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January 2024

# 3 Heralds

STORRINGTON  SULLINGTON  THAKEHAM

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our readers a  
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St Mary's Church STORRINGTON



St Mary's Church THAKEHAM



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STORRINGTON



St Mary  
SULLINGTON



St Mary  
THAKEHAM

## IN THE DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER

### STORRINGTON

**Rector** Revd Canon Kathryn Winslow, BTh, MPhil (742888)  
The Rectory, Rectory Road, Storrington RH20 4EF  
kathryn.winslow@btinternet.com

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**Priest in Charge** VACANT

Contact The Church Office 01798 813121 / 07923 420834 or stwparishes@outlook.com  
Or Churchwardens – details on pages 4 and 5

For all information regarding services provided by your churches, for Storrington contact Revd Canon Kathryn Winslow and for Sullington and Thakeham contact Revd Sara-Jane Stevens.

**All telephone numbers are 01903 unless otherwise stated.**

PARISH  
CLERGY



### 2024 Plough Sunday

Clearly Storrington is not that rural, and I would probably be hard pressed to find a plough to bless, unlike my previous Lincolnshire parish where we resurrected the ancient custom of Plough Sunday. We even found a small plough that could be brought into Church for blessing. There were lots of ploughs in the community, where arable farming was all around us,

but the modern ploughs were huge and would not fit through a church door!

Sometimes in Lincolnshire we had heavy snow at this time of year, think 'beast from the east'. On one early January snowy day I took my life in my hands and drove across Lincolnshire to Sibsey, near Boston, to see Rosemary, the vicar there. Actually it was not as bad as I feared, the snow on the western side of the county, where I lived, was a lot worse than the snow on the coast.

I have never felt at home in the Fens – too flat for me and not enough trees. Despite living in Lincolnshire for many years, I had forgotten how small and isolated some of the communities are. Rosemary had two parishes and 9 churches: the Sibsey group near Boston, one large village and 3 small, and the Brothertoft group of 5 small and isolated villages. From one end to the other, Rosemary easily drove over 30 miles. There are probably even more communities in the group now. Farming and associated industry is the main employer in this area and it doesn't pay very well for a lot of those who do have jobs. The area had quite a different feel from my parish, which was surrounded by wheat fields. Cabbages and sprouts are not yet used for biofuel, so the prices are not as buoyant as those for wheat. And in the dreadful weather of the last few weeks many crops had been ruined by the snow and ice. But many fields were ploughed and awaiting planting; an empty but potentially bountiful landscape.

The observance of Plough Sunday goes back to Victorian times, but behind it is a much older tradition. Traditionally it is celebrated on the first Sunday of Epiphany. In medieval times some ploughs were kept in the parish church, and some churches kept a 'plough light'. In days when work was scarce in winter, the observance looked forward to the time of sowing with the promise of a harvest to come. Plough Sunday was followed by 'Plough Monday', the first day back at work after the Christmas lay off.

After such a difficult couple of years as these last ones, with Brexit and Coronavirus and an economic slump, it is especially good to focus on the importance of agriculture to our community and world, and to ask for God's blessing on all who are involved in the industry.

From Genesis onwards, our Bible makes it clear that God is involved in creation, and cares about the created world. For centuries human life has been bound up with the cycle of the agricultural year and, in fact, in many countries this is still the case. Countries can only go on so long with

failed harvests caused by drought or flood or fire; Eastern Africa is currently suffering badly. Our country and society have become rather divorced from this reality, as we buy and eat unseasonal food from shops where shelves are groaning with produce, and we have the luxury to choose between 'value' and 'finest' or organic, with products flown in from across the world.

Perhaps an article like this for Plough Sunday helps us to regain a sense of the importance of food to sustain human life, and an accompanying sense of a proper humility before God as the source of all things, gratitude for his goodness, and responsibility in stewarding the resources of the earth.

On Saturdays I try to pick up the *Telegraph*, for the gardening pages and the TV guide, not the politics! One January there was an article in the magazine about a couple who kept an account of where all their money went for a month. They managed to spend a staggering £8000+ in a month (though it did include a large monthly mortgage of £2K); their salary was 6 or 7 times the size of mine! But what really struck me was how much they spent on food; a surprisingly small amount of £800 for a family of four. In this area they were not big spenders. What amazed

*Continued on page 9...*



## New Year Greetings



**The parish clergy and their families  
wish you Peace and Joy in 2024**

*We have been very grateful for the kindness  
of your Christmas cards and greetings – please  
accept this as our expression of heartfelt thanks.*

### FEATURES

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1 Peter 3:8

# St Mary's Thakeham

[www.stmarysthakeham.org](http://www.stmarysthakeham.org)

### Churchwardens

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

Pippa Harder (01798 817522)  
31 Furze Common Road,  
Thakeham  
RH20 3EG

### Treasurer

Liz Slaughter  
stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

### Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson  
stwparishes@outlook.com

### PCC Secretary

Allison Goodfellow 01903 740499  
allisongoodfellow@btinternet.com

### Electoral Roll Officer

Virginia James  
Contact via church office at  
office.stwparishes@btinternet.com

### Organist

Position vacant

### Church Bookings

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

### Bellringers: Tower Captain

Roger Watts (01798 813775)

### 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

To make arrangements for Baptisms, Weddings and Banns of Marriage:  
for Thakeham contact Mike James 07795 024842 and for Sullington contact Gail Kittle 745754

## THAKEHAM CHURCH

### NEWS

On Wednesday 15 November, in Thakeham Village Hall, St Mary's Church, Thakeham held a most successful and enjoyable Bridge Day, with 18 tables. This is proving to be a popular annual event, this time raising the impressive sum of almost £2,000. Thank you to everyone who helped towards this rewarding day, in particular Jenny Denman for her fabulous food.



On Saturday 18 November, St Mary's Church, Thakeham and St Mary's Church, Sullington held a joint Messy Church Service in Thakeham Village Hall, when 46 children, with parents, attended. The topic was Remembrance, and they looked at what the Bible teaches us about peace. What a wonderful way to introduce children to both peace and remembrance.



On the afternoon of 18 November, St Mary's Thakeham Autumn Fayre was held. The hall was buzzing with several stalls available, with St Mary's Sullington also holding a stall at the event. There was something for everyone, with children enjoying the games organised for them. The event was extremely well-attended, with tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes available. A huge thank you to all organisers, volunteers, stall holders and everyone who helped on the day, not forgetting everyone who came along to help make the afternoon a success, raising £1,400.

ST MARY'S THAKEHAM INVITES YOU TO

## MEN'S BREAKFAST SATURDAY 27 JANUARY 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



## Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group

Next meeting is on  
Tuesday 16 January at 12 Noon

Thakeham Church Room



Further information available from  
Wynn Lednor on 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](http://www.st-marys-sullington.org) [info@st-marys-sullington.org](mailto:info@st-marys-sullington.org)

## Churchwardens

Gail Kittle (745754)  
Sullington Manor Farm,  
Sullington Lane,  
Sullington,  
RH20 4AE

2nd position vacant

## Treasurer

David Baxter (744346)

## Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson  
[stwparishes@outlook.com](mailto:stwparishes@outlook.com)

## 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:

Parishes Office open Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30am to 5pm • T: 07923 420834 • E: [office.stwparishes@btinternet.com](mailto:office.stwparishes@btinternet.com)

Times of Church services can be found on page 18.

## SUSSEXDOWN CAREHOME

Monday 8 January 2.30pm

Communion for the residents of Sussexdown

Chapel at Sussexdown, Washington Road, Sullington.

Thereafter the 1st Monday of the month.

Please come and join us – all welcome.

For more details phone Margaret Slinn on 746769.



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S, SULLINGTON

The rain kept off and made our special service memorable.

Our many thanks to all those military personnel who played a part in the service.



## St Mary's Church, Sullington CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER PCC SECRETARY

It involves a variety of tasks such as sending agendas, taking minutes etc at our PCC meetings (minimum 5 a year).

If you are interested please contact Gail Kittle on 745754 for further details.

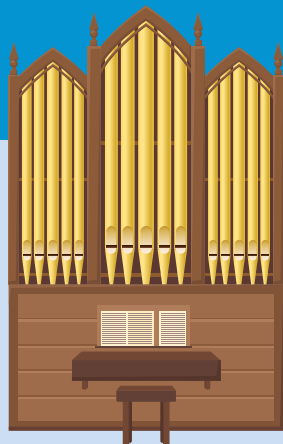
## VACANCY FOR A REGULAR ORGANIST

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# St Mary's Storrington

For Clergy see page 3 [www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.storringtonparishchurch.org.uk) [office@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk)

### Churchwardens

[churchwardens@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk](mailto: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

Michael Taylor (742218)

### Sacristy Team

John Taylor (745477)

### Captain of Bellringers

John Taylor (745477)

### Parish Visiting Scheme

Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow  
(742888)

### Recorder

Alison Hammond (07840 522832)

### Electoral Roll Officer

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

### Director of Music

Stephen Bloxham

### Assistant Organist

Ian Miles

### Readers

Sam Ward (893794)

### Sidesmen

David Rice (746816)

### Church Flowers

Wendy Cliffe (744467)

### Safeguarding Officer

Jackie Lee (743661)

### Christian Aid Co-ordinator

VACANT

The Rector, Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow, will take Friday as her day off.  
**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:** Revd Jacquie Peal (743083)

**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.

## PARISH VISITING TEAM...

The St Mary's Parish Visiting Team contact is the Rector, Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow (742888). Please contact Kathryn, or Viv at the Rectory Office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings, if you would like to arrange for someone on the team to either speak to you or visit you.

