhododendrons (family *Ericaceae*) are also rightly classified as invasive. Unless controlled, they can spread by layering. They are an example of a species, native to the Himalayas, introduced for their beauty but unaware of the consequences.

Giant Hogweed comes from the Caucasus region and was brought to the UK as an ornamental plant. Its sap is toxic to us and causes blisters.

Skunk Cabbage, so named because of its smell. It was introduced from North America in 1901, again as an ornamental plant. Inevitably it spread to marshy areas across the UK, and is toxic if eaten.

New Zealand Pigmyweed is an aquatic plant which thrives in pool margins, grows rapidly forming dense carpets but does not die back in winter so needs to be controlled.

Japanese Knotweed is native to East Asia, crowding out other species, and is tolerant of a wide range of temperatures and drought. It has deep penetrating roots which makes eradication difficult.

These invasive plants, which have no natural enemies in this country, need our intervention if native species are to survive. Join the Conservation Society and have fun bashing the beasts!

Over several sessions throughout July and August we continued uprooting Himalayan Balsam in Hurston Warren, Monkmead Woods and Cootham Woods. Our work party met on 9 August at Dyke Farm meadow hay raking and weeding the hedge trees planted last year, providing vital habitats and corridors for small mammals and birds.

Our next work party is on **6 September at 10am** on Chantry Hill to clear more damaging scrub to preserve the chalk grassland. We meet at Greyfriars Stable, sharing transport where possible.

Gardening clothes and gloves are suggested, other equipment is provided. As ever, more hands make light work, so come and join us.

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

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN UPDATE

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

Related to this, we wanted to promote a volunteer scheme that is running in the district, as some residents may wish to sign up.

Adopt a Street volunteer scheme

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

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

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

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

September dates for your diary:

Community Café:

Monday 1 & Mon 29 at Storrington Library. 11am – 12.30pm

Dog Behaviourist Event

Tuesday 2 at Sullington Warren on the green area. 9.30am – 11.30am

Hanover Community Café

Tuesday 9 at Hanover Walk Community Hall. 11am – 12.30pm

Stay and Play

Wednesday 10, 17 & 24 at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre. 4pm – 5.30pm

Cuppa and a Chat

Thursday 18 at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre. 10.30am – 12.30pm

Chris Poore: 07795 046743, John Sampson: 07789 943201
storrington-sullington.warden@horsham.gov.uk



THE ARTS
SOCIETY
WEST SUSSEX

Tuesday 2 September

A talk by Sarah Leyton

Everything you need to know about the Royal Ballet in 60 minutes

Ballet must be the most accessible art form there is, but it has its baffling side. Another line up of women in white? Does he really fall in love with a swan? Set in the context of the Royal Ballet's history and performing tradition, the lecture covers all the striking features of ballet, from pas de deux, to specialities like fast feet and traditional mime.



Tuesday 7 October

A talk by David Worthington

Rodin and 19th Century Sculpture

Rodin was one of the heroic figures of the 19th century and was internationally known in his lifetime. This talk will survey his work showing why he is one of the greatest sculptors ever.



Talks held at 2pm in Fittleworth Village Hall RH20 1JB

Doors open 1.15. Coffee & tea afterwards

Non-members welcome – £8

Contact Jackie Buckler on 01903411086
or email westsussex@theartsociety.org
www.theartsocietywestsussex.org



STORRINGTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Here at SDS we hope you all have had an enjoyable, sunburn-free holiday. We have not been idle, but busy reading through a variety of panto scripts, trying to select a suitable one for our Christmas panto in December. It may seem a long way off, but time flies and in order to keep our excellent reputation, built over many years, we need that time to maintain our high standards and present you with another high quality performance.

We have decided the panto will be *Wind in the Willows* by Limelight Scripts. Many of you, if not all, will know the story and we hope you will now be looking forward to watching it on stage. Auditions have already started but don't despair if you fear you may have missed out! Come along to Sullington Parish Hall any Tuesday or Thursday at 7.30pm and we will give you the opportunity to show us your talents! You don't have to be an actor as many other talents are needed in order to present a production: woodwork, needlework, stagehand, designer, decorator, to name but a few. If you feel you can help us produce the best live show we have ever done, come and join us! You will be most welcome.

We are aware that some younger aspirants will want to leave before rehearsals finish at 10pm as youngsters need their sleep on pre-school days, so individual pick-up times can be arranged.

Performances dates are 3, 4, 5 and 6 December. We may also put on a run through rehearsal for interested parents and friends, so watch this space!



Storrington Community Café

Monday 4 September
Monday 29 September

From 11.00am to 12:30pm

Storrington Library, North Street Car Park,
Storrington, RH20 4NZ



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

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





GOT QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE

IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

Try the free Alpha course at The Village Hub in Storrington

Come and join us this September to explore the big questions of life, faith and meaning, when Life Community Church Storrington is running another Alpha course.

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

Alpha is a free course running every Wednesday* from 17 September to 3 December, no commitment is required. The introduction and first session will take place at 7.30pm on 17 September at the Village Hub, 7 The Square, Storrington, RH20 4DJ.

For more information and to book please email alpha@lccstor.org, telephone 01903 743547, or visit the Village Hub.

*Other times or days may be available

Cuppa and a chat

Every 3rd Thursday of the month
10.30am - 12.30pm

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

Come and join us for a free hot drink and a chat. It will be lovely to see you.

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

18 September

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	3RD & 5TH	STORR & W/CHILT	DIAL POST / OLD BARN NURSERY	£4	11AM
	4TH	STORR & W/CHILT	VARIOUS / MACULAR GROUP (Chanctonbury Leisure Centre)	£3	12.45PM
WED	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	PULBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB (Pulborough Village Hall)	£4	10.30AM
	3RD	STORR & W/CHILT	RUSTINGTON (Lunch & Shop)	£6	11AM
THUR	EVERY	WEST CHILTINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM
	1ST	STORR & W/CHILT	STORRINGTON POP IN LUNCH	£3	10.45AM
	EVERY	STORRINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	1PM
FRI	EVERY	STORRINGTON	STORRINGTON / WAITROSE	£3	9AM
	EVERY	STORR & W/CHILT	PULBOROUGH / TESCO, SAINSBURY'S	£4	1PM
SCENIC DRIVES					
TUES	7TH OCTOBER	STORR & W/CHILT	HENTY ARMS / FERRING (PUB LUNCH)	£10	11AM
TUES	4TH NOVEMBER	STORR & W/CHILT	NEWBRIDGE GARDEN CENTRE (CHRISTMAS DEC's & LUNCH)	£10	11AM
TUES	2ND DECEMBER	STORR & W/CHILT	ARUN VIEW / LITTLEHAMPTON (CHRISTMAS LUNCH)	£10	11AM

* Annual Membership, £10. Lunch / refreshment costs are in addition to trip fares.



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WOODS ON PRESCRIPTION

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The Lost Woods of the Low Weald and Downs project is offering a free wellbeing course for adults who would like to find out how nature can improve their mental health. The six weekly sessions will be held on Thursdays, 11am to 2pm, from 4 September at Hareswith Pond near Storrington.

Karen Laver, Lost Woods team leader for project partner Action in Rural Sussex, explains more:

At times, many of us can experience feeling lonely, isolated or down. Life can throw us challenges or long-term difficulties, whereas at other times, a low mood gradually develops unexpectedly. I've definitely had times like these. If this is you at the moment, and you're finding it hard to know how to feel more like yourself again, then you might be interested to hear that spending time in nature has been shown to reduce our stress and boost our mood.

From September, we'll be running our Woods on Prescription course at a beautiful ancient woodland near Storrington. The course of six weekly sessions is open for adults who live locally and wish to boost their sense of wellbeing.



The Lost Woods of the Low Weald and Downs project is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund. Thanks to National Lottery players, the project is bringing local people together to learn about, explore and care for woods across the Low Weald and Downs. Together, we can reconnect with our ancient woodlands and revive, restore, and protect them for future generations.



We'll be meeting at Hareswith Pond and running activities that will help connect you with nature as well as meet new people in your community. We base our sessions on the NHS's Five Ways to Wellbeing approach, so that by the time the course ends, you'll have some practical tools for the

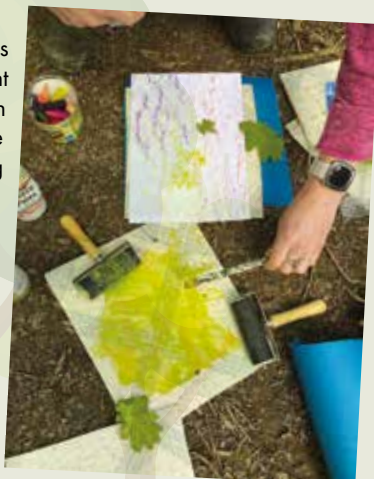
future. The sessions are different each week. We might be trying our hand at a woodland craft, going on a nature walk, or doing some light conservation tasks. The group always ends the session with tea and cake, and shared thoughts and experiences, along with a nature-based task for the coming week.

We've already run these courses in Haywards Heath, Henfield, Burgess Hill, and Steyning, and we've had amazing feedback. Previous participants have said:

"I've had the most beautiful time. It's something I wouldn't have thought I'd come along to, but it's been enjoyable, informative and I've learned a lot. I've loved meeting different people."

"It's got me out of the house and got me more interested in life again following an illness."

To find out more and arrange a no-obligation chat, or to register your interest in joining the course, please email lostwoodsteam@ruralsussex.org.uk. We'd love to see you there.



We also welcome referrals from local service providers.



The Arts
Society
South Downs

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Wednesday 3 September

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ART OF VISUAL DECEPTION**

Speaker: Bertie Pearce

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Wednesday 1 October

**THE MADWOMAN IN THE ATTIC:
GOTHIC WOMEN AND THE ART
OF FREEZING THE BLOOD**

Speaker: Annalie Talent

In the late 18th century writers of fiction began to embrace the Gothic, or 'the art of freezing the blood.' This fascinating lecture tells the story of the Gothic women, the writers, the artists, and their leading ladies who have dared to explore the darker side of life and the imagination.

Annalie's lectures focus on aspects of Romantic and Victorian literature. She uses her knowledge and personal experience of literary houses, and their collections, to offer a unique perspective on writers and their works.



Talks are in Fittleworth Village Hall, RH20 1JB
Doors open 09.50 am for coffee.

Please be seated by 10.30 am for 10.45 am start.
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