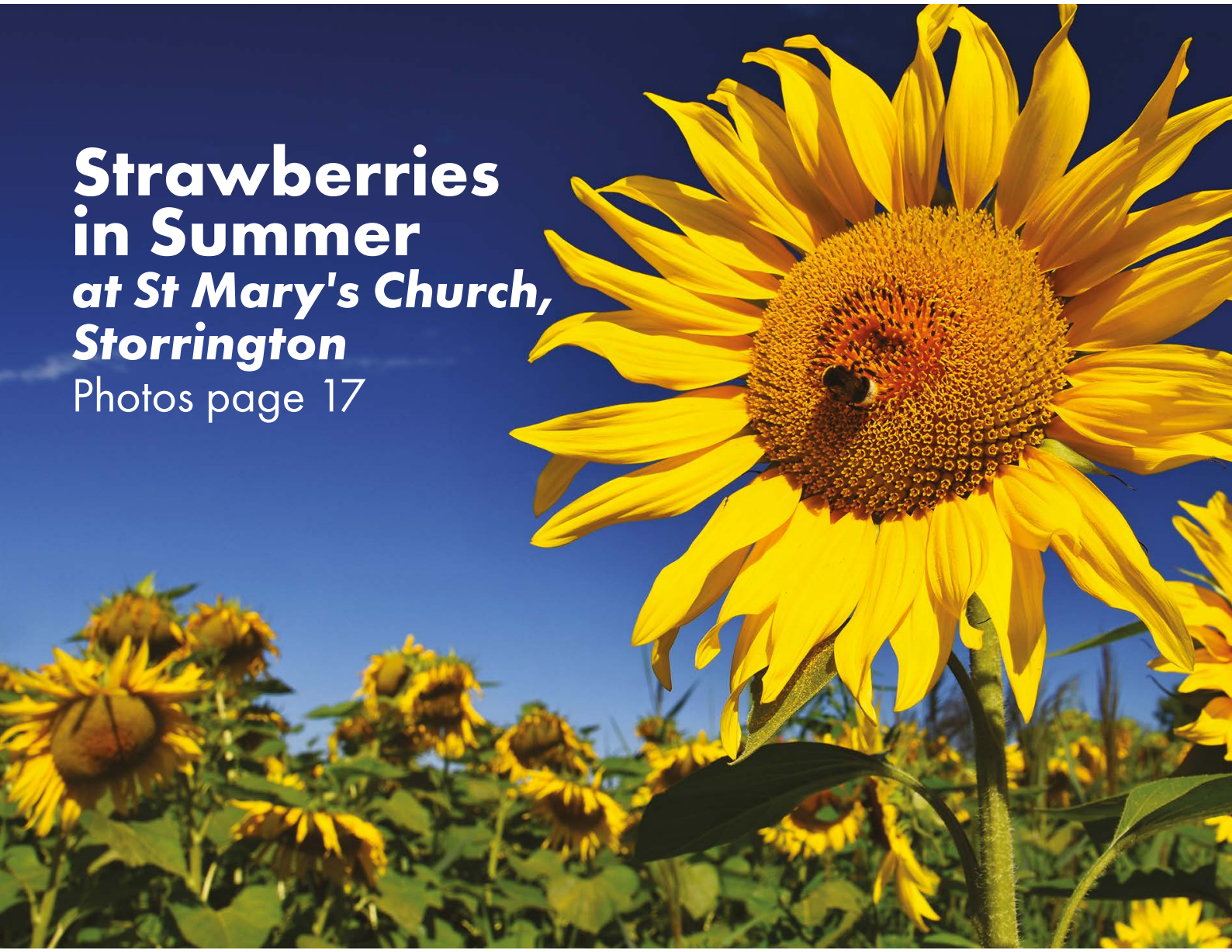
September 2026

£1

# 3Heralds

STORRINGTON SULLINGTON THAKEHAM



## Strawberries in Summer

***at St Mary's Church, Storrington***

Photos page 17



St Mary's Church **SULLINGTON**



St Mary's Church **STORRINGTON**



St Mary's Church **THAKEHAM**



Holy Sepulchre **WARMINGHURST**
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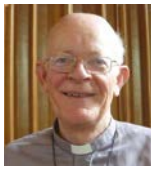
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## PARISH CLERGY

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

**SULLINGTON AND THAKEHAM WITH WARMINGHURST**
**Priest in Charge** – The Revd Joel Willmer – Joel.stwparish@gmail.com

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



At the beginning of next month, on October 4, the Church celebrates the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis. The son of a rich businessman of Assisi, Francis gave up all that he had to follow the call of Christ to "rebuild my Church". Deeply a man of prayer and praise, Francis was also a phenomenally attractive preacher of the Gospel. Not afraid to kiss a leper, practising total poverty, working for peace and for respect for all creation, he (unintentionally) founded a world-wide movement of brothers and sisters; women gathered round St Clare at the chapel of San Damiano. Francis originally called his brothers an "Order of Penitents". He died in 1226.




Francis also set up a Third Order for people who wanted to follow him but who had responsibilities for property and family. The Society of St Francis, celibate men and women, was established in the Church of England in 1937 with the merger of several groups with a Franciscan spirituality and this included an Anglican Third Order. This is for people who desire more structure and discipline in their prayer life and who are inspired and challenged by the combination of radical contemplation and action in Francis and Clare.




Tertiaries follow a personal Rule of Life which takes account of their daily circumstances and also meet with other Tertiaries several times a year. In their Rule of Life they make commitments under various headings which are reviewed with a Spiritual Companion once a year at Francis-tide. Everyone's Rule has the same headings: Eucharist, Penitence, Personal Prayer, Self-denial, Retreat, Study, Simplicity, Daily Life and Work, Obedience. For example, I might commit to praying for two hours before breakfast each weekday; but when I come to make my review, I can see that for me this turned out not to be practical!

Do you seek more structure in your spiritual life? Do you feel attracted to Francis and Clare? If anyone would like to know more, please contact Charles or Felicity Hadley (charles.felicity@gmail.com or 01903 740787).

And celebrate with us on October 3rd – 4th.

Peace and joy to all,

CHARLES HADLEY
*Retired Priest, St Mary's Church, Storrington*

## PRAYER FOR THE MONTH



**A Prayer of Thanksgiving and Wonder**

God, our Creator of heaven and earth, how blessed we are to be surrounded by the beauty of your creation. We lift our prayer of gratitude as we see the stars of heaven, and the beauty of the sunset. We are amazed by the seas and waterways and all that are in them. We are enchanted by the flowers and trees which are clothed by you. We are awed by all the animals you created. For the beauty of the earth, the mountains and valleys, the sun and the moon – we give you praise. Amen.

**Support your local church with the annual Sussex Historic Churches Trust**



## RIDE+STRIDE

**Saturday, 12 September 2026 • 9am till 5pm**

Sussex Churches will be open on Saturday 12 September for this annual event when people are sponsored to cycle, walk or ride from church to church. Money raised is divided between the Sussex Historic Churches' Trust and the participant's own church.

**If you would like more information, please go to www.sussexhistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride**

## Christians in Storrington

***Monthly Inter-Church Prayer Meetings***

***Everyone welcome***

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

**Tuesday 1 September** – Life Community Church will lead
**Tuesday, 4 October** – Trinity Methodist Church will lead

***One in faith and love and praise***

## FEATURES


| | |
|---|---|
| Canon Palmer's Diary | 14 |
| Mothers' Union | 15 |
| Church Services at a Glance | 18 |
| What's On | 19 |
| Probus Club Celebrates 40 Years | 30 |



Loving God and loving our neighbour

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2 Corinthians 5:17

# St Mary's Thakeham

www.stmarysthakeham.org

**Churchwardens**
James Isgrove
Pippa Harder
stwparish@gmail.com

**Treasurer**
Liz Slaughter
stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

**Retired Clergy**
Revd Jill Simpson

**PCC Secretary**
VACANT

**Electoral Roll Officer**
Chris Whitehead
electoralrollstmary.thakeham@btinternet.com

**Safeguarding Officer**
Pippa Harder
Cliff Purvis
stmarysthakehamsafeguarding@gmail.com

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

**Bellringers: Tower Captain**
Roger Watts

**Bell Ringers Tower Secretary**
Christine Hounslow (07798 610094)

**Gift Aid Officer**
Bob Timms (01798 813807)
Cootes, The Street ,
Thakeham, RH20 3EP

## PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR

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

## BRIDGE DAY – 6 OCTOBER

### 9.15am-2.30pm, Thakeham Village Hall

Due to popular demand, we are hosting our 5th Bridge day. This time we also have some fabulous clothes (organised by Jackie Haynes and Marianne Pope) on sale (50% of which go to the church) so come from 9.15am, enjoy your coffee and viewing at leisure or just come for a coffee at 9.45am for some fun Bridge and a scrummy lunch!

We will also have a fabulous hamper to raffle, donated by Chef's Farms, cash or cards most welcome!

If you haven't got a full table and would like to come and make up a table – let us know and we will do our best to put you with a jolly crew!

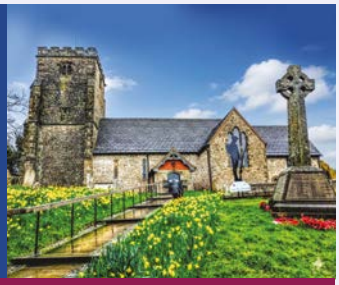
We are expecting a BIG uptake – so please do get your tables booked quickly.