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

The Children's Society

Having completed the emptying of the boxes and banking on behalf of the Children's Society, I would like to thank all box holders for their continued support and generosity. In 2023 the amount of £1,245 was sent to the Children's Society from the boxes. If anyone would like a box please contact me. *Pat Jenkins (744927)*

## CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING AND GRAND PRIZE DRAW



We had a lovely morning at St Mary's, Storrington on 25 November with friendly chat and jolly carol singing over coffee and festive treats. Many thanks to everyone who came along.

Many thanks for everyone's time and generous donations, particularly to Gwen Fisher for mobilising and organising the event. We raised over £1,100 for St Mary's community work in the village.

John Butler correctly guessed the weight of the traditional Xmas cake, expertly made by Tim Tuson.



John Butler and Tim Tuson

## KATHRYN'S RETIREMENT

Our Rector Kathryn has recently announced that she will be retiring at the end of February 2024. Her last Sunday in Church will be 18 February 2024.


## EVENSONG WINTER TIME

Evensong, usually held at St Mary's, Storrington, on the first and second Sundays in the month in the month at 4pm.

## CANDLEMAS SUNDAY, 28 JANUARY

Candles are lit during the 10am service on this day to mark the presentation of the infant Christ to the Aged Simeon and Anna in the Temple at Jerusalem, "to be a light to lighten the Gentiles."





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 Or, if you are looking for a wedding venue for a bespoke celebration in your own style then Sullington Tithe Barn could be just the spot!

*Grahame, Anna and Gail Kittle*  
 Sullington Manor Farm  
 Sullington Lane, Storrington  
 West Sussex RH20 4AE  
**01903 745754**  
 info@sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk  
 www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk

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# 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.*

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**Storrington Library**  
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## 2024 Plough Sunday...continued from page 3.

me even more was that when they were asked what they felt they could cut down on they answered "food", not one of the other myriad and non-essential items on their list.

How much life has changed over the last 50 years, and what a continually shrinking part of our expenditure is taken up by buying food. Not so long ago we spent a substantial proportion of our income on food, now it is a small percentage. Surely that is a good thing, isn't it? The cost of living has leapt over the last year or so, and it is particularly evident in the food bill. Bread, meat, coffee, etc have all gone up significantly. We all prefer our bills to be smaller and we are not happy with the increases, but are we being realistic?

At the end of the day, we need food in order to survive; we don't need more clothes, more DVDs, more books and top of the range iPhones, let alone more luxuries and gym memberships. Our desire for ever cheaper food is what is behind unacceptable animal welfare conditions, such as hens in tiny cages, animals fed growth enhancers and antibiotics, and genetically engineered crops.

Perhaps we need to consciously choose better quality food, where animals are kept to good welfare standards and crops are grown with fewer chemicals. We need to accept that food is an essential part of our monthly bill and that economies can come elsewhere in our expenditure. We need to care more about our food, about where it has come from and how it was grown. We need to value our food more.

Plough Sunday is an ancient custom but perhaps it is one worth reviving in the 21st Century. It is a time to pray for all involved in agriculture and food production, but it is also a time to reflect on our own values and priorities; God has a care for creation, the use of the land and the stewardship of the animals, as Christians so must we.

CANON KATHRYN WINDSLOW  
*Rector of Storrington*

## FAREWELL RUPERT

On Sunday 26 November, on Christ the King, we marked the retirement of Revd Rupert Toovey as Associate Vicar of St Mary's, Storrington. We took the opportunity to thank him for his caring and inclusive ministry here in the St Mary's Church community and his ministry as a worker priest in his calling as an Order of St Benedict oblate.

Jenny Cowdrey had made a beautiful farewell card, which the Church community had signed and left messages. Also, a

generous collection from the congregation was presented to Rupert. A cake had been commissioned to mark the occasion, with an iced tableau of Rupert presiding Holy Communion.

We wish Rupert a well-earned rest from formal ministry. Rupert's farewell letter can be found in November's edition of the 3 *Heralds* magazine.

Rupert said, "Thank you all for your love, prayers, friendship and support across the years. It has been joyful to serve with Kathryn. I was very moved by the magnificent cake, your good wishes, cards, the extraordinarily generous gift of money and your encouragement, thank you. You remain in our hearts and our prayers with our love, Rupert and Teresa."





### St Mary's Church, Storrington

*Faith, Hope and Love in the heart of Storrington*

Join us for  
**EPIPHANY CAROL  
SERVICE**

A traditional service of readings and carols to mark the season of Epiphany.

Refreshments served after the service.

**SUNDAY 14 JANUARY  
4pm**



### Christians in Storrington

**Monthly Inter-Church Prayer Meetings**  
*Everyone welcome*

Do join us in the side-chapel at Our Lady of England RC Church 10am - 10.30am on the first Tuesday of each month

**Tuesday 2 January** – Life Community Church will lead  
**Tuesday 6 February** – Church of England will lead

**One in faith and love and praise**

## AN AMAZING YEAR FOR ME - 1994

Thirty years ago, I had a very unforgettable year, so I have decided to write about it, month-by-month, in the 3 *Heralds* so you can experience it with me too. Starting this month and running through to December, I hope you will come with me as, I really had some related amazing happenings in my life in that one calendar year.

I lived with Stuart in Kingston Buci, more of which later. My three children were all in their twenties and set on their own careers. My parents and other family members were mostly in the Salisbury area and so I was able to concentrate on church activities, being assistant organist at St Julian's Church, and a member of St Giles' choir every Evensong.

I also had many music students, mostly piano pupils, and I ran a junior choir, an adult group called Carollers and a small music group. I also took a Bible study group every week.

I had a wonderful prayer partner too, Ella Hutt, who sadly died last summer. Her photograph is on the wall of the Old School in Storrington, along with other teachers of the 1950s of Storrington School. We met every week for Bible study and prayer, and in January we were studying 'stiff necked people' in the Bible, concentrating mainly on Nehemiah, Chapter 9, where the word occurs three times.

My life was very full.

Chrystalle Kersley



## 18 ~ 25 January 2024 WEEK OF PRAYER for CHRISTIAN UNITY

APPLICABLE TO ALL CHURCHES

### Christian Unity Week takes place each year from 18 to 25 January.

This year the main service will be on Sunday, 21 January. On certain other days there will be a short service or event hosted by one of the churches followed by refreshments.

#### Thursday, 18 January - TBC

Unity Week Prayers  
Chemin Neuf Community at Storrington Priory, School Lane

#### Friday, 19 January at 10am

Unity Week Prayers  
at Our Lady of England RC Church, Monastery Lane

#### Sunday, 21 January at 10am

The main inter-Church Unity Week Service will take place at the Life Community Church at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

PREACHER: the Revd Dr Frank Okai Sam  
(leader of Trinity Methodist Church)

#### Monday, 22 January at 10am

Unity Week Prayers  
at St Mary's Church, Church Street, Storrington

#### Tuesday, 23 January at 7.30pm

Chemin Neuf Community  
at Storrington Priory, School Lane

#### Wednesday, 24 January at 7.30pm

Life Community Church  
The Village Hub, 7 The Square

## A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Eternal Lord God,  
we give you thanks for bringing us  
through the changes of time  
to the beginning of another year.  
Forgive us the wrong we have done in  
the year that is past,  
and help us to spend the rest of our days  
to your honour and glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen



St Mary's Church, Storrington

## Café in the Church

2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays this month

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

Wednesday 24 January  
2pm Holy Communion (BCP)  
2.30pm Café in the Church

Wednesday 31 January  
2pm Holy Communion (BCP)  
2.30pm Café in the Church



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

## Storrington Macular Society Support Group

### 23 January

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

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Beating Macular Disease





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# INCLUSIVE CHURCH



At our November PCC meeting at St Mary's, Storrington, with the encouragement of the Church leadership, I introduced the educational charity, Inclusive Church, to members of the PCC and started the discussion of whether our Church should sign up to be registered as an official 'Inclusive Church'.

## What is Inclusive Church?

Inclusive Church started as an Anglican organisation back in 2003 and in recent years has become cross-denominational to reflect the importance of its educational work across the country.

## What would we be registering and signing up to?

It would mean that St Mary's Church, Storrington will journey together towards the Inclusive Church Statement: "We believe in inclusive church – a church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate. We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality. We believe in a Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

This Inclusive Church statement would be on our website and in our entrance porch. We will also be put on an interactive map on the Inclusive Church website, so that people looking for a safe, accepted, non-judgemental, and inclusive place will be able to find us.

This step of registration would certainly define us locally, but also provide missional opportunities for our growing church community. There are now over 600 churches registered nationally, one church recently registered with Inclusive Church in the Storrington Deanery, Beeding Baptist Church, and there are around 40 churches in the diocese which are registered.

## Wait a minute, I thought we were an inclusive church, why do we need to register and publicise ourselves as being one?

From our discussions at PCC, we concluded that we are an inclusive Church and we welcome anyone to our Church services and events regardless of who they are. Inclusion sits in the heart of St Mary's Church mission strapline, "Faith, Hope and Love in the heart of Storrington".

But there are many people who have been part of church communities and have been let down by the way they have been treated because of their human characteristics, the judgements have been made, and, sadly left the church. There have been many examples of this, especially with young people, particularly in the evangelical traditions of the church. But we know that this isn't the inclusive Gospel of Jesus, who in his earthly ministry, came and went about meeting and embracing a diverse range of people. We also know that people are yearning to come back to church (Linda Woodhead, 2014), but the church community needs to be authentic in its inclusive outreach to them.

Turning to the Gospel of inclusion, let's be reminded of how the father welcomes home the prodigal son or the rejoicing of the shepherd finding the sheep; God rejoices over each and every single one of us in our 'lost' and 'found' moments. No exceptions. Arms outstretched and ready to welcome. Perhaps for us, as a Church, to radically welcome; an opportunity for us to open ourselves up to the transforming encounters with other people.

This hymn was written in the early nineties as a response and prayer of hope for the Church of England on its acceptance of women called to the priesthood. It is a hymn of inclusion and witness and serves us to remind us to include all people within the circles of Christ's love.

We shall go out with hope of resurrection,  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on,  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly,  
tales of a love that will not let us go.

We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,  
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed,  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of a Christ who sets us free.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken,  
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed,  
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
vibrating love alive in every heart.

We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,  
chant hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story  
including all within the circles of our love.

*Revd Professor June Boyce-Tillman*  
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Tune: Londonderry Air

More information about Inclusive Church can be found on their website [www.inclusive-church.org](http://www.inclusive-church.org)

*Stephen Bloxham*

**The Sandgate Choir** hopes you all had a lovely Christmas break. And if you attended our Christmas carol concert on December 10, we hope you enjoyed the music, the refreshments and the festive atmosphere.

We are now looking forward to our Spring term when we will be rehearsing the beautiful **Dvorak Mass in D** and some lovely pieces by **Karl Jenkins**. This concert will be held as usual in Our Lady of England R.C. Church in Storrington on **Sunday 24 March**.



You may have noticed that we have changed our name – after much consideration! We feel that **The Sandgate Choir** more accurately reflects the music we sing than the name **Sandgate Singers**. But nothing else has changed and we plan to entertain you as we have for the past 40 years.

Our Spring term begins on **Monday 8 January** and we welcome back our choir members and any new people who are interested in singing with us. If you would like to join us, do come along to the Sullington Parish Hall at 7.15 on Monday evenings. For more information please contact John Fisher, our Chairman, on 01903 741256 or email John at [johnandsylvi@btinternet.com](mailto:johnandsylvi@btinternet.com). Also on Facebook and through our website [www.sandgatesingers.com](http://www.sandgatesingers.com).

**Jenga**

So, it's the last day of November, COP 28 has just started today and I'm writing for the January 2024 issue of 3 Heralds. It's that time of looking back and forward and reaffirming and hoping.

When COP (Conference of the Parties) meetings started in 1995, simply getting countries to agree the world needed to do something to reduce emissions must have seemed like a huge achievement, and it probably felt like we had plenty enough time to fix it. Here we are, nearly 30 years later, and global emissions have increased by 60%. So, has anything been achieved? In my pessimistic moments, I wonder. COP 28 has been tainted by reports of the hosts (UAE) using the conference to secure oil and gas trade deals. Always this tension between securing a safe future environmentally and a prosperous future economically (for some). However, I am an essentially a glass "half-full" woman and an optimist (Pollyanna is almost my middle name) so I take heart from the thought that having a COP each year means the climate crisis is headline news across the world and may nudge many people into taking action.



Which brings me to my sub-heading – Jenga. Have you ever played Jenga? You build a tower out of wood blocks and then each person takes it in turn to remove one block from near the bottom and place it on top. The tension builds as the tower gets taller and taller, but will the next block on top cause it to topple over? I think that Jenga makes a good metaphor for eco-action. Will my journey or purchase be the one that tips the crisis into catastrophe? The corollary of this is that I firmly believe each and every one of us can make a difference by environmentally responsible choices and each one adds up.

**Small successes**

I think I've mentioned my sister before; not the most environmentally conscious person around despite my best efforts. Looking back over the year though, I've had two successes with her. When her husband retired I suggested he get a greenhouse, and he has taken to vegetable growing big time. My sister adores cooking and is really good at it, so she takes the surplus produce, of which there is loads, and makes amazing soups, chutneys and pestos which she trades with me for honey from our bees. Definitely win-win: reduced food miles, no pesticides, no food waste, and as you can see, recycled jars. My other success was to persuade her to replace her plastic sponge and plastic scourer with a 'scrubbie' that can go through the washing machine. "This is actually very good," she said. Just goes to show that perseverance reaps rewards.



**Touch the earth lightly**

"Try to live simply. A simple lifestyle freely chosen is a source of strength. Do not be persuaded into buying what you do not need or cannot afford. Do you keep yourself informed about the effects your style of living is having on the global economy and environment?"

We do not own the world, and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving consideration for all creatures, and seek to maintain the beauty and variety of the world. Work to ensure that our increasing power over nature is used responsibly, with reverence for life. Rejoice in the splendour of God's continuing creation." By George Fox (1656) *Advices and Queries*.

Christine Tuson  
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**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**  
Inter-Church Service for the Storrington Area to be held at Storrington Priory, School Lane, Storrington RH20 4LN

(free car park in Monastery Lane behind Our Lady of England RC Church)

**Friday 1 March 2024**  
at 2pm

Hosted by CHEMIN NEUF COMMUNITY  
Theme: *Il beg you, bear with one another in love.*  
Prepared by women of Palestine  
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Contact: Frances Arter 740843  
WDP local secretary



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

Our first meeting of the new year will be on Tuesday, 16 January 2024.

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).





## SULLINGTON 160 YEARS AGO

### EXTRACTS FROM CANON PALMER'S DIARY – JANUARY 1864

**Fri 1:** Bitterly cold wind but bright and fine. Hear that Gerald Vesey is much in distressed for help and is even down hearted and unwell – it enters into my mind to help him if I can. Wrote to Wisden to make our enquiries after Mrs Goring who is thoroughly satisfactory with her twins. My mother Annie and self dined with the Major, who is attended by the Colonel and his family. Drank his health with all my heart; the dear old man is in my very first condition now.

**Sat 2:** Sharp frost throughout then still, it starts the prophesies of hard weather fulfilled. George Sandham comes for game of Fives and lunches; a nice quiet gentlemanly lad. Chatfield leaves me after more than 2 years' service, I am sorry to part with his. Visit old Barnard, who is better; Scutts with Lindfield and discuss with Mrs Whittington her husband's labourer for me. Work in evening at Morris' Prophets and Kings.

**Sun 3:** CHRISTMAS II. Very sharp, bright and still. The Holy Communion, as usual, attendance poor. CG spent the day with us for the second time. Had to give George Charman a lecture on a fit of drunkenness, which nearly brought the house down on Christmas day. Walked after Church to Whiting's, who will take a funeral for me on Wednesday. Preached from Matthew 2 part of 8

**Jan 4 to 17:** Wilton, Huntington, Harrow and Cowes

**Sun 17:** Epiphany II. Very rough and wet. Helmsley with me today: for him am extremely sorry, as he could not have seen a worse one for seeing the place, or having a descent congregation. He read prayers in morning and preached and played harmonium in evening. I an old sermon and he on the presence of God Genesis 39. We had some music in the evening.

**Mon 18:** Foggy, muggy, still. As there was no seeing the beauties of this country today, Helmsley and I had severe games of Fives interrupted by a long 'paying' visit from Hardwick. Drove Helmsley to the station and hoped to bring Erskine Elliot back but missing train he did not arrive till 7.30. Read a nice letter from Edward dated Meerut 7 November, was about to go down again to Delhi.

**Tue 19:** Fine till evening when a drizzling rain. Prefatory day with Erskine Elliot no regular work. Walked to dine with the Major, meeting Harry and General! Williams. Played a rubber and sympathised with our host on the coming marriage of his cook after 27 years' service. When calling upon Beck heard of the death of Donald, who succumbed at about 30 to the frost about a fortnight ago.

**Wed 20:** Wet and dismal. Erskine Elliot and I had our first game this quarter in which I was victorious. Worked at accounts and find that I shall barely scrape through as Mr Erskine has not paid me.

**Thu 21:** Fine but damp and over mild. Gerold Vesey sent me 3 photos of myself done at Huntington by Maddison two and declared descent they were accompanied by a nice letter. Bird was worse poor fellow! P visits to old Williams and his woman, who talked glib descent and to the Denmans who are far more satisfactory himself laid by with a rupture.

**Fri 22:** Very wet and stormy with violent S & SW wind. Schleswig-Holstein fills the papers, and all men rush to the map for Kiel, Hamburg and Altona etc.

**Sat 23:** Wet and drizzly after a stormy night. Hard at work at a letter to Edward which with Erskine Elliott and a visit to Mrs Woods' in the Union and Boyle who arrived this evening took up my whole day. More severe weather predicted in today's Times by the same man who was right in the last prophesy.

**Sun 24:** Septuagesima. Fine and bright. Our lent comes early this year and amounts and the announcement of the collect takes some by surprise. Boyle read prayers in the morning and I preached from the text Genesis 1 v 3 'Let There Be Light', connecting this with the subject of Paul's conversion, the anniversary of which is tomorrow. Boyle in the afternoon had a good congregation to whom he gave a sermon which if it had been clothed in simple language would have suited them well: on the Christian race and

the necessity of temperance when striving for the mastery taken from the epistle of the day. A pleasant walk this day in the fir woods – evenings light till 5.30.

**Mon 25:** Fine and brilliant. Dispatched a letter to Ned. Drove Boyle to Steyning, but failed to see the Church in consequence of a funeral.

**Tue 26:** Fine and brilliant and mild. Took a long walk over the Downs with ECB and Erskine Elliott by Michelgrove to Patching; fell in with Tate whom gave us lunch; then made our way home by 4.30 having started at 11. Patching Church was exhibited but is a miserable specimen of country cleanliness and super abundant whitewash.

**Wed 27:** Rain last night but midday fine though damp. A possible pupil named Duthie and recommended me by ECB. A severe hour at Racquets (Fives with my 2 adversaries); in afternoon a walk to Storrington to pay small bills. Am reading Knight's last volume on England.

**Thu 28:** Cutting wind fine till evening when showers. Schleswig-Holstein by the obstinacy of Austria and Russia appears more war like. ECB and I to Burpham calling on Mrs Foster. Erskine Elliott to Pulborough after his dog which comes not.

**Fri 29:** Fine and bright. Bull spent noon and after with us: took a walk with Annie, Erskine Elliott and ECB to Major's heath and enjoyed the view: weather looks rather like more cold.

**Sat 30:** Fine but cloudy cold. Erskine Elliott's huge day, Nelson, who arrived yesterday for Freshwater. Has afforded him and us much amusement today; it is a very fine black creature and has sonorous and deeply base note with which he is regaling us as I write this at 10pm. Called on the Major the 2 powers move their forces to the river and then separates Holstein from Schleswig.

**Sun 31:** Sexagesima. Fine after a white frost. Preached an old sermon 'Am I my Brother's Keeper'. The Highdens came to morning service and a new one on the work of Christ in creating reconciliation between God and man and a return to that state where Adam was before the Fall from Genesis. This day from 5 years ago my dear Father died: may I daily live in imitation in his humility and constant charity.



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Our November meeting saw a change to the advertised program as sadly Martin Duncan, head gardener at Arundel Castle, was unable to be with us due to ill health. We were fortunate to find a last minute speaker and consequently enjoyed a talk from Michael Joseph on 'Art in the Garden'. Michael is a man of many talents; he draws, paints, sculpts and writes and is described as an Artisan Artist.



He began his talk by questioning us on the different elements of art starting with Line, Shape and Form, and stating that once you really start thinking about this there are over 30 elements that contribute. He said that when he starts a painting he waits to see what develops as he has nothing in mind to begin with; his sculptures could be inspired by a piece of tree root, for example. He showed pictures of various structures he had erected in gardens as well as pictures he had painted. Showing us his own garden and that of his brother, who lives in Amberley and opens his garden for Amberley Open Gardens, he showed how plantings can enhance both the house they surround and the garden itself. A mundane outlook can be brought to life by, for example, planting a tree of a particular shape. Michael is a man with vision and very talented. In the photo he is sitting in front of one of his metal sculptures which he asked us to interpret.

The Club doesn't have an evening meeting in January, instead we meet on 18 January for a New Year lunch. Normal monthly meetings resume in February.

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*

MONTHLY TALK

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There will be a special reference to two who came from the speaker's home town, Whanganui, in NZ. One was sadly killed in 1944 in a Spitfire crash, the other survived the war, becoming a flying instructor at the Whanganui Aero Club.

William Lonergan was born in Whanganui, New Zealand, and learnt to fly in the RNZAF. He then went into civil flying as a flying instructor and commercial pilot. He came to the UK in 1959 and joined the RAF and flew as a fighter pilot, flying instructor and engineering test pilot. He left the RAF in 1976 and went into management and computer consultancy. He 'retired' six years ago and flies ex-RAF training aeroplanes as a member of the Skyhawks formation display team.

## TRINITY SUNSHINE CHOIR

The Trinity Sunshine Choir got off to an encouraging start with an average of 18 at the first three sessions.

This is a dementia friendly choir but open to anyone. Dates fixed so far for 2024 are:

**3 and 31 January, 28 February,  
27 March and 24 April.**

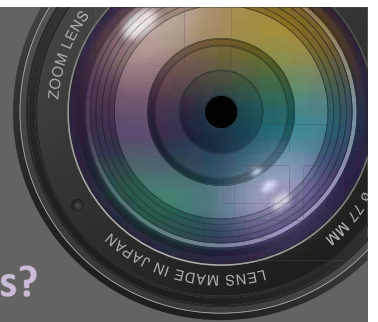
Sessions start with coffee and a time to chat and make friends at 10.30am. Singing starts at 11am.

Anyone interested can contact Robert Gamble at [robertgamblerc@gmail.com](mailto:robertgamblerc@gmail.com) or 07958 232874.



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### MEETINGS

**4 January**

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**11 January**

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**25 January**

3rd Competition – Prints and Projected Images of Any Subject. Judged by Chris Dixon

#### MORE INFORMATION:

[www.storringtoncc.org.uk](http://www.storringtoncc.org.uk) or contact Janet Brown

T: 07812 107571 • E: [chair@storringtoncc.org.uk](mailto:chair@storringtoncc.org.uk)





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# CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

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|------------|--|--|--|---|
| 7 January  | <b>Epiphany 1</b>                      | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Family Communion<br>4pm Evensong               | 10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service | 8.30am BCP Communion<br>3pm Evensong              |
| 14 January | <b>Epiphany 2</b>                      | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion<br>4pm Epiphany Carol Service | 8.30am Celtic Communion<br>10.30am Morning Prayer        | 10.30am Holy Communion                            |
| 21 January | <b>Epiphany 3</b>                      | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion with Prayers for Healing      | 8.30am Celtic Communion                                  | 10.30am Joint Holy Communion                      |
| 28 January | <b>Epiphany 4<br/>CANDLEMAS SUNDAY</b> | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion with Bishop Ruth of Horsham   | 10.30am Family Communion                                 | 8.30am Celtic Communion<br>10.30am Morning Prayer |
| 4 February | <b>Second Sunday before Lent</b>       | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Family Communion<br>4pm Evensong               | 10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington Church for All Service | 8.30am BCP Communion<br>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 and 4th Wednesdays at 10am followed by Café in the Church  
When there is a 5th Wednesday 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 Charles Howell

2 St. John's, Fern Road, Storrington RH20 4LW

Tel: 740338

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:nat@lccstor.org)

Tel: 07450 176315 Email: [admin@lccstor.org](mailto:admin@lccstor.org) [www.lccstor.org](http://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](mailto:trinitychurchstorrington@outlook.com)

[www.facebook.com/TrinityStorrington](http://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 January**

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

**Tickets £4.00 are available from**

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington





# WHAT'S ON

## JANUARY

### Tue 2

10am Inter-Church Prayers – RC Church (side-chapel) – p10

### Wed 3

10.30am Trinity Sunshine Choir – p16

### Thu 4

11.30am Storrington Pop-In Lunch Club – p18

7.30pm Storrington Camera Club – meeting – p16

### Fri 5

2.30pm Storrington Museum – Talk – p16

### Sat 6

10am Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party – p20

### Sun 7 Epiphany 1

### Mon 8

2.30pm Reading Friends – Library – p22

2.30pm Communion at Sussexdown – p5

7pm Storrington Slimmers – p33

### Wed 10

10am Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p10

7.30pm Rotary Film Night – *Barbie* – p33

### Thu 11

2pm Memory Moments Café – p26

7.30pm Storrington Camera Club – Meeting – p16

### Sat 13

9.30am Sandgate Conservation Society – Working Party – p33

### Sun 14 Epiphany Carol 2

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

4pm Epiphany Service – St Mary's, Storrington – p9

### Mon 15

7pm Storrington Slimmers – p33

### Tue 16

2pm Knit and Stitch – p4

2pm SPACE – Arts & Craft Club – p14

### Thu 18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (until 25 Jan)

10.30am Cuppa and a Chat – p11

### Fri 19

7.30pm Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p22

### Sun 21 Epiphany 3

### Mon 22

7pm Storrington Slimmers – p33

### Tue 23

2pm Storrington Macular Group – p10

### Wed 24

2pm Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p10

2.30pm Storrington Flower Club – Meeting – p22

### Thu 25

2pm Memory Moments Café – p26

7.30pm Storrington Camera Club – Meeting – p16

### Sat 27

8.15am Men's Breakfast – p4

10am Sandgate Conservation Society – Working Party – p33

7pm Taylor Maid Concert at St Mary's Church, Storrington – p14

### Sun 28 Epiphany 4 Candlemas Sunday

### Mon 29

7pm Storrington Slimmers – p33

### Wed 31

10.30am Trinity Sunshine Choir – p16

2pm Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p10

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

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

### JANUARY

1 **THE NAMING OF JESUS**

2 **Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, 379 and 389**

6 **THE EPIPHANY**

8 **Baptism of Christ**

10 William Laud, 1645

11 Mary Slessor, 1915, a Scottish missionary to Nigeria. She is credited with having stopped the killing of twins among the Efik, a particular ethnic group in Nigeria.

12 **Aelred of Hexham, 1167;** Benedict Biscop, 689

13 **Hilary, 367;** Kentigern (Mungo) 603; George Fox, 1691

17 **Antony of Egypt, 356;** Charles Gore, 1932

18 Amy Carmichael, 1951, a Protestant Christian missionary in India, who opened an orphanage and founded a mission in Dohnavur.

19 **Wulfstan, 1095**

20 Richard Rolle, 1349

21 **Agnes, 304**

22 Vincent of Sarogossa, 304

24 **Francis de Sales, 1622**

25 **THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL**

26 **Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul**

28 **Thomas Aquinas, 1274**

31 John Bosco, 1888, founded the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, a religious congregation of nuns dedicated to the care and education of poor girls

## STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

'Seasons Greetings' on a Christmas card cheer us up. But if they refer to the season of winter they may not help our mood; short cold days and long dark nights don't lift the spirits. Yet even in winter there are things to enjoy. The scenery opens up as the trees have lost their leaves and the tracery of their branches has a simple beauty. Migrating birds, like the Waxwing and the Bewick's Swan may be seen. The winter solstice reminds us that longer days are beginning, and the New Year celebrations give a boost. In fact, every season provides something to appreciate. Spring always gives a lift, with snowdrops, primroses, bluebells, blossom, budding leaves and returning birds, such as the Swallow and the Chiffchaff. Birdsong increases as nesting begins. Hedgehogs reappear from hibernation, lambs skip in the fields; signs of new life are all around.



Then summer provides long days, warmth and in the fields developing crops, to say nothing of the abundance of flowers in gardens and public places, attracting bees and butterflies. There is the sight of ducklings, and starlings feeding fledglings and on the Downs the song of the Skylark gives a thrill; there is so much to appreciate.

Autumn sees the harvest of crops, fruit and vegetables, together with the wonderful reds, yellows and golds of the trees, more beautiful with the sun on them, and the early sun on a dew-spangled spider's web is magical.

All this has been true for generations; it is something of irreplaceable value we have inherited and it is not just for us to enjoy but to pass on to future generations for their wellbeing, perhaps survival. Due to climate change, loss of habitat and other human activity, much of it is at risk. Two minor examples: did you hear a Cuckoo last year? Then you were fortunate. Also the Turtle Dove is now rare and threatened. In places like the Knepp Estate, efforts are being made to restore habitat for such birds and restoration of habitats is the aim of our work at Dykes Farm and Chantry Hill. While it may not be possible for everyone to restore habitats, we can all act to reduce our contribution to climate change.

On 23 November further work was done removing birch saplings on Chantry Hill. Then on 2 December the work party met to clear the paths in The Glade, Downland Avenue. Our next task is to carry out river clearance and shrub management in Fryern Dell, part of the agreed conservation plan. We meet on **6 January at 10am**. Join us for some healthy gentle exercise and chat at the coffee break. Equipment provided, gardening clothes advisable.

We wish our readers a peaceful and environmentally friendly New Year.

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](http://www.storringtonconservation.org.uk).

Stuart Kersley



## 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!



### 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.



# FOOTBALL AND THE CHURCH PART TWO



Aston Villa  
Wesleyan  
Methodist  
Church in  
1960



Local teams began to be formed all over the country. By 1880, 83 of the 344 clubs in Birmingham (some twenty-four per cent) were connected to churches. Aston Villa originated in 1874 from members of the Aston Villa Wesleyan Methodist Chapel.

Birmingham businessman, William McGregor, played an enormously influential role in the club and in the establishment of the professional game. McGregor was a teetotaler, a Methodist and an evangelist and a couple of years after Aston Villa was formed he offered to help. A natural organiser and businessman, he became a vice-president and soon became Chairman.

It was at McGregor's instigation that The English Football League, the first organised football league in the world was formed in 1888. Football was in danger of collapse due to so many arranged friendly fixtures not being played. Of the original 12 clubs that founded the first league, five were from church origins. These five - Aston Villa (the only football club that takes its name directly from a church), Burnley, Everton, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Bolton Wanderers - were joined by Stoke City, Derby County, Accrington, West Bromwich Albion, Preston North End, Blackburn Rovers and Notts County.

Pupils and teachers of Christ Church, Bolton, formed a football club. In 1887 they took the name Bolton Wanderers. Similarly, Everton FC started life in 1878 as St Domingo's Church Sunday School (and later produced an offshoot which became Liverpool FC). Boys at St Luke's Church, Blakenhall, formed a football team in 1877, later taking the name Wolverhampton Wanderers. In 1882 members of the Burnley YMCA formed Burnley FC.

Birmingham City began life in 1875 as Small Heath Alliance, organized by members of Trinity Church. Blackpool FC emerged from an older team based at the local St John's Church.

Arthur Connell was the rector of St Mark's Church in West Gorton in Manchester. There was a great deal of unemployment in the area and in January 1879 Connell set up a soup kitchen and a relief fund for the local poor. In its first week over 1,500 gallons of soup, 1,000 loaves of bread and 10 tons of coal had been distributed by Connell and his helpers. His daughter, Anna Connell, also became involved in helping this community. She believed that the creation of male clubs would help improve the community spirit. This included the creation of the St. Marks Church football team. This team was eventually renamed as Manchester City.

Barnsley FC was founded in 1887 by the Reverend Tiverton Preedy, curate of St. Peters Church to encourage young men to take up football instead of rugby.

You'll notice that all of the clubs mentioned so far are from the Midlands or the North of England. Church teams were established in London and the South of the country around the same time. In 1880 men at St Andrew's Sunday School, West Kensington, organized a football team which later became Fulham FC and members of the young men's association at St Mary's Church, Southampton, formed a team in 1885, changing the name to that of the present professional club in 1897.

Swindon Town (established in 1881), owes its origins to the work of the Revd W. Pitt curate of Christ Church, Swindon. QPR was formed in 1882, when two church teams, St Jude's and Christchurch Rangers merged. The resulting team was called Queens Park Rangers, because most of the players came from the Queen's Park area of North-West London

These 14 long established professional teams constitute only a small minority of the thousands of teams founded in the 1870s and 1880s from church organisations (often with the local vicar or curate as a player).

Returning to Aston Villa, a church still stands on the original site in Villa Road, Aston, but you can see the difference in the picture below from the one shown previously. This is now the Villa Cross New Testament Church of God completed in October 2009. It is a major 1000-seater church. The old church closed and lay derelict for a number of years in the 1960's and 70's when Aston Villa FC also sank to the depths of the old Division Three. But, they were Third Division Champions in 1972 and just 9 years later won the First Division Championship (1981) and then the European Cup (1982). God's people have established a new presence and a very strong witness in Aston that will endure. Your football club's fortunes may falter and your loyalty may be sorely tested, but, as Christians, we know that resurrection and renewal are always possible with Jesus Christ.

Chris Powell



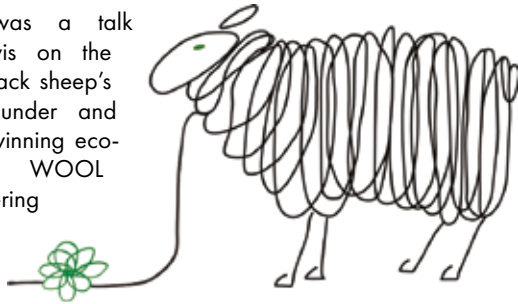


# STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The meeting started with the AGM, and our chairman, Janet Webber, reported, as a point of interest, that the Society would be celebrating its 160th anniversary next year, having been formed in 1864.

Again this year we had enjoyed an excellent and varied speakers' programme at our monthly meetings; two outings had been arranged, both well-supported, and two very enjoyable holidays, one to Scotland and the other the Wye Valley, had been popular with the members. There had been no Spring Show but the Summer Show had been a great success with a high number of entries. The Society continued to help other groups in the village when asked.

Following this was a talk from Felicity Lewis on the sustainability of black sheep's wool. Felicity, founder and owner of award winning eco-friendly business WOOL SHrEAD, offering sustainable and versatile British Wool, working in the horticulture and floristry markets.



Felicity explained that she had an innovative approach and keen focus on the environment; she is passionate about the sustainable, natural, versatile and biodegradable qualities of wool. She started by examining published research on wool and by experimenting, using her own Southdown sheep wool for gardening, and soon established that wool can be used for many more applications. Why is it that wool offers so many uses, as well as being excellent for our more traditional uses such as clothes, carpets and fabrics? Well, if you looked at a pure wool fibre under the microscope you would see lots of tiny scales. These are used to naturally control the environment around it by reactively opening and closing, pure wool fibres absorb air and moisture to maintain temperature and humidity, a little like a natural thermostat. The fibres also appear to be serrated which helps them to stick together and trap even more air to aid this process. It can also absorb up to 30% its own weight with water and this water retention makes it an excellent natural material for plant hydration.

Many new uses have been found in horticulture for wool, some of which are as a natural pest repellent for slugs and snails, an aid for water retention, including window boxes, hanging basket liners, mulch, capillary matting and weed repellent. The wool will biodegrade after 6 – 12 months, conditioning the soil with nitrogen. It also benefits wild life, being natural and perfectly safe, offering birds and many other animals a good material for nesting.

The meeting closed with a raffle and light refreshments. Our next meeting is on **19 January** at Storrington Village Hall commencing 7.30pm when Ian Currie will be talking to us about Sussex weather over the past 300 years or so.

Michael Webber  
Website: [storringtonhorti.org.uk](http://storringtonhorti.org.uk)



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



All chit chat  
and tall tales  
welcome

READING  
FRIENDS

Reading Friends  
meet first Monday  
of the month  
2.30pm – 3.30pm



## ON 8 JANUARY 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.

## STORRINGTON AND DISTRICT PROBUS



Now meeting at the Random Hall Hotel, Slinfold, we are a social club for retired and semi-retired men.

We meet monthly for lunch, normally with a specialist, and often entertaining, after-lunch speaker. Families and friends are always invited to join us in our extensive and varied programme of social activities throughout the year.

Interested? For further details please email our Membership Secretary, Peter Edwards on [storringtonprobuss@outlook.com](mailto:storringtonprobuss@outlook.com) or visit our website at [www.storringtonprobuss.com](http://www.storringtonprobuss.com).

Barry Rendal-Jones

## STORRINGTON FLOWER CLUB

Wednesday 24 January 2.30pm

Sullington Parish Hall

Demonstrator: Stephen McDonnell-Daly

Theme: *In the Moment*

Competition: *Quirky*

New members and visitors welcome







## Review of *Jack of Diamonds*

Back in November 2023, our production of *Jack of Diamonds* by Marcia Kash and Douglas E Hughes was warmly received by over 220 people across three evenings at West Chillington Village Hall. This comedy, set in a private luxury retirement home, was efficiently produced by Amanda Hislop and ably directed by Sue Goble. The play is centred around four elderly residents, including Jack of the title, who is a retired jeweller, famed for his advertisements on a TV shopping channel. When we meet this quartet, they learn that their financial adviser has scammed them out of their savings, leaving them with nothing and the prospect of moving to a residence of poor quality and renown. As luck would have it, their scammer, Barney, arrives amongst them. Ultimately, the four make a deal with Barney, which involves sharing the proceeds of a large stash of diamonds that he has. What happens to those stones and the chaos that ensues provided the audience with 100 carats' worth of enjoyment.

Ian Stuart, as Jack, along with Pat Arculus, Amanda Hislop and Janet Methley as the three female residents, put in sterling performances to give us the impression of an elderly, but determined, gang of four. Robert Ingram gave an excellent performance as Barney, often in the wheelchair that he was pretending to need, providing lots of humour with body and facial movements! The rest of the cast provided great support with Stella Russell as the no-nonsense Nurse, Tony Gambrell as departing resident Wilf and Karon Oliver, who played both Barney's lawyer and a police constable. Hermin Daley, Karen Kelland and Angela Sloan provided voice-overs for the tannoy announcements, news reporter and newsreader respectively.

WCDS would like to thank everyone who was involved behind the scenes, Front of House and in preparations before the performances. Our productions cannot happen without these heroes or without our supportive audiences.

## Announcing Auditions for *Dark Lucy*

No sooner has the curtain closed on one production, than we are in preparation for the next! This will be *Dark Lucy*, a psychological thriller by Philip King and Parnell Bradbury, directed by our own Ralph Wigg. Performances are on the evenings of 16, 17 and 18 May 2024.

Auditions take place on Monday 8 and Thursday 11 Jan

7.30pm in The Windmill Room, West Chillington Village Hall

These auditions are open to all, members and non-members alike. If a non-member is successful in getting a part, we will request that they become a member (£10 for the year). Rehearsals will be on Monday and Thursday evenings from 4 March in West Chillington Village Hall, although we may have some read-throughs beforehand. In addition to a cast of seven (three male and four female), we are seeking people to help out back-stage, as the set needs changing between the second and third act!

*Dark Lucy* centres around Carol, the hysterical ex-actress wife of the vicar. She is convinced that she has been assaulted by 'Dark Lucy', a frightening elderly woman, who lives in a broken-down cottage in the village. Unfortunately for Carol, nobody, including the doctor, believes her. Then a young girl disappears and Carol decides that it is time to investigate what goes on in the old cottage!

For further information, please contact Ralph on 01903 743719 or 07854 427520, or at [ralphamdram@aol.com](mailto:ralphamdram@aol.com).

If you would like to find out more about WCDS, or would like to join us on stage, behind the scenes or in support, please see our website [www.wcds.co.uk](http://www.wcds.co.uk).

WCDS wishes you all a very Happy New Year! Perhaps 2024 will be the year you check out WCDS?!

Angela Sloan

Vice Chair of West Chillington Dramatic Society



From L to R: Amanda Hislop, Pat Arculus, Ian Stuart, Janet Methley and Tony Gambrell in *Jack of Diamonds*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN UPDATE

Happy New Year!

Firstly we'd like to introduce your new warden, John Sampson. John joined Chris in December and is looking forward to meeting you all. Do come and say hello when you see him out and about.

### Events for January

- There is a 'Cuppa and Chat' at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre on **Thursday 18 January** from 10:30am to 12:30pm. These are on the 3rd Thursday of each month.
- Our next group meeting for parents and carers of Autistic children and children with Special Educational Needs is on **Tuesday 23 January** from 10am to 11am in the Village Hub (on North Street, next to One Stop). This is for parents and carers to chat, share experiences and to feel they are not alone.

### Keeping warm in cold weather

- Make sure you keep your face, hands and feet warm. If they get cold, this can cause a rise in blood pressure.
- Several thin layers of clothes will keep you warmer than one thick layer, as the layers trap warm air between them. Start with thermal underwear and woollen socks.
- Hot drinks and a hot water bottle can help you to warm up quickly.
- If you are sitting down indoors, pop your feet up on something as the air is cooler at ground level.
- When outdoors, as well as wearing gloves and a hat, pull a scarf up around your nose and mouth. This helps to warm the air you breathe in.
- Choose shoes or boots with non-slip soles and warm linings or wear thermal socks.

Keep warm and well.

Chris and John

Chris Poore: 07795 046743

John Sampson: 07789 943201

[Storrington-sullington.warden@horsham.gov.uk](mailto:Storrington-sullington.warden@horsham.gov.uk)

# YOUR COMMUNITY MINIBUS

A welcoming door to door service

| DAY                  | WEEK IN MONTH TO |                                       | FARE | PICK-UP   |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| MONDAY               | EVERY            | STORRINGTON / WAITROSE                | £3   | 9AM       |
| TUESDAY              | 2ND & 4TH        | SHOREHAM / HOLMBUSH, M&S/TESCO        | £6   | 1PM       |
|                      | 3RD              | OLD BARN GARDEN CENTRE / LUNCH & SHOP | £4   | 11AM      |
|                      | 4TH              | VARIOUS DESTINATIONS / MACULAR GROUP  | £3   | 1PM       |
| WEDNESDAY            | EVERY            | PULBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB                 | £4   | 10.30AM   |
|                      | 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       |
| <b>SCENIC DRIVES</b> |                  |                                       |      |           |
| TUESDAY              | 5th MARCH        | FERRING / PUB LUNCH - HENTY ARMS      | £9   | 11AM      |
| TUESDAY              | 2ND APRIL        | BOSHAM HARBOUR / TEA AT WATERFRONT    | £11  | 1PM       |
| TUESDAY              | 7TH MAY          | SHOREHAM A'PORT / HUMMINGBIRD CAFÉ    | £9   | 1PM       |

Lunch & refreshment cost additional to trip fares



For enquiries & bookings: 0300 772 7735  
[westsussexminibus.org.uk/storrington](http://westsussexminibus.org.uk/storrington)

## TRAVEL THE EASY WAY WITH WEST SUSSEX MINIBUS

Getting out and about in Sussex could not be easier with West Sussex Minibus. They provide practical shopping trips and social days out with the added convenience of being picked up and dropped off at your house. Small minibuses seating 8/15 passengers are used, making for a friendly and informal service. With a year-round calendar and daily departures, you can be out every day of the week. It welcomes all age groups, with trip fares held at affordable levels.

The charity has a long history of supporting the local community. They offer individuals the chance to stay active and assist those who live away from good public transport links to remain independent. The service comes to you, picking you up and dropping you back home every time.

West Sussex Minibus, Storrington Division, run a busy schedule. Shopping excursions to Pulborough (Sainsbury's & Tesco), Holmbush (Marks & Spencer & Tesco) and Rustington feature regularly. Alongside are trips to the local shops in Storrington, making it easy to catch up with friends over a coffee. In addition, there are fun days out including Old Barn Nursery (Dial Post), pub lunch in Ferring or tea at Bosham waterfront.

Their service operates from Storrington, picking passengers up from the surrounding villages of West Chilington, Thakeham, Cootham and Sullington.

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## Well-Attended AGM

The Club's Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 13 November with a good attendance from senior players and parents of the Cygnets. In his report, Chairman Steve Watkins highlighted the progress of the Cygnets boys' and girls' teams under the enthusiastic guidance of Ben Phillips, the growing value of the Development squad that provides a pathway for juniors in to senior cricket and the thriving social aspect of the Club. He also singled out and thanked Peter Meadows for his umpiring, Colin Harrison for his work on the wickets and Jason Clarke, who was awarded the Clubman of the Year rose bowl.

The Treasurer, Jude Houghton, followed with a detailed report on the Club's finances that had resulted in a surplus for the year after adding to the Club's inventory with new machinery, a bowling machine and a replacement artificial wicket. Jude also updated the meeting on plans for extending and refurbishing the Pavilion.

All the Club's Officers and other representatives were re-elected as were the Captains and Vice Captains, the only change being Tim Laker and Guy McKilligin switching their roles as captains of the 2nd XI and the T20 Slam XI. Carly Osborn was confirmed as the new social media secretary. Membership subscriptions and match fees for all players were discussed at length and increases generally were agreed in the face of rising costs but still keeping the Club's charges competitive in relation to other Clubs in the area.

The Juniors have training sessions on Friday afternoons and details can be seen on the Club's Facebook page or obtained via the Club's website.

The U11s and U12s played a number of indoor matches during November. The U11s lost to Chippingdale after being bowled out for 51 chasing 77. Great credit to Archie Sadler who achieved the first ever Cygnet hat trick. The U12s beat Burgess Hill by 12 runs in their first Brighton league game after scoring 117, Thomas and Massimo being our top scorers. In their second match, against Brighton, the winning margin was greater – 43 runs – with Thomas our top scorer. Towards the end of the month the U12s – see photo - played Aldwick in the Worthing U13 League and won by 23 runs after Massimo had once again top scored. Our girls have also begun playing indoor cricket in an U13 League which is 'hard ball' as opposed to 'soft ball' that they are more accustomed to.

Looking ahead to the 2024 season, the Sussex League has notified clubs of changes to the divisional structure. Our 1st XI will be playing Broadwater, Roffey, Goring, West Wittering, Birdham, Henfield, West Chiltington & Thakeham, Middleton and Southwater, whilst the 2nd XI's opponents will be Rudgwick, Broadbridge Heath, Ifield, Petworth Park, Slinfold, Horsham Trinity and Pulborough.

We wish our readers a very Happy New Year

Chris Winter



At our October lunch, one of our own members, Tony Gledhill GC, told us what life was like as a 'copper' on the beat in East London in the black and white days of the 50s and 60s. It might seem a long time ago but many of us remember what it was like then. Now, when you look at Canary Wharf and environs, it is hard to imagine the desolation left by the bombing of the last war; the rose-bay willow herb growing all over the ruined brickwork; the great open spaces left by demolished buildings; the children playing everywhere in the rubble of burnt out buildings and the looming presence of the docks and shipping on the Thames. That's where Tony worked.

He said life on the beat in the 50s and 60s was very different than that of today. One paraded some 15 minutes prior to duty during which time appointments were produced, ie whistle and chain, truncheon, and note books. That's all they had, no handcuffs, no armoured jackets, no yellow over-jackets and they had to wear helmets all the time unless on driving duties. They had no means of communication except for the Blue Police Box [Tardis] and public telephone boxes. They were posted to a beat for nine weeks, six days a week, earlies and late duties and three nights a week. This meant the public got to know you and would inform you what was going on in the neighbourhood. How things have changed!

Then in November, the same story from our speaker, Simon Waterfield, but of an even earlier era: an audience with Charles Dickens!

Simon came dressed up as someone of presence and stature in 19C apparel. He could have come out of *Pickwick Papers*! However, his brief was to tell us about the early life of our most precious literary figure after Shakespeare. The latter mostly engaged us with tales of the



aristocracy of different countries whereas Dickens regaled with the desperate tales of poverty and injustice within our own land. And it was largely from his own experience whilst growing up. From infancy, Dickens lived with a family whose expenditure on parties and sociability exceeded their income (as we have found with Mr Micawber in *David Copperfield*). Although his father had a good job with the Admiralty at Chatham, he couldn't keep up with his outgoings, to the point that Charles, an avid book reader and collector, was forced to gradually pawn off his books which he had bought with his own money, paid for by dancing and singing in pubs when he was about seven! Eventually, when he was eleven, his parents told him to find some work and his own abode. So he was kicked out! He had, of course, had only minimal education by this time. His father then was moved to work in London and Charles went with them where he found work in a 'blacking' factory, making blacking for boots out of pig fat and soot. You can imagine his appearance! His father lost more money and was taken to the Marshalsea Prison for debtors, along with the rest of the family. Charles tried, but failed, to raise any money from their extended relations and friends. Then his father's mother died and left them enough money to release them from prison and Charles got some education at Wellington College. He was about 14 by this time. A friend was writing for some of the plethora of magazines at that time and Charles started to write some articles as well, which then developed into short stories and started him off on a career in writing the massive and socially important tomes which we now read from the comfort of our sitting rooms. How lucky we are!

Donald Johnston

## STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

### REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 19

The Rector's own duties took him uphill to Cobden, "Where I hear sad news about the general 'swearing' of the people, and on to Highden where there was news of the *Flying Cloud!*" There was a visit from CG himself, who brought a plan of the *Flying Cloud* and news from Plymouth that he would be down the following week. Also a letter from Edward to him. Emmy also wrote, telling them to expect her home by the *Nyanza* arriving about 17 or 18 April. The Rector had his own plans for the 17th and went to Brighton for the annual Volunteer Review, where he "saw the whole flight from a hill opposite Bevingdean Mill." The General commanding was Sir R Walpole. There were enormous crowds of people there. Mr Palmer was driven home by GCG, "and a *recherché* supper of sweetbreads and champagne."

The *Nyanza*, which had been delayed by fog, telegraphed off the Needles at 6pm. "Some few passengers came off, an Ayah or two and babies." The ship did not dock until the next day when Mr Palmer went on board and found Emmy "quite at her ease among polite Colonels and Captains, ... some Indian Rajahs made a great sensation."

Down to earth with a bump, the Rector and his man "took a first turn at mowing. We made a fair job of it. Visitors in the afternoon, Mrs Bartellot and Delph with Annie," and for himself, "a hard evening of candidates for confirmation and a private baptism, a wee 'thing' of Rhoda Charman." In spite of another hard morning mowing with GP, he drove Emmie to Stopham where he saw Annie and met GC [George Cartwright] on the station. "He is his old self, but saddened. Alternately sad and merry." He was still mourning his mother, but evidently making a great effort in the company of the family. The Rector drove him up to Canada [on top of the Downs] and then too a short walk to Burpham. With the unusual number of family in the vicinity, it was good to see "our own pew better filled," although taking his confirmation class in the evening, "I don't think two of them are seriously minded about it." He also records an odd little non sequitur, that Mrs B, John's sister, sends a telegraphic message, price 3/- simply asking, "How are you?" The papers were full of the American news that the Confederates had been defeated, leaving unanswered questions, "What terms will be offered? Will Canada be attacked? Will Lincoln and Seward behave 'handsome' or 'Yankee'? Will Jeff Davis be hanged? Will the National Loan be repaid? or repudiated?" Awful news followed next day of Lincoln's assassination at the theatre by Wilkes Booth with a pistol. Seward's life was also attempted. American business was entirely suspended.

The Rector had another heavy day – lunch with GCG meeting Boyle and Drake and then walked to Cobden with Boyle, learning more details about his poor friend GCB's death.

Gladstone produced his first budget, proposing three reductions, "which are most acceptable. Income Tax 2d, tea and insurance, all these touch us very sensibly." His mother and himself visited Mrs Blagden and Mr Holland who returned to day with his wife, per bus, "who is the most uncouth person she ever met!"

"Our household is just at present in a hitch. A crowded house." The Church was also very full as Storrington Church was being closed for repairs. He drove Emmy to Worthing where she managed to lose her purse, and he needed to take the carriage for repairs. On the return journey Mr Palmer called at Highden for croquet, and brought the Chesters back to Washington. Meanwhile there were confirmation classes "to have Sacramental Theology drummed into their heads." The girls were "polished off" although the Rector was forced to refuse "one densely ignorant". Before the big day for his class, Mr Palmer had a day in town for "dividend day" which resulted in him becoming "the proprietor of East Indian Railway Stock" with which it was hoped to benefit his capital.

And so to concentrate on his flock, Mrs Palmer dined with the Revd John Scott Whiting in Storrington to meet the Bishop, joined by the Revd Henry Palmer for tea. Confirmation Day was in the neighbouring parish with him presenting ten candidates. He commented that the bishop looked remarkably well and was in good spirits, but gave a long and tedious address, the pith of which might well have been comprehended into about

15 minutes. He added that Whiting was boisterous and the Revd James Beck, who lived in a big house next to the Church [the site of today's Chanctonbury Walk] had been "very kind in taking our children." The account of the day was closed by "in spite of old age and loss of memory in our good bishop, I do heartily pray that he may reign over us yet awhile – there is something venerable and apostolic in him which neither the Bishop of Oxford nor him of London, nor Rochester can attain unto."

The next day "drove my 'George' to Mare Hill on the road to his young woman. I hope she will suit us." Presumably they were to move into the cottage which G Paule "had not relished" when he was taken on, or perhaps had been offered another.

A relief from politics - the Budget had been agreed for Tea, Fire and Insurance – was a social gathering at the Major's and cricket practice to open the season at the Sandgate ground with the Storrington team. Dining with GCG and Boyle, they discussed Lancing cricket and the possible team for the event. The *Silver Cloud* was expected at Ramsgate, "but I doubt her having made much way – there had been several days of very stormy weather," Mr Palmer wrote.

Back to politics: Temple produced a Reform Bill which would disenfranchise all Boroughs under 11,000, take one from all two returning Boroughs under 30,000, double the County member, giving the new members their election by all ratepayers.

On the Rector's farm, all 18 of his sheep were sheared but he feared they would not average more than 4½lbs wool. The other event was Storrington Fair which contributed to a difficult "transit" for him driving Emmie to Parham, Storrington and Fryern and finding nobody at home. It was a fine day and with the Fair in progress, they were all probably in attendance. At home there was a long letter from Edward, who seemed well and in for summer quarters for 6 months. Annie wrote to say that her throat was "being doctored and not quite well, but better." She expected to be home soon.

There was a hiatus in the diary from May 15 – June 18 with no mention of Mr Palmer's plans, but the interval was covered in his holiday journal starting the next day, 15 May.

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Got it  
– Daisy Kane



Rain – mud – wind – rugby – camera – action. That's been this month's challenge for Storrington Camera Club. One Thursday afternoon, in the warmth and comfort of the village hall, Club member George Reekie showed us how he takes sports and other action photos and many of us turned up at Pulborough Rugby Club the following Saturday afternoon to give it a go. Torrential rain and high winds made it terrific fun for players and photographers alike, when getting decent pictures would have been difficult enough on a warm summer's day. But there were many photographic successes, and Pulborough won the match; well done them and thanks for having us.

By setting a fast shutter speed on any camera, most moving subjects can be frozen, stationery in time but not in a way that conveys any dynamism or excitement, and that's the art, and the objective, of this type of photography. And with all respect to the Pulborough First XV, there are other subjects which offer greater challenges in terms of their speed.

Motor racing is one such. The trick is to 'pan' the camera, so it follows the car as it zooms past to get a pin sharp car with a motion blurred background; simples! Well, no; until you get the knack of it, a couple of decent shots per hundred is a good return; many will only show parts of cars and others no cars at all. What a triumph the first time you get a pin sharp car and blurred background with the car where you want it in the frame, and in focus, and the whole thing properly exposed. Good job we're not paying for film these days.

Sailing is another great challenge. Racing yachts may not move as fast as racing cars, but the photographer's boat is also being thrown around. The only stable frame of reference is the horizon which must be horizontal in the picture, and action photographers are no less immune to seasickness than normal folk. Again, a scattergun approach of many shots is usually best, followed by a bit of help from image manipulation software to put the world, but not the boats, back on an even keel.

Birds in flight are particularly difficult as they're so skittish and whizz around all over the place; lots of sky and not much bird is the usual experience. Aircraft are more predictable but old timers with propellers pose a particular problem. Get the shutter speed wrong and the propeller will appear stationery; unrealistic and slightly worrying as the plane defies the laws of gravity and flight.

There is a related and seemingly easier approach though where a stationery subject is shot with a moving camera: intentional camera movement is the jargon. This produces a blurred image, sometimes ethereal like an impressionist painting some say, and it can be very effective. As with moving subjects, the more you practice the luckier you get.

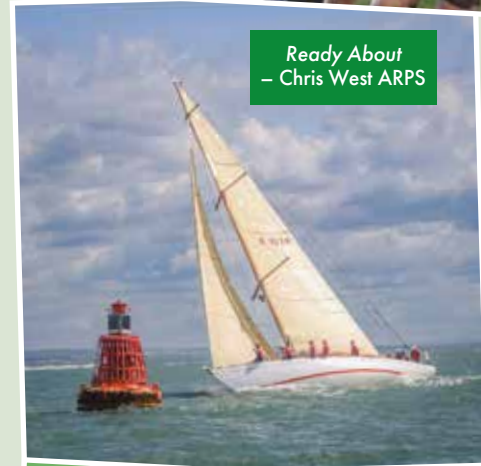
Professional action photographers use cameras with high levels of computing power and lenses with very long reach, quite outside the financial resources of most amateurs. But perseverance with lower specification cameras can, and does, yield good results, and that's even more satisfying when it does. And if the photography's not working for you, well just sit back and enjoy the action.

Chris West

7 against 1  
– Nigel Cherry



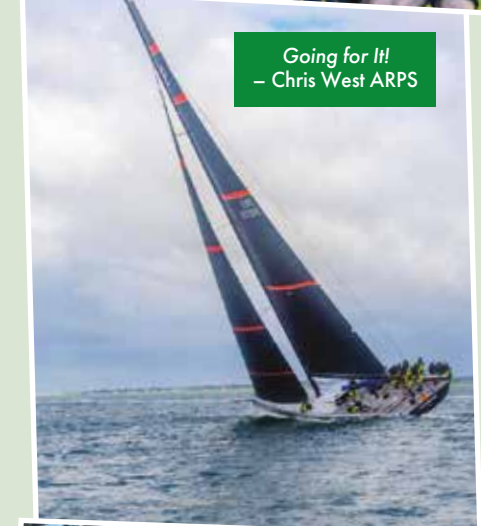
Ready About  
– Chris West ARPS



Get Off – It's Mine  
– George Reekie



Going for It!  
– Chris West ARPS



50 mm to go  
– David Perks ABIPP







**Brownies**  
2nd Storrington

**Busy, busy, busy**

Since our return from the summer holidays, the Brownies and volunteers at 2nd Storrington have been really busy with plenty of activities to enjoy and learn from. Guiding is a fantastic way of sharing ideas with the girls and enjoying their participation in everything we do with them.

The term started back in September with a plan in place to share skills and ideas of things that will help them through their lives. We call it Skills for My Future and yes, with the completion of the term, the girls do earn a very special themed badge. They have learnt about self-resilience, self-confidence as well as plenty of life skills along the way. One of the best evenings was a night about traffic and road safety which is especially important as nights get darker and colder. We set out a road plan and asked the Brownies to navigate safely along it using a brilliant traffic signs and symbols game.



Part of this theme badge is to learn some words and phrases from different countries and we are lucky within our Pack to have an Italian speaking Leader and one of our past girls comes from Thailand so she came along with her dad to teach them some Thai words and customs. We also held a name the pasta quiz which the adults were surprised to see that most of the girls knew the names for most of the shapes!

The beginning of October meant it was time for the last part of the 80th Birthday celebration badge for the Trefoil Guild. All the syllabus for this had an emphasis on the number '80' and Storrington Brownies hosted a 1980's disco with the local legend that is Dave Benson-Phillips on the decks. We invited the girls from Sullington Brownies too and everyone dressed up in neon and leg warmers (including some of the Sullington Leaders) and we enjoyed 80's themed snacks too.

As part of our theme and also adding into their languages badge, we held a virtual visit to 'Our Cabana' which is in Mexico and one of GirlGuiding's World Centres. Having a tour around meant it was an obvious step to then make sombreros. We didn't 'do' Halloween this year and instead wore our creative headware to a Day of the Dead night. The girls also learnt how to prepare salad vegetables to make their own tea, chicken fajitas, which were absolutely delicious and we loved seeing happy, hamster faces full of good healthy food!

Remembrance Week is especially poignant and this year was made tricky by ongoing world events. We chose to read and share war poems and the girls wrote their own and learnt about the different colour poppies too.

We felt it was important to run an evening on money and were surprised that many of them rarely now see cash being used. In light of the economic situation, a reminder of how much money things actually cost in a fun way, and using play coins given to the unit by Worthing Morrisons gave them some idea. It was also great to see them begin to understand that maybe they won't get everything they want for Christmas this year, which many of our parents appreciated.



Using hand tools was another life skill which we encouraged and we ran an evening with Ravenscroft Hall's amazing handyman, Fred. We played a game of identify the tool bingo, handled lots of new tools and made nail and thread houses hammering nails into shapes and using wool



to make patterns. They ended up looking a little like gingerbread houses and all the girls listened to the safety instructions really well and we were all delighted with the results.

Our autumn term finished with cards, presents and mince pies and the early part of 2024 is already planned with new ideas for everyone to enjoy, new skills to learn and more fun to have. Our Pack is quite small (we have spaces for a January start) but each and every one of our girls loves coming and we do a lot of laughing.

Looking for excitement, a close knit community and a chance to make an impact? Girlguiding might be the perfect fit for you! Whether you can help occasionally or regularly, please do get in touch to volunteer.  
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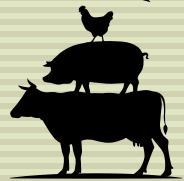



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## SANDGATE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

If you happen to feel that you are in need of a bit of exercise after the Christmas holiday then look no further, as the Society are always on the lookout for volunteers to help out working on Sullington Warren and in Sandgate Park.

Our volunteers are to be found on Sullington Warren on **Saturday 13 January** between 9.30am and noon, and in Sandgate Park on **27 January** between 10am and noon, so come and join us as you will be most welcome. All tools, gloves etc are provided, so simply just turn up.

Please note that the Sandgate presentations in the Sullington Parish Hall will recommence in February.

To learn more about the Sandgate Conservation Society, who work closely with the National Trust and Horsham District Council, please contact Brian Burns on 743001 or see [www.sandgate.conservation@gmail.com](http://www.sandgate.conservation@gmail.com)

Wishing you all Happy and Peaceful New Year.

Brian Burns



## 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.



**NO MEETING ON 1 JAN**



**At Sullington Parish Hall  
Wednesday 10th January 2024**

THIS MONTH'S FILM



Starring: Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling & Issa Rae

**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

Starring Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling.

Barbie suffers a crisis that leads her to question her world and her existence.

On Wednesday 14 February, the film will be *The Great Escaper*, starring Michael Caine.

The President welcomed members and one visitor to the November meeting. Our secretary informed us of the move to new Federation office at Queen Street Chichester, meaning numerous items were still available for disposal, including theatrical costumes, stationery and fabrics for a donation.

Upcoming events will include a spring lunch at West Sussex Golf Club in March, a curling session in August and a talk from the village warden. Programme suggestions were welcomed. The treasurer reported a healthy balance.

Jan, of Stitch sewing shop in Storrington, was our speaker for the evening was introduced, along with a young helper.

Jan originally trained as a nurse but, with a young family, took a career change. In 2019 she discussed with family and friends the sewing shop business that was up for sale in Storrington and decided to go ahead with the purchase. There has been a sewing shop in Storrington of one form or another for a long time and now it was Jan's turn to offer a wide source of products: haberdashery, fabrics for quilting and dressmaking, and also sewing classes and tuition, accompanied by copious biscuits and drinks.

This evening, Jan had spent a lot of time preparing the materials in kit form to enable us to all to make a felt poinsettia Christmas decoration, which necessitated the threading of over 40 sewing needles! We were given a demonstration and also printed instructions and let loose. The room was filled with happy chatter as we set to our task. Soon a delighted group of members were able to hold up their efforts in celebration of the start of Christmas 2023 season. Jan was thanked for her skilful tuition.

Refreshments were served and the raffle drawn. We welcome visitors and new members, should you require any further information about Sullington Windmills or the WI, please call 741078.

Rosemarie Fulford



## USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

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| <b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b>                    | 270 444                 |
| <b>Storrington and Sullington Parish Council</b> | 746547                  |
| <b>Thakeham Parish Council</b>                   | 01798 815305            |
| <b>Horsham District Council</b>                  | 01403 215100            |
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Amanda Hislop (743700) email: 3Heralds@gmail.com  
c/o Rectory Office, Rectory Road, Storrington RH20 4EF

### Advertisements

Mrs Sue Kibblewhite (745325) email: 3heralds adverts@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Mrs Sue Kibblewhite (as above)

**Postal Magazines:** Alison Hammond (07840 522832)

### Area Distributors

**Storrington:** Alison Hammond (07840 522832)

**Sullington:** Mrs Jane Williams (742956)

**Thakeham:** Mrs Karen Arkle (744844)

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

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