*Jenny Denman*




## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are looking for help with keeping
**St. Mary's Thakeham churchyard**
in a tidy condition, caring for the graveyard with love and respect



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

## COFFEE MORNING




**St Mary's Thakeham Church Rooms**
**Friday 25 September**
**10am to 12 noon**

**Please come along and support this charity**
**Enjoy delicious homemade cakes with tea or coffee**
**The ever-popular bacon rolls will be available**
**Further information available from Wynn Lednor 01903 743025**

## Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group

**Tuesday 15 September 2pm - 4pm**
Thakeham Church Room
If you are interested in knitting or stitching you are welcome to join us for an afternoon of friendship
For further information please contact Wynn Lednor on 01903 743025

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

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in us



# St Mary's Sullington

www.st-marys-sullington.org

**Churchwarden**
Carol Lusher (07717 280590)
carollusher@gmail.com

**Treasurer**
David Baxter (744346)

**Retired Clergy**
Revd Jill Simpson

**Churchwardens Emeriti**
Heather Cotton (745751)
Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

**Minutes Secretary**
Philippa Stallard-Penoyre

**Electoral Roll Officer**
Philippa Stallard-Penoyre

**Organist**
VACANT

**Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Officer**
David Baxter (744346)

**Church Altar Flowers**
Flower Team – 07759 567831

**Churchyard**
John Williams (07841 204330)

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

**Church Fabric Officer**
John Williams (07841 204330)

## THAKEHAM AND SULLINGTON:

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







## MIDWEEK CELTIC COMMUNION SERVICE

**St Mary's Church, Sullington**

Our Midweek Celtic Communion Service will be back this month. Please check our September pews news for dates in church or on our website: www.st-marys-sullington.org

## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, SULLINGTON

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

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

For details contact our Churchwarden.



## Dates for your Diary



11 October – Harvest Festival
11 October – Harvest Lunch
21 November – Christmas Fayre

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





Faith, Hope and Love in the heart of the Community

# St Mary's Storrington

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

**Churchwardens**
churchwardens@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

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

Michael Taylor (742218)

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

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

**PCC Secretary**
Marj Mitchell

**Retired Clergy**
Revd Charles Hadley (740787)
Revd John Peal (743083)
Revd Jacquie Peal (743083)

**Verger and Sacristan**
Michael Taylor (742218)

**Sacristy Team**
John Taylor (745477)
Lueen Francis

**Captain of Bell-Ringers**
John Taylor (745477)

**Parish Visiting Scheme**
Stuart Lee (412031)

**Electoral Roll Officer**
Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer**
Stephen Bloxham (07391 387 225)
safestmarystor@gmail.com

**Readers**
Sam Ward (893794)

**Director of Music**
Stephen Bloxham

**Assistant Organist**
Ian Miles

**Sidesmen**
David Rice (746816)

**Church Flowers**
Wendy Cliffe (744467)

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

## REGULAR ACTIVITIES

**Church Services** see page 18.

**Holy Communion and Café in the Church:**

2nd Wednesday at 10am HC; 10.30am Café in the Church

4th and 5th Wednesdays at 2pm HC; 2.30pm Café in the Church

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

**Altar Servers:** Michael Taylor (742218)

**Bellringers:** Fridays, 7.45pm – 9.30pm.

**Church & Churchyard Maintenance:** John Butler (745091)

**Mothers' Union:** Jeannie Bell (07875 220426)

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

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

Messy Church

at St Mary's Church, Storrington!

WATCH THIS SPACE!

## PARISH VISITING TEAM...

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

## STORRINGTON REGISTERS

### STORRINGTON REGISTERS

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

19 July Jaeden Bailey Sargent (son of Emily and Paul)
2 Aug Winnie Rose McKilligin (daughter of Amy and Guy)

**Marriages** – *to love and to cherish ...*

18 July William Dunnett and Isabelle Smith

## BATTLE OF BRITAIN COMMEMORATION SERVICE – Sunday, 20 September – 10am

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

## HARVEST CELEBRATION
### Sunday 4 October



**8am** Holy Communion

**10am** Harvest Communion
Everyone is invited to bring gifts of produce (especially tins and packets, etc) which will be given to the Family Support Work in Storrington. The Church will be decorated for Harvest on Friday, 2 October, starting at 9.30am.

**12 noon** Harvest Lunch
We will have our Harvest Lunch in the Old School on 4 October – more details in the weekly Church News Sheet and next month's *3 Heralds*.

**6pm** Harvest Evensong

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

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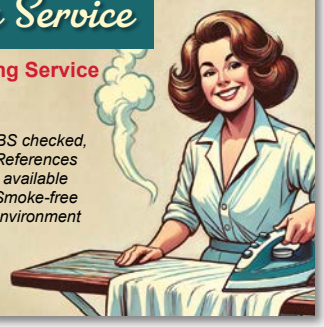
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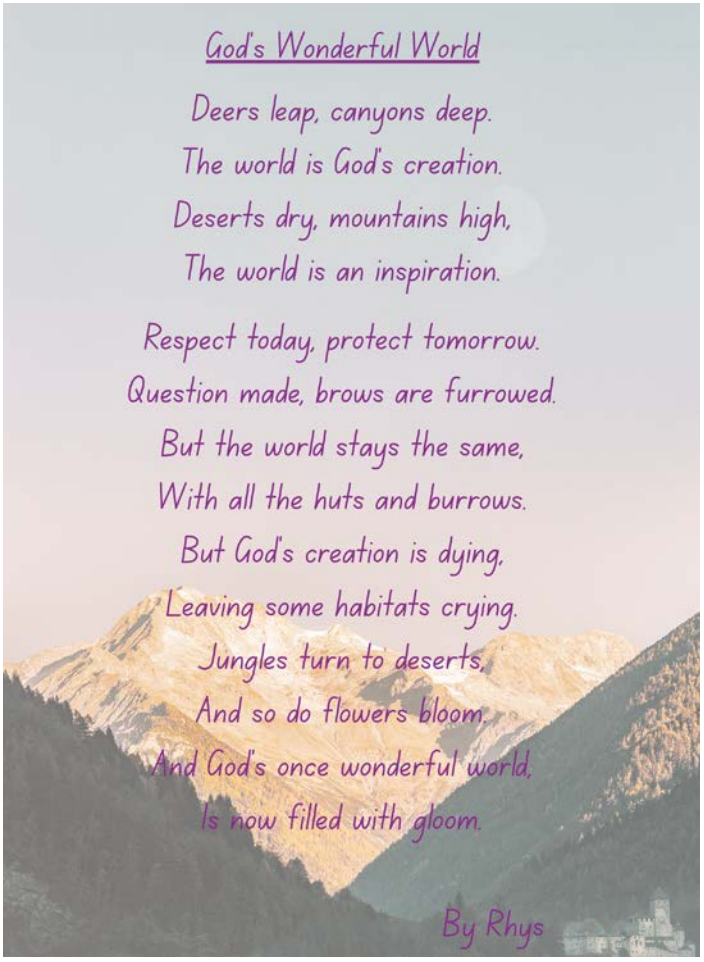
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*Poem by Rhys Williamson (9 years), grandson of John and Lynn Butler of St Mary's, Storrington.*




## **CAFÉ IN THE CHURCH** – THANK YOU, JOHN & JACQUIE!

On Wednesday 29 July, the Café in the Church Committee said a big thank you to Revd Jacquie and Revd John Peal for their organisation of Cafe in the Church over the last nine years. The keys have been passed on to the others on the committee: Janet, Ann, Paul, Sonia, Jeannie, Barbara, Jeff, David & Val – as we look to the future of Cafe in the Church and the daytime activities in the church building.



## **DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE** AT ST MARY'S, STORRINGTON

On 15 July St Mary's, Storrington, hosted a Day of Prayer for World Peace. The day began at 10.00am, finishing with a service of Compline at 7.45pm. During the day, many people came in to pray and to leave a paper dove, with a prayer written on it, on the Prayer Tree.

The day centred around words from Revelation 22:

"Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

And also from a hymn, written by Erik Routley and based on a much older Hungarian hymn.

*There in God's garden stands the Tree of wisdom,*
*whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations.*
*Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,*
*Tree of all beauty.*

*Its name is Jesus, name that says, 'Our Saviour!'*
*There on its branches see the scars of suffering;*
*see where the tendrils of our human selfhood*
*feed on its life-blood.*

*Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;*
*our greed has starved it; our despite has choked it.*
*Yet look, it lives! Its grief has not destroyed it,*
*nor fire consumed it.*

All heaven is singing, 'Thanks to Christ, whose Passion
offers in mercy healing, strength and pardon.
All men and nations, take it, take it freely!'
Amen! My Master!

Words: Erik Routley (1917-1982)
*Based on Hungarian of Kiràli Imre von Pécselyi (1590-1641)*
*© Hinshaw Music Inc. USA.)*

Please continue to pray for peace in our beautiful, amazing, hurting world.

*Jacquie Peal*



## **CHOIR** SUNNY DAYS GATHERING

On Saturday 18 July, St Mary's, Storrington, choir got together for a Sunny Days Gathering at Maggie and Jon's house. It was a lovely teatime event with everyone bringing a dish to share (including the final bake of Lueen's amazing cheese biscuits) and Maggie and Jon serving endless cups of tea. We enjoyed having a look around Maggie's terraced garden with her prize hostas and other plants – surviving the heat of this year's summer! A great afternoon all round.







The choir meets every Friday evening at 6.30pm. It's a great way to meet up with others and have a good sing - you'll be more than welcome. No need to read music or be very 'choiry' – just come and enjoy the sing!

*Stephen Bloxham*



## **TRINITY** SUNSHINE CHOIR

### Are you experiencing memory problems?

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

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

A Community Choir in Storrington

**Our next meeting is on 23 September**

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

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

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

## ABRAHAM

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






MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

## Coffee Afternoon for Macmillan Cancer Support

**Wednesday 30 September**

**2.30 – 4pm**

**Parish Church of St Mary, Storrington**

Church Street, Storrington, RH20 4LA

*Accessible parking and level access available in Rectory Road*




# Have you seen the signs?

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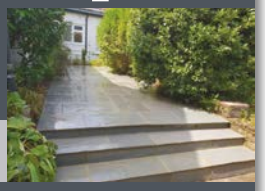
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## **HYMNS** & PIMM'S

On Thursday 6 August, we held our Hymns & Pimm's event in the beautiful surroundings of St Mary's Church, Sullington. It was a sublimely tranquil and calm evening as we gathered together in the churchyard. It was wonderful to enjoy a lovely, cool and refreshing Pimm's in the warmth of the early evening sunshine outside the historic Grade I listed church.





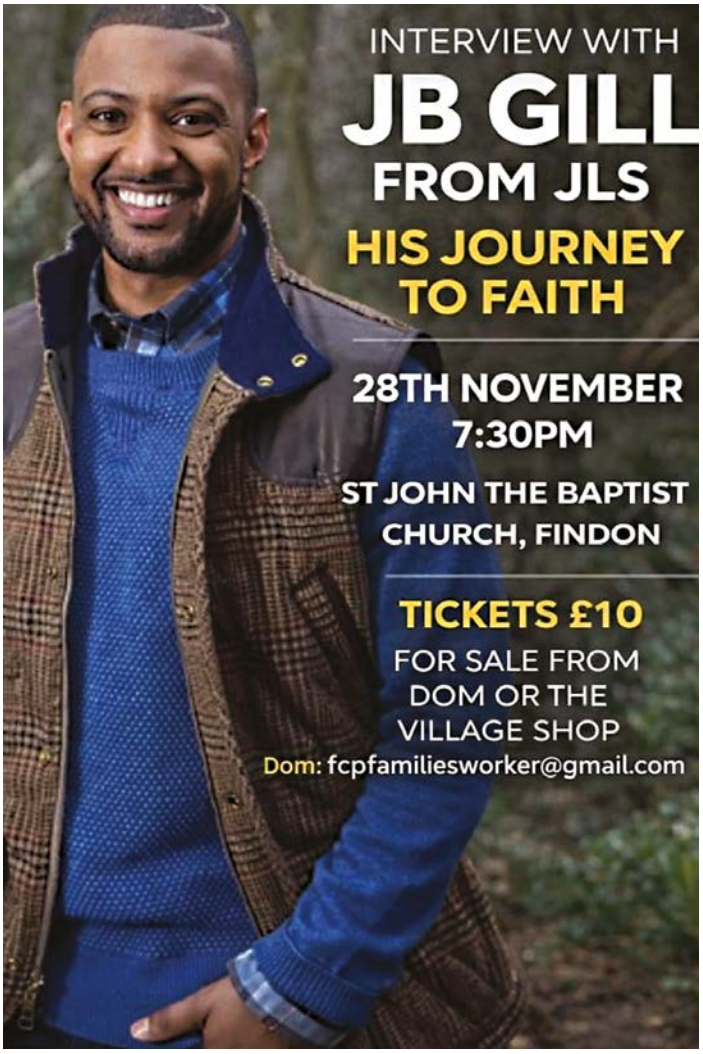






Thank you to Pegi, Gail and Anna for providing our delicious Pimm's. It was such a friendly, sociable and happy occasion, and we welcomed both old and new friends. Before our gathering, everyone had given Kay, our pianist, their favourite hymns, many of which brought back memories of school, church, Brownies and Guides. These included *Light of the World* and *Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord* – "the Holy One is here" – which I'm sure some of us are still quietly humming to ourselves today. Thank you to Carol for so beautifully linking the evening together, and to Revd. Beth Izzard for sending us on our way with a lovely blessing.

*Jane Williams*




## CONCERTS IN CHURCH – LOOKING BACK AND FORWARD

### ST MARY'S CHURCH, STORRINGTON

**West Sussex Youth choir**

Towards the end of July we were delighted to welcome West Sussex Youth Choir into the church. Led by Mark Bradbury, they took us through a varied programme, opening with *Mr Blue Skies* and including *How Can I Keep From Singing*.

The choir sang with sensitivity and obvious enjoyment. It was a real pleasure to watch and listen.

West Sussex Youth Choir is a mixed choir for anyone aged between 13 and 21 with a passion for singing. You can find out more at https://www.westsussexmusic.co.uk/choir/ This concert was the finale for their 2026 summer course.

**Swing with Strings**

If you think the Bernardi Music Group is strictly classical, you may be surprised on **Sunday 27 September**. Instead of Bach, they promise us a richly atmospheric evening of music from the Great American Songbook, inspired by the influence of Charlie "Bird" Parker.

Andrew will be joined by tenor Anando Mukerjee and saxophonist Julien Nicholas to give us new arrangements of much-loved standards by George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin and Duke Ellington.

The concert starts at 6pm; tickets are £25 available from www.bernardimusicgroup.com



# SULLINGTON 160 YEARS AGO

## SUMMARY OF THE DIARY OF CANON PALMER – SEPTEMBER 1866

**Sat 1:** Heavy showers, cloudy, sky full of thunder cloud. Annie and Bertha to Brighton, I to sermon, "Weep ye not for the dead neither bemoan him etc".

**Sun 2:** 14th after Trinity. Heavy rain in the morning, cloudy in the afternoon. A wee assembly this morning to whom an old sermon on psalm 1.1&2. We begin afternoon service again, much to my regret: the congregation is comparatively sleepy and I not so brisk, however it is a necessity. Preached on Jehovah's captivity "sins worse than death".

**Mon 3:** Fine and brisk, wind strong from West. Rode to Steyning in morning where I deposited my N.Zealand (Queensland) Bond for £100, which I bought a month ago for £85, and was quoted yesterday at £92! Annie and I inspected 2 cottages for prizes and purchased £5 worth of cottage furniture at Bottlings. The school desks arrived. Hardwick tries to shirk over meeting. "I am lukewarm in a matter of education".

**Tue 4:** Very wet throughout. Think I must put my meeting off as well as the mistress, as I see no hope for the things being ready. Garfit begins hard at his Virgil and algebra, has read 5 hours today. They grappled and caught the cable on the 17th, have made the splice, and also going on favourably towards America! Instantly quite perfect throughout the piece. They caught in the 58 North latitude 31 West longitude 1040 miles had been paid out, and the depth of water was 2400 fathoms!

**Wed 5:** Very wet morning, afternoon cleared. Annie and I made a visit on the cottages prize duty to Springhead and there was no prize, and I am bothered with my future plans; whether the house will be let or I go to Southampton or Banwell, or remain here, all doubtful. All rather unsettling and preventing work. Read over Calverley's translation of Theocritus Idyll from original.

**Thu 6:** XXXI. Stormy, quite a gale as I write this at 11pm, yet very warm, damp and drear without. My birthday! George and Edward at home! I have hopes that this birthday will be to me a day of new and better things. I earnestly pray that I may forget the things that are past and press forward to what is before, remembering my Baptismal profession and my ministerial duties. Will 1867 see me single I wonder? Change of some kind seems imminent.

**Fri 7:** After a stormy night, a scuddy, dull, mild day. George and Ellen amuse themselves clearing the lawn after the storm. I have my first application for house from Mrs Hall, near Bury St. Edmunds. Drove a chaise full to the flower show at Pulborough, rather a dull exhibition, in consequence of the sad destruction of a magnificent tent which had been erected last evening, but which was felled by the gale about 5 o'clock.

**Sat 8:** Thoroughly wet. Thick, falling mist to heavy rain. No one has been able to stir out today – the duo fratres rather out of water. My pupil, Garfit, is 19 today. Most of my day chiefly in hearing his translation of Aeneid 1 rather more abundantly than I can express: in a sermon on Irreverence, text, Jehoiakim burning Jeremiah's prophecy. I am preparing for the Holy communion tomorrow. My certain sins hence to reappear! Two more applications for the house; one illiterate with whom very short.

**Sun 9:** 15th after Trinity. Fine. Holy communion for a fashionable congregation! All the Highden party, who entered the church like a pack of geese, in the morning Fred King, who had returned from Scotland. Chattie having seen her sister, Mrs Brewster, buried. Very few of our true rustic sheep at the Holy communion, preached on the subject of Jehoiakim burning the Roll. Two more applications for the house: one likely Mrs Boyd.

**Mon 10:** Very showery. Warm. A general dispersion from the three great houses of Sullington, Sandgate and Highden. My brethren go – Edward to Paris with Charles Goring, and George to town and tomorrow to Edinburgh. By today's Times they have completed the laying of the Atlantic telegraph cable of 1865, so that there are now two complete lines between countries. I think about the school, which I fear will take some time yet.

**Tue 11:** Stormy with much rain in forenoon. This wonderfully wet weather has sent up wheat 3 shillings a quarter and depressed the funds. I am inundated with Agent's letters about the house, but now likely private applications.

**Wed 12:** A cold morning which turned to colder rain. A dismal day throughout – fires in the evening. Storrington decoration goes on today, but geraniums damaged by rain – all the evergreens and hot house flowers nowhere.

**Sat 15:** Fine with occasional cold storms. A busy day. George's harvest home, to which about 40 came. George had a lame leg and Emmie was a little hors de combat, so the proceedings were not quite so lively as usual, but all went off well: touted for our school.

**Sun 16:** 16th after Trinity. Heavy storms throughout. Gale. Drenching torrents all day with violent wind, such as I have hardly seen before. Thunder about 5. Preached to small congregation in the morning, but had no discourse in the afternoon and I myself could hardly compass church.

**Mon 17:** Fine and calm after yesterday. Such rain over the lawn! Such torn roads! Write to Edward a birthday letter. Take a round to get 30 sacks for thrashing this week.

**Tue 18:** Fine but treacherous. One or two showers. Finished "Felix Holt" and I am much delighted therein, it is cleverness and clear English in which it is written; some of the mental descriptions are most powerful. Edward is 30 today. George and Mrs D. sent £1 for the school.

**Wed 19:** Fine, tho' lowering, mild. Charlie comes to us as a slight invalid; her ailments being biliousness. Have had a busy day with preparation for the steam engine, driving to meet C. yet got my usual reading in Hebrew and instead stick to it.

**Thu 20:** Fine morning, showery afternoon, mild. Our steam engine commenced its humming work at 7:30 this morning and finished at 11:30. The quantity thrashed is 37 sacks and 2 bushels off 4 and half acres, thus giving about 8 and a quarter per annum.

One of my oldest parishioners ill – Lisher, his wife cannot stand any fatigue and is not the sweetest disposition of nurse. Hardwick, whose labourer he is, was very good to him.

**Fri 21:** After a very rough night fine but unsettled. The old Barttelots and Mrs Brian lunch; the two formers are going to Bath for the winter and coming to Stopham in the spring. The health of the Emperor causes great anxiety, not so that old Lisher, who is likely to recover.

**Sat 22:** Fine but unsettled. Letter from Mr Arbuthnot about this house – come to see it on Monday. I write and try to catch Upperton for the school meeting but fail.

**Sun 23:** 17th after Trinity. Wet morning, fine afternoon. No congregation in the morning, no singing, my 3 females being afraid of damp. George Gibson and Edward come over. Preached two old sermons as have been busy all week.

**Mon 24:** Fine after a wet night and early morning. Rather an important day, two of our tenant's candidate's friends came over from Elderslie Dorking to see the house. Mr and Mrs G. Arbuthnot: they are Indians and seem well pleased with everything and think it will suit the brother's family; the wife is unfortunately somewhat untidy, but only has a small chiefly female family, so perhaps the damage done wouldn't be very expensive.

**Tue 25:** Fine and bright. Busy winnowing up wheat for which I have got £13. Hardwick knocked my gatepost down yesterday, by clumsy deputy and has to make things right again. Drove Annie to Chiltington and got the domestic tools for the mistress. We have now in the parish all the family except George! Soon to be scattered to the four quarters of the island.

**Wed 26:** Again, a wet morning, muggy. A bad post. A mad letter from HSKP from Glasgow! Full of insanity. A cool reply from Upperton, who thinks that the parish of Thakeham will not be in the least benefited by the school. Rebuff no 1. I wonder how many we shall get. Chattie lunch here.

**Thu 27:** Fine. Had our school meeting today. Only William Hardwick and Hard present today, after much hesitation got £1 from Hardwick. There was a slight struggle about the "annual". George C. Gibson will give £20 per annum and Annie £1, I £10 for the first year and £5 after that, so we shall do.

**Fri 28:** As summer's day! After much preparation our school mistress comes in today. I almost wish I could see into the future, 5 years, and the eventual fate of my battling – it is quite speculation. Rode to Madehurst; Nicholls just flitted and has left the profession of a pastor hominum for that of ovium. A wagon filled with things, with Henry Nicholls, Kirdford upon it, stood at the door! Charlie returns, improved by her visit. George writes that he has called his youngest Harry, after me!

*Ann Salinger*

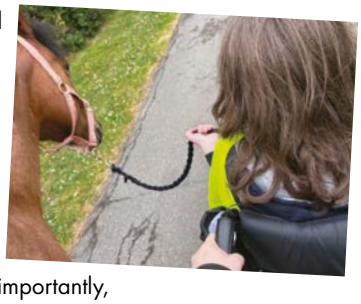



Storrington Library is offering friendly and fun Reading Friends monthly sessions. It's a chance to chat and connect to new friends through the sharing of stories, memories and experiences.

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.

# WEST CHILTINGTON AND STORRINGTON MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union works closely with Family Support Work and Sonia Fox has volunteered tirelessly with FSW. She has helped them on their various cake stalls, with the toddler drop-centre in Storrington, etc! FSW do amazing work with families in Sussex. Over the years they have supported families whose lives were in disorder, but with time, they have helped the families to turn their situation around. They provide not just practical help, but, perhaps more importantly, they come alongside the family and offer emotional help too. There is a new resource, for instance, near Horsham which offers therapeutic support and learning through animal-based activities for children and young people unable to access school-based education. The results have been very rewarding, both for the family and the practitioner.



## Why I Joined Family Support Work...

*"I first heard about Family Support Work while working as a Social Worker. I referred a father and his two sons who were struggling to cope, and with the right support, the family was able to move forward. Seeing the lasting difference FSW made to their lives inspired me to join the charity myself. Today, I'm privileged to support families facing challenges of their own, helping them build hope and a brighter future."*

**Richard Andrews, Family Support Practitioner for Rotherfield & Uckfield**



On Wednesday 30 September, FSW are holding their Annual Eucharist and Annual General Meeting in Rustington. The service at St Peter and St Paul's Church will begin at 11.00am. They are delighted that the Bishop of Horsham will be part of the celebrations this year, everyone welcome.





Do you know that they have a food bank? Currently, they are asking people to help restock their almost base shelves. Can you donate some tins, some biscuits etc? Let's help fill the shelves up. You can never outgive God, try it and watch as God blesses you.

*"The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, declares the LORD of Hosts"* Haggai 2.8.

*Maria Radford*

### *"Nor any drop to drink"*

I can't bear to include any pictures of my garden this month; I wouldn't mind sharing the photo of parched grass – almost everyone has the same – but my borders are beginning to look like someone has sprayed a particularly effective weedkiller over them. I have a thermometer in my greenhouse showing maximum and minimum temperatures. Although my picture only shows over 29° last evening, some days it's been well over 40° despite having the door and vents wide open and damping down. How are you getting on? Are you watering everything? I have insisted to my husband that it just isn't sustainable to water everything everywhere; all but two of my thirteen water butts are empty, and I'm saving what's left in those for the plants that really hate tap water. So, I'm only watering some vegetables, my pots, and a few really precious trees given to me as gifts from family over the last ten years.




Once we finally get some rain, perhaps even by the time you're reading this, I shall see what bounces back. Already some plants have surprised me. Our acers and roses seem to be coping. Biennials like evening primrose and hollyhocks are doing well, but the annuals like Californian and Welsh poppies came and went and I hardly saw them. Hardy geraniums which are supposed to be bomb proof have dried back to crisps, and even Bergenia, which I used to know as elephant's ears, show signs of stress.



I have a picture in the bathroom, shown here, which reminds me never to take water for granted – Women at River Siele. How lucky am I? People who have to go to a river or well to draw water and carry it home can't afford to be profligate with it.

### *Like minded*

I had two meetings recently; one unplanned and one planned. While delivering *3 Heralds* I bumped into Ian Currie, also of this Parish (as they say on the Today programme). He writes the Weather Watch column. We had a lovely conversation about weather, keeping weather records and geology. It was great meeting him for the first time and I shall read his pieces with renewed interest now I've met him.

My planned meeting was with Viv Doussy and Tony Whitbread, both extraordinarily active members of Sussex Wildlife Trust. Actually Tony is President. We're hoping that by the time you read this, we'll have a date for screening the People's Emergency Briefing in church. It's a 50-minute film about the Climate Emergency. Look out for the date.

Part of the discussion with Viv and Tony was about values, not financial values, although that can be a very real issue when thinking about the climate emergency. Tony was saying that at the screenings of the film he's attended, little has been said about values. Now, generally I try not to "sermonise" in these columns and stay pretty practical, but this conversation made me wonder how to raise the questions of values and good stewardship with my wider family and friends. Take my sister for example; she's a good woman; she cares deeply for her children and new grandchild and is generous and helpful to others. But ..... I'm not convinced she connects the way she lives her life today with whatever climate and political challenges her grandchild is likely to face. When and how do I try and nudge her in that direction?

### *Buses are beautiful*

Well, maybe not, but I wanted an alliterative heading!

I like buses, and it grieves me that rural bus services have shrunk to almost nothing in some areas. When I was a child but old enough to travel independently, getting the bus to wherever I wanted to go was routine. I told you earlier this year about Daphne and her fantasy bus adventure. Well, for about £2, or free if you have a bus pass, you can go on the number 1 to Midhurst or Worthing, or you can take the 100 to Horsham or Burgess Hill, or use the 74 to get to Horsham, or even take the 71 to Chichester Tesco on Wednesdays only.



You can find timetables at Stagecoach https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables for the number 100 and Compass Travel https://compass-travel.co.uk/bus-timetables/ for all the rest.

### *Going for silver*

As a church St Mary's, Storrington, got our bronze eco church award some years ago, but have sort of stalled on the next stage. We want to refocus and take the steps necessary to get our silver award, so watch this space!

*Christine Tuson, ctuson@lineone.net*

THE SANDGATE CHOIR

# *Come and sing!*

Monday 14 September 2026
7.30-9.30pm

Storrington and Sullington Parish Hall, Thakeham Road, Storrington RH20 3PP

Come and meet our friendly choir over light refreshments and stay for a rehearsal. We will be singing Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and Haydn's *Little Organ Mass* – two great favourites of the Classical repertoire.

If you'd like to join us on 14 September or would like more information, please email: johnandsylvi@btinternet.com
or phone John Fisher on 07836 558403

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 7 September: Autumn term rehearsals start
- Sunday 13 December: Christmas concert
- Saturday 16 January 2027: Singing workshop Mozart *Coronation Mass, Ave Verum,* Haydn *Little Organ Mass*
- Saturday 20 March 2027: Spring concert

www.thesandgatechoir.com

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# STRAWBERRIES IN SUMMER

## AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, STORRINGTON

On Wednesday 22 July, Café in the Church held the Strawberries in Summer event for Family Support Work in the Storrington Deanery. It was well attended and we had fine weather for the event, not too hot, with a bit of pleasant breeze. Families enjoyed the all-age treasure trail around the church and churchyard – eventually finding the Haribo treasures under the altar!

Our thanks to Revd Jacquie & Revd John Peal for organising the raffle with aplomb, and to people who donated raffle prizes – including local businesses such as Joanna's Tearoom who donated a very generous prize.

Thanks to our caterers, Ann, Janet, Jeannie, and Sonia who baked and poured endless cups of tea all afternoon!

*Stephen Bloxham*







## Come and join our SPACE

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



**1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1.45pm - 3.45pm at the Old School, Storrington**

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

For more information contact Barbara (741236).

## Storrington Macular Society Support Group

**22 September**

**Chanctonbury Leisure Centre**
**Spierbridge Road, Storrington**
**RH20 4PG**

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

**Contact: Sue 07460 631631**
**Fourth Tuesday every month 1.30pm – 3pm**

0300 3030 111
help@macularsociety.org
macularsociety.org

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease

# CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

| DATE | FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY | STORRINGTON St Mary's | THAKEHAM St Mary's | SULLINGTON St Mary's |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 September | *Trinity 14* | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion<br>9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am)<br>6pm Evensong | 10.30am Joint Service | 8.30am BCP Communion<br>6pm Evensong |
| 13 September | *Trinity 15* | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion<br>12 noon Baptism Service<br>6pm Evensong | 10.30am Holy Communion/ Morning Prayer | 10.30am Holy Communion |
| 20 September | *Trinity 16* | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am ***Battle of Britain Commem. Service*** with Prayers for Healing and Wholeness | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30am Holy Communion |
| 27 September | *Trinity 17* | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Parish Communion | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30am Morning Prayer |
| 4 October | *Trinity 18* | 8am Holy Communion (said)<br>10am Harvest Parish Communion<br>9.30am Messy Church in Old School (ends 11am)<br>6pm Harvest Evensong | 10.30am Joint Service | 8.30am BCP Communion<br>6pm Evensong |

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

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

## OTHER CHURCH DETAILS

### ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
*Our Lady of England, Monastery Lane*

Sunday Mass: 9am Weekday Masses: Tuesday at 10am
Thursday at 10am followed by confessions and Adoration to 11.30am
*There may be weekly variations, do check the newsletter on our website:*
www.ourladyofengland.parishportal.net
Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Dingley Email: storrington@abdiocese.org.uk
Office contact number: 882297

### STORRINGTON CHAPEL EVANGELICAL CHURCH
*North Street, RH20 4DH*

Sunday Services at 10.30am, with Communion on third Sunday
Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm every Tuesday
Email: contacts@storringtonchapel.org.uk
www.storringtonchapel.org.uk

### LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, STORRINGTON
*Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, Spierbridge Road*

Family Worship – Sundays 10am
Enquiries to Katherine Edwards
Life Community Church Office, 7 The Square, Storrington
Office open: Monday – Wednesday.
Out of hours contact: Nathanael on nat@lccstor.org
Tel: 07450 176315 Email: admin@lccstor.org www.lccstor.org

### TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH
*Thakeham Road*

Sunday Service 10.30am
Minister: Revd Steven Donnison Tel: 245799
Email: trinitychurchstorrington@outlook.com
www.facebook.com/TrinityStorrington
Our building is now registered for same-sex marriage

## WEEKLY EVENTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Wed** | 9.30am | Registrar of Births and Deaths – Storrington Library – pre-booking only – 01243 642122 |
| **Fri** | 9.30am | Storrington Community Market – Village Hall |

## STORRINGTON LIBRARY – Tel. 839050
**Opening Hours**

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Knit and natter** | Adults | Wednesdays | 2pm-3pm |
| **Toddler time** | Under 5s | Thursdays | 10am-10.30am |
| **Rhyme time** | Under 5s | Tuesdays | 10.45am-11.15am |

## STORRINGTON POP-IN LUNCH CLUB

**Storrington Village Hall**
**11.30am until 2pm on the first Thursday of each month except January and August**
**Enjoy a nourishing meal with dessert**
**ALL ARE WELCOME**
**Buy a ticket at The Hub in Storrington**
Co-ordinator: **Penny Barnes (01798 815129)**
***Come and meet old friends and make new ones***

**All for only £4!**

The Churches of Storrington invite you to

## SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

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

**13 September at 1pm**
at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington
**Tickets £5.00 are available from**
Louisa Austin, High Street, Storrington



# WHAT'S ON

## SEPTEMBER

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tue 1** | |
| 9.15am | Inter-Church Prayers – Storrington Priory Library – p3 |
| 1.15pm | The Arts Society West Sussex – Talk – p26 |
| 1.45pm | SPACE – Arts and Craft Club – p17 |
| 7.30pm | Storrington Museum – Talk – p23 |
| **Wed 2** | |
| 9.50am | The Arts Society South Downs – Talk – p20 |
| 10.30am | Tea and Chat, Storrington Library – p33 |
| **Thu 3** | |
| 11.30am | Storrington Pop-In Lunch Club – p18 |
| **Sat 5** | |
| 10am | Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party – p22 |
| **Sun 6** | **Trinity 14** |
| **Mon 7** | |
| 2.30pm | Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p15 |
| 7pm | Storrington Slimmers – p29 |
| **Wed 9** | |
| 10am | Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p9 |
| 10.30am | Tea and Chat, Storrington Library – p33 |
| 4pm | Stay and Play – p34 |
| 7.30pm | Rotary Film Night – *Mother's Pride* –p29 |
| **Sat 12** | |
| 9am | Sussex Historic Churches Trust – Ride & Stride – p3 |
| 7pm | Quingo, West Chiltington Village Hall – p20 |
| **Sun 13** | **Trinity 15** |
| 12noon | Baptism at St Mary's, Storrington: Amelia Jane Lamport (daughter of Imogen and Adam) |
| 1pm | Sunday Lunch Club – p18 |
| **Mon 14** | |
| 11am | Community Café Storrington Library – p25 |
| 7pm | Storrington Slimmers – p29 |
| 7.30pm | Thakeham Gardeners' Club – Meeting – p25 |
| **Tue 15** | |
| 2pm | Knit and Stitch – p4 |
| 1.45pm | SPACE – Arts and Craft Club – p17 |
| 7pm | West Chiltington Floral Club – p25 |
| **Wed 16** | |
| 10.30am | Tea and Chat, Storrington Library – p33 |
| 4pm | Stay and Play – p34 |
| 7.15pm | Play Reading for Fun – WC Dramatic Society – p26 |
| **Thu 17** | |
| 10.30am | Cuppa and a Chat – Chanctonbury Leisure Centre – p21 |
| **Fri 18** | |
| 7.30pm | Storrington Horticultural Society – Meeting – p26 |
| **Sun 20** | **Trinity 16** |
| 10am | Battle of Britain Commemoration Service at St Mary's, Storrington – p6 |
| **Mon 21** | |
| 7pm | Storrington Slimmers – p29 |
| **Tue 22** | |
| 1.30pm | Storrington Macular Group – p17 |
| **Wed 23** | |
| 10.30am | Tea and Chat, Storrington Library – p33 |
| 10.30am | Trinity Sunshine Choir – p10 |
| 2pm | Holy Communion followed by Café in the Church – p9 |
| 2.30pm | Storrington Flower Club – Meeting – p22 |
| 4pm | Stay and Play – p34 |
| **Thu 24** | |
| 10am | Abraham Course, Storrington Priory – p10 |
| **Fri 25** | |
| 10am | MacMillian Coffee Morning, St Mary's Thakeham – p4 |
| **Sun 27** | **Trinity 17** |
| 6pm | Swing with Strings Concert at St Mary's Church, Storrington – p13 |
| **Mon 28** | |
| 7pm | Storrington Slimmers – p29 |
| **Wed 30** | |
| 10.30am | Tea and Chat, Storrington Library – p33 |
| 2.30pm | MacMillian Coffee Afternoon, St Mary's Church Storrington – p10 |
| 4pm | Stay and Play – p34 |

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

# SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

## SEPTEMBER

**1** *Giles, c710* – Hermit – founded Abbey of St Giles, France, a popular pilgrimage site. Also patron saint of Edinburgh

**2** *The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942*

**3** ***Gregory the Great, 604*** – Pope Gregory I – patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers

**4** *Birinus, 650* – Venerated as a saint, first Bishop of Dorchester

**6** *Allen Gardiner, 1851* – British Royal Navy officer and missionary to Patagonia

**8** *The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
*The Accession of King Charles III*

**9** *Charles Fuge Lowder, 1880* – Founder of Society of the Holy Cross

**13** ***John Chrysostom, 407***– Archbishop of Constantinople

**14** ***HOLY CROSS DAY***

**15** ***Cyprian, 258 –*** Bishop of Carthage, early Christian writer

**16** ***Ninian, c432*** – Christian saint, 8th century missionary for the Pictish peoples (now Scotland)
*Edward Bouverie Pusey, 1882* – One of the leaders of the Oxford Movement

**17** ***Hildegard, 1179*** – Founded monasteries of Rupertsberg in 1150 and Eibingen in 1165

**19** *Theodore of Tarsus, 690* – Eighth Archbishop of Canterbury, reformed the English Church and established a school in Canterbury

**20** ***John Coleridge Patteson, 1871*** – Anglican bishop and martyr

**21** ***MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST***

**25** ***Lancelot Andrewes, 1626*** – Bishop of Chichester, Ely and Winchester and oversaw the translation of the Authorized Version (King James Version) of the Bible

**26** *Wilson Carlile, 1942* – English evangelist, founded the Church Army; Prebendary of St Paul's Cathedral

**27** ***Vincent de Paul, 1660*** – Renowned for his compassion, humility, and generosity – known as the 'Great Apostle of Charity'

**29** ***MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS***

**30** *Jerome, 420* – Known for his translation of the Bible into Latin (the Vulgate)

# REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 51

Harvest was progressing well, by August 20th all Mr Palmer's wheat had been carried. He and Edward went to Highden and from there by mail phaeton to Worthing. During all this activity there was a cricket match at Steyning v Pulborough at which Steyning won, and Bowen came to stay at the Rectory for a night as he was playing at Brighton in a match of Gentlemen of Hampshire v Sussex Veterans. Mr Palmer found his friend "altered and much worn", but nothing stopped these Victorians from their cricket, even travelling some distance to play.

More letters concerning possible exchanges – from Evan Yorke Nepean of Bucknall Rectory, Horncastle, another from Mr Saunders of 9 Upper Rock Gardens, which was decided to be unsatisfactory. Annie and Edward returned from Freshwater, she looking wonderfully well, but he looking very pained with rheumatism, the result of his time in India. He consulted Dr Mudd, who, however, "does not speak badly of him". Despite his doctor's opinion, Edward took to his bed, where visited by C. Goring "he held a levée there in bed". Mr Palmer and Miss Goodricke entertained him with light reading of literature and in the afternoon the Rector had a walk with Bertha and the happy occupation of "making purchases, or rather, inspection of furniture for the mistress's cottage", another good step in the school's progress. Another visit to Edward to play backgammon "to while away his time", (as though his brother the Rector had plenty of spare time to while away). His last load of seeds was carried in fine order and after careful consideration of Mr Majendie's application for an exchange of livings, he wrote details of the Sullington parish and appointed an interview. Family news arrived from his other brother, George, announcing the birth of a second son at midnight on August 22nd; then it was Sunday again and the last evening service of the year. The nights were beginning to draw in, of course, and getting dark earlier. There was a ride to Pulborough to check whether there had been any telegrams from Mr Majendie, although he does not say, he left home the next day at 6.30am intending to reach Peterborough by 11.40, but missed his train, the connection to Oundle, which meant a stay in the "lively cathedral city" until 4pm. He did not, of course, waste time when there was "the great Norman cathedral which well repays a second visit" and as there was "no clamorous verger to beset you", he benefitted from the "free and open" opportunity to make his own way around. Reaching Barnwell, his destination, at 4.30, he had a two-minute walk from the station to Mr Majendie's house. His assessment of the vicar and his parish turned out to be not really what Mr Palmer was seeking.

"Mr M. himself quite an old man, lively, rather nervous but a gentleman certainly, son of a late Bishop of Bangor. The parish lies compactly round the church and the house is roomy, rather low, but all seems very snug and quiet here, not the slightest social or parochial disquiet. There seems to be positively no poor, as some former vicar in his will left much to them, to the tune of £300 of their money, now of three times that value." In other words, an ideally suited living to be gifted to a Bishop's son. Mr Palmer decided, "By exchanging this living I should gain in money some £150 p.a. but the place is dull, perhaps not very healthy. Dined with the old man, was introduced to two of his daughters and back to Pulborough by the last train. "Slept at the GN [Great Northern] Hotel which is very good. Up by the Scotch Express reaching Town at 10." He did some business there and arrived home by 5, Edward and Annie with him. Very wet.

Next day saw the last game of the season at Wiston which turned out to be "not very interesting", Colts v Veterans – he doesn't say whether he played, but the Veterans "were licked!" On the last day of August, Sir C and Lady Goring gave a big croquet party "of some dimensions at which were three of ourselves, four of Sandgate, four Washingtons, two Ballards, two Gaisfords, two Cholmelys and two friends, three Williamses, three BBBs, two Napiers, Hill of Ashurst and Mrs Arbuthnot, Miss Goodricke and Ed in the house, making with the host and hostess thirty-three! The lawn was well dotted with the party and the Worthing Volunteer Band tuned up. The great attraction was Miss Francis who is certainly a perfect beauty. However, her charms were not enough to dazzle my eyes, as I beat her two games at croquet". Are his friends beginning to throw prospective brides at the bachelor Rector? "In the evening about 20 sat down to a supper tea, and all went off thoroughly well".

Back to the school project: workmen were at the school, and "seems at last to be in earnest. G and Terry have had a quarrel and the latter has written a decidedly impertinent letter".

*Joan Ham (Village Historian)*




Teams of between 4 and 8 people but don't worry if there are less of you, we are a friendly bunch and can combine smaller teams together. Bring your favourite drinks and snacks for a fun filled evening and help raise funds for this much-loved local health-screening charity.

**Tickets available from NISA West Chiltington, The Mary How Trust Clinic and Charity Shop, and Eventbrite or on the night at the door. For further information, please see our website: https://maryhowtrust.org/event/quingo-3/**

The Arts Society South Downs

All members and visitors are most welcome to attend a talk on:

**Wednesday 2 September**




## THE MAKING OF KENNETH CLARK'S "CIVILISATION" TV SERIES 1969

Speaker: Jonathan Conlin

This is the story of the landmark series of 1969, including live footage and interviews in the series inspired by David Attenborough, and which involved the latest in colour film from the 13 countries visited.

Jonathon Conlin is an historian and author. In 2024 he wrote the National Gallery's official bicentenary history and appeared alongside Claudia Winkleman and Michael Palin in My National Gallery, a film about the National Gallery. His books have been praised by the Sunday Times, Daily Mail, Spectator, New York Post and other mainstream media.

**Talks are in Fittleworth Village Hall, RH20 1JB**
**Doors open 09.50 am for coffee.**
**Please be seated by 10.30 am for 10.45 am start.**
**Members free and non-members £8. (No booking required.)**
**Further details on: www.theartssocietysouthdowns.org.uk**
**Or contact: Jane Allison on Tel 01798 813314**







## Recreation & Well-Being Hub Update

Following confirmation by Horsham District Council of the CIL [Community Infrastructure Levy) award of £2m to Storrington & Sullington Parish Council for the development and improvement of the recreation and well-being facilities in Storrington, the project teams are now up and running. Planning meetings with the Leisure Centre, Storrington Cricket Club and Storrington Football Club are happening, and discussions continue on design and the timetable.

At the end of July, the Parish Council invited tenders for the role of architect, posting on the Government Central Platform and reaching out to local architects directly. The architects had 25 days to respond and, at the time of printing, the Parish Council evaluation is scheduled for 20 August, prior to being referred to Full Council on 2 September when a decision will be taken. The outcome will be announced very soon.

This £2m award to our parish is the largest made by HDC from the £7.2 million pot by some distance and the three organisations/clubs are all thrilled with the "once in a lifetime" opportunity this enables to promote cricket and football in the village, and to significantly enhance the health, fitness, well-being and social offer that Chanctonbury Leisure already does so well despite the pressure on space and the growth of local users.

Next steps involve planning applications for the three separate developments, and the works on the Chanctonbury Pavilion could potentially start first in about 18 months time with the gutting of the entire Cricket Pavilion commencing in autumn 2027.

There will be regular updates via the Parish Council Facebook page, https://bit.ly/4pzRWqc and more information on the Parish Council website which has a dedicated page for the project. A display with some provisional visuals, timetable and some background has been set up in the Leisure Centre reception with a comment box, and this display will be expanded as more detail falls into place.

## Chanctonbury Pavilion

The newly refurbished pavilion is now open and being used for meetings by various community groups. The decor is contemporary and light, see photos, and the feedback has been very positive. Bookings can be made via office@storrington-pc.co.uk.










## Charity awards

The Parish Council was delighted to make grants this quarter to four organisations: Horsham Matters (£500), Greenfingers (£500), Family Support Work (£700) and 4Sight Vision (£440). We thank all these organisations for their valued work in our community.

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

## STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY


Memorial Pond

According to Shakespeare, at the funeral of Julius Caesar, Marc Antony said "The evil men do lives after them, the good is oft interred with their bones". He didn't say 'always'; 'oft' is sadly right. Many wrongs have repercussions long after the doers have died. Survivors and subsequent generations suffer the consequences, even though the truth about the doers may take time to be seen. This is relevant in our time as we see climate change developing. What will future generations think of us as changing weather patterns cause us and them major problems? It has been known by respected climate scientists for decades that greenhouse gases increase global temperatures. It seems political leaders nationally and internationally lack the will or support to take the necessary action. Because lifestyles will need to change. Never popular. We all bear some responsibility. Especially those leaders who think they know better than the scientists. Grandiose statues erected in their memory will be destroyed in due course as the truth hits. They should take a warning from King Cnut (Canute) who showed his flattering followers in the 11th century that he could not hold back the tide. We cannot control the elements, cooperation with nature is essential.

Al Gore (past US Vice President) made a widely distributed film in 2006 called 'An Inconvenient Truth' in which he warned of the dangers of man-made climate change. The usual suspects did their best to discredit it. There is nothing in the twenty years since to disprove his warning. Just the reverse.

The reassuring thing is that we can all play a part in reducing the causes of the problem. The roadside appearance of those small bright orange and grey food waste bins is one heartening example. In our District alone about 20 tonnes a day is collected. It would otherwise have gone to landfill. Now it goes to an Anaerobic Digestion Plant (wonderful name, sounds like a mutant triffid) which makes renewable energy and rich fertiliser for local use. Feel virtuous as you put the bin out.

The work party on Saturday 1 August at Dyke Farm for the annual hay raking and the weeding of newly established hedges. Giving nature a chance. On two Thursday afternoons in July work parties carried out more Himalayan Balsam removal at local water courses, making room for native species. The Saturday work party on **5 September meets at 10am** at Chantry Hill clearing scrub to encourage the precious chalk grassland. More hands make light work, so anyone interested in joining in is greatly appreciated. Just come along, we meet at Greyfriars Stable in Greyfriars Lane. Cheerful company plus a coffee break to be enjoyed as usual.

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

*Stuart Kersley*

## PARHAM HOUSE EVENTS

**Needlework on Display** Until Sun 27th September

Parham House is home to one of the finest collections of 16th and 17th Century needlework and embroidery in the country.



We're bringing even more of this fascinating collection out of storage. Rarely displayed pieces of historic embroidery will be on show throughout House opening hours, offering a unique opportunity to see these beautiful textiles up close. Come and discover the artistry, craftsmanship and history woven into every stitch.

Joanna's Boutique Tearoom is open in The Mower Shed from 12 noon on our standard open days.

The House and Gardens will be open to visitors on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays until early October. Tickets for advance bookings are on sale now.

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

## TURNING TIDES SUPPORT OUR HARVEST APPEAL

The "Making a Meal for Harvest" appeal calls on schools, churches, businesses and residents to help us 'swell the shelves' at our Donations Hub. Our Harvest appeal aims to fill our shelves so we can feed hundreds of people throughout the year who haven't got a place to call home. Last year Turning Tides supported **978** people experiencing homelessness in West Sussex alone, many of whom face significant barriers to stay nourished and hydrated. Our community hubs and outreach teams provide food for people rough sleeping and our supported residential services house around 250 people each year, who are waiting to find permanent accommodation.

Moira Gardner, Donations Officer at Turning Tides, said:

*"We're asking people to think about how hard it would be to create a nutritious meal using only tinned and packaged food —without access to a cooker, kettle or even basic kitchen utensils. That's the reality for many people we support."*

### Ways to get involved

- Run a food collection for Turning Tides'
- Donate directly via supermarket deliveries to the Donations Hub
- Purchase essential item through the charity's Amazon Wish List
- Gift us a Supermarket Gift Card and we will shop on your behalf
- Get creative by organising workplace, school or community challenges to "swell the shelves"

**Drop off Monday to Thursday, 9am – 2pm.**

**Unit 2, Dominion Trade Centre, Dominion Way West, Worthing, West Sussex, BN14 8NT.**
**(Closed Friday & bank holidays)**



## SECOND HAND SEPTEMBER – FIRST CHOICE IS SECOND-HAND!

Although we are a tiny country, of all the countries in the world, only the massive USA is worse than us in terms of wasting clothes! Even cheap fashion has a secret cost, and it's a surprisingly big cost if we consider how and where clothes are manufactured, by whom, how they're transported here, how many times they're worn, and where in the world they are taken before being dumped or burned!

A shocking 73% of all clothing manufactured globally ends up being incinerated or simply dumped; there has to be a better option! Overproduction is a big problem within the UK clothing industry. Pollution from the production and transportation of clothes fuels global warming, and we've certainly been feeling that this summer!




Of course, we all love a bargain, and selling and buying on second-hand sites like Ebay, Facebook Marketplace, Preloved, Vinted and Depop is an easy way to get a bit of extra cash for your unwanted items. Freebie sites such as Freecycle and Freegle are great for giving away items and decluttering your home.



As Oxfam's "Second Hand September" campaign takes off, how else can we change up our habits? We're lucky to live in a wealthy area where charity shops abound, but millions of our donated garments are actually exported to the Global South, where they end up in landfills or are simply burned. This clearly has major impacts on health and the environment, especially when so many fabrics now contain synthetics. Water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions worsen the strain on countries already struggling to manage. Pure, natural fibres are much easier to recycle, and Repair Cafes and professionals can do a great job of mending or altering clothes to fit. Fashion's environmental impact is undeniable, but as consumers, we have the power to make a real difference. By noticing where our clothes come from and where they end up, we can start making great choices-deciding to support life, rather than wreck it.



This September is your chance to make a difference, by making second hand the first choice going forwards. Search **#SecondHandSeptember** on Instagram to find out more about the 30-day challenge!

Find your nearest repair café to get items repaired, taken up, in or out, learn to sew, or perhaps suggest organising a clothes swap at your nearest repair café, school, church or village hall https://www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/solutions/repair-cafes/

*Morag Warrack*

## STORRINGTON FLOWER CLUB

**Wednesday 23 September 2.30pm**
**Sullington Parish Hall**

Demonstrator: *Graham King*
Theme: *'Beauty in Sculpture'*
Competition: *'Pavé'*
New members and visitors welcome






Join us for an interesting talk about another local Museum, on our doorstep. The Amberley Museum is an open-air industrial heritage Museum and Heritage Centre located within historic chalk quarries. We will learn about its history and exhibits that cover a diversity of industrial and local heritage collections, including narrow-gauge railways, local bus services and a multitude of light and rural industrial subjects. From printworks and wheelwrights to telecommunications and vintage transport, the Museum offers insights into industries that shaped everyday life during the 19th and 20th centuries.

## EVENTS AT PETWORTH PARK

### Expressions in Blue: Monumental Porcelain by Felicity Aylieff

**Ends 27 September**

See towering sculptures by renowned ceramicist Felicity Aylieff. The exhibition takes place across the whole property. Discover the remarkable 'making' process in the exhibition room.

Free with admission, no booking required.

### Heritage Open Days

**Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 September**

Visit for free on Heritage Open Day weekend. Free guided tours of the house, with other talks, tours and family activities throughout the day.

Our friendly volunteers will also be running free walks through Petworth town.

Tickets and timings will be available from Church Lodge.

### Petworth Late: In Conversation

**Friday 25 September, 6.30pm – 8.30pm. £25 per person.**

Explore the House and Expressions in Blue exhibition after hours. The evening highlight will be artist Felicity Aylieff and author Kassia St. Clair in conversation.

Booking advisable, via our website or call 0344 249 1895.

**www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/sussex**

# ACTIVITIES
## AT THE VILLAGE HUB

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

THE VILLAGE HUB
LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH STORRINGTON

## TUESDAY



**In Stitches – 1.30pm to 3pm**
A fun, social group for people who like to stitch. Bring your own knitting, embroidery or another project. We can teach you if you'd like to learn!

## THURSDAY

**Baby Club – 10am to 12pm (term time only)**
Join our supportive community group and connect with others. Older siblings welcome!



**Monthly High Tea – last Thursday – 2.30pm to 4pm**
Meet new friends, enjoy homemade delicacies for £4 per person. Book tickets in advance from The Village Hub.

**Thursdays Together – For over 65's, every Thursday except last of the month – 2.30pm to 4pm**
Join us for tea, games, and company. Bring a friend and join in!

## SATURDAY

**Repair Café – every third Saturday of the month from 10am to 12pm**
Looking to repair your broken or damaged items? The Repair Cafe is here to help, so bring in any items needing mending, from clothes to appliances and more.

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS ON FRIDAYS

**Chanctonbury Leisure Centre**

### Sparks Toddler Group – 10am – 11.30am

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

### Fireworks Kids Club – 6pm – 7.15pm

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

### Wildfires Youth Group – 7.30pm – 9pm

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

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

# ROTARY CLUB OF STORRINGTON AND PULBOROUGH DISTRICT

**Book lovers love Rotary's book stall and raise £14,450 to support worthy causes**



Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District's bookstall has continued to welcome hundreds of customers looking for a good read from the vast range of pre-owned books on display on Saturday mornings at Place Villerest, Storrington and at outlets in Pulborough Station and Stable Antiques in Storrington. The bookstall also attends a number of local village events and selected gatherings including the SADCASE car event, Sussex Steam Rally and the Rotary Car Boot Sales in Storrington.

Book sales are boosted by website initiatives like selling books on a sales app and eBay with surplus books sold to World of Books.

In the past year £14,445 has been raised helping the Rotary Club develop its community support programme including community initiatives such as educational programmes for children, activities for senior citizens, assistance for families facing special challenges and numerous other local worthwhile causes and charities. Internationally, where disasters have struck, the Club has been able to help.

The running and organisation of the bookstall is carried out by a team of five with the support of other Club members and Rotary Friends. This involves sorting and selling the books donated by members of the public.

Project leader Wendy Rendal-Jones is grateful for the support of her small team and others who are directly involved in this major fund-raising project. "Sponsorship from Wall Bros Carpets and Flooring has helped to ensure the success of the Book selling programme and Rotary has, as a result, been able to extend its charitable outreach".

For more information please contact margaretrendaljones@me.com

# DOGS FOR AUTISM



*From the Team: From the moment Rose laid eyes on Little Louis, we knew it was a match made in heaven! From Louis' bouncy, joyful nature to his calming cuddles, we knew he would match Rose's ever-changing energy, and that has certainly been the case.*

The way Louis bounds upstairs every morning for a warm, pillow snuggle is enough to put a smile on anyone's face. These calm moments with Louis helps Rose steady her anxieties. On those days when her emotions become too overwhelming and the tears and meltdowns come, Louis seeks her out, jumps onto her lap, and licks her until she starts to giggle. It is simply amazing to see the connection between them.

Having Louis has also meant we have started going out more as a family. In the past, family trips were often too overwhelming, too noisy, or too dysregulating for Rose. Having Louis by her side gives her confidence, reassurance, comfort, and those all-important deep-pressure snuggles. He has given us a little glimpse of hope again—that we can begin to look forward to making family memories together.

The amazing work that Dogs for Autism (www.dogsforautism.org.uk or tel 01420 629390) does has truly changed our lives, and we will be forever grateful. Louis hasn't just become part of our family—he has transformed it.

*Jan Kiley*



## **EVENTS** AT THE OLD WORKSHOP, SULLINGTON MANOR FARM

**Curious Threads, textile exhibition**

**Thu 17 to Sun 27 September** 10am to 4pm daily

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

**Pre-loved clothes sale and café open**

**Sat 3 & Sun 4 October** 10am to 4pm

If you find yourself in that oh-so common *full-wardrobe-but-nothing-to-wear* dilemma, then why not come along and see if you find your next staple pieces here. It's safe to say that the pair that run the sale both have an exceedingly well-trained eye, and we're lucky to be the destination for only their best finds. All sales from the clothes are in aid of St Mary's, Sullington. Free entry and parking.

**Autumn Art at Sullington**

**Thu 29 October to Sun 8 November** 10am to 4pm daily

A carefully curated programme showcases a diverse range of contemporary works by both emerging and established artists. The exhibition is rooted in celebration of our local and creative community and the pieces range from wood, ceramics and paintings. The café will be open daily for the exhibition. Free entry & parking.

**For more details please see www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk, contact us on info@sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk or ring 01903 745754. Sullington Manor Farm, Sullington Lane Storrington, West Sussex RH20 4AE**




## THAKEHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

The club was delighted to welcome our local speaker and entomologist Les Allen-Williams as our speaker at the July meeting with his talk entitled 'Conservation and the Garden'. Les has always had an interest in biology and he studied geology and ecology at polytechnique. He told us that Sussex and Surrey are the most wooded counties and that Sussex Wildlife Trust manage 2000 hectares over many reserves. Local projects of conservation are the Sussex Kelp Recovery project and of course Knepp Rewilding. Knepp now has the Camberwell Beauty butterfly which he told us sucks salt out of animal dung. He also mentioned the White Tailed Eagle project, the wildflower Rampion which is known as the Pride of Sussex and the Glowworm recording system, apparently it's just the female that glows. Gardens make up an enormous area which can act as a Wildlife corridor. In our gardens we should maintain our hedges and provide food for wild creatures. He also recommended having a pond of at least 18" in depth with sloping sides and a log for frogs and toads. He also said not to have too many fish and to net the pond from March to June. A pond will encourage damsel and dragon flies and whilst a wildflower meadow is lovely, they are quite hard work. An insect hotel is easily made by drilling holes in a piece of wood and we all should have a compost bin. Lastly Les encouraged us to notify anything we saw of special interest by using iRecord or iSpot. This talk was extremely interesting and was greatly enjoyed by members.



Also in July members made a visit to Hooklands Farm in Ashington to walk through the wildflower meadows. Unfortunately our visit was a little late in the year as the very hot and dry summer has made the flowers bloom and die much earlier than normal. We therefore intend to visit again next year. The owner is very dedicated and knowledgeable about his meadows and his wife treated us to tea and delicious chocolate cake which was still in the oven baking when we arrived.

Our next monthly meeting is on **14 September** when Andrew Gaunt will be speaking on Hedychium better know as Gingers. The club competition is 'A Dahlia'.

Our second plant sale of the year will be taking place on Saturday 10 October,in Thakeham Village Hall. Make a note in your diaries and come at 2pm for the start as we sell out quickly.

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

*Sandra Jenkins*

## WEST CHILTINGTON FLORAL CLUB (AFFILIATED TO NAFAS)

**Tuesday 15 September at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

*"Beauty in Sculpture"* With Graham King

Visitors are most welcome – £7.00

The meeting will be held at West Chiltington Village Hall, Mill Road, West Chiltington RH20 2PZ.

For more information, please contact:
Brenda on 01798 813712 or Carol on 01798 813608
**Email:** wchiltfloralclub@gmail.com
**Website:** www.westchiltingtonfloralclub.co.uk
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# STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## Big Gardens in Small Spaces

At the July meeting we enjoyed a talk by Martyn Cox, about how to make the most of small spaces in the garden. Martyn has worked all his life in gardens, Garden Centres, gardening colleges, and latterly in gardening media, writing books, newspaper columns, as well as radio & TV work. He is based in Portsmouth, has his own gardening business, and is currently working on reviving Portsmouth in Bloom, for Portsmouth100. (@gardenwithMartyn)



We heard and saw examples of tips and tricks to make the most of small spaces. A front garden, however small, often represents you to the outside world, and even if you don't have one, the front of your property can be transformed with pots, climbers etc. To present a harmonious picture, it is important to use materials that match your property or neighbourhood, for example brick colour, or wood type. A large patio in a small garden can look more spacious if broken up by leaving gaps between the paving and filling them with plants like Creeping Thyme and Corsican Mint which will smell nice when trodden on. Living walls help to expand the boundaries of a small space, and kits are available to make them. Sheds and stores benefit from a living roof, and sedum matting is a great way to plant them. And pleached trees are an interesting way of providing screening from neighbours, without taking up too much space in the garden – other things can be planted beneath them to maximise the space.

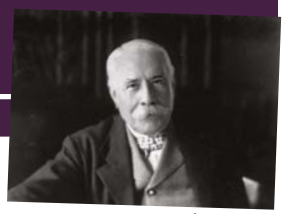
Martyn also spoke about Square-Foot Gardening – a concept that was invented in the USA in the 1970s by Mel Bartholomew. Raised beds are subdivided into one-foot squares, commonly 4ft x 4ft, giving 16 separate sections. Different vegetables and herbs are grown in each square, meaning that each can be grown differently to maximise production; it is claimed that crops can be up to five times more productive than when grown in traditional rows.

The evening ended with light refreshments and a raffle. On **Friday 18 September**, Ray Coggin from South Downs Film Makers will be sharing and talking about some of their productions.

On Saturday 1 August, the Society held our Summer Show. Despite the difficult growing conditions this year, members and guests entered some wonderful flowers, fruit and vegetables, and the cookery, craft, artistic and children's classes were also well supported. Attendees enjoyed tea and cakes, and awards were presented by the Society's President, Tom Brown, of West Dean Gardens.

*Jo Myland*

THE ARTS SOCIETY WEST SUSSEX



**Tuesday 1 September**

***The Enigma of Edward Elgar***

**Speaker: Roger Askew**

One of our greatest composers, Edward Elgar was an extraordinary man. Brought up in a provincial town, his father a piano tuner and the owner of a music shop, Elgar was completely self-taught as a musician, evidence of the strong determination behind his original and unique genius.

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**or email westsussex@theartssociety.org**
**www.theartssocietywestsussex.org**

# West Chiltington Dramatic Society



Our main summer event was a Members' Evening at the end of July, for which we held a Murder Mystery with a Ploughman's Supper. The Murder Mystery play was *Murder Most Fowl* by Chris Martin of murderplays.com and it really tested the detective skills of the audience! No team worked out both of the two culprits, but it didn't seem to dent their enjoyment of the event. During the evening, we made a presentation to our President, Hermin Daley, to mark her 70 years with WCDS. Hermin has made regular appearances on stage across these seven decades, most recently at this year's February Members' Evening. She has also been Chair and achieved much behind-the-scenes to keep the Society going.



## Dates for your diary:

### Play Reading for Fun

**Wednesday 16 September: 7:15pm for 7:30pm start**

We will be reading the comedy *Sand Castles* by Bob Larbey. This will be held in the conservatory of The Five Bells, Smock Alley, West Chiltington. All are welcome to take part. No charge but booking is essential: please book your place via chair@wcds.co.uk

### Next Production

***A Convenient Murder* – 19 to 21 November: 7:30pm**

By David Summers, directed by Pat Arculus, at West Chiltington Village Hall.

### Would you like to become a member of WCDS?

We are always keen to welcome new members, for roles both on and off-stage. For further information, please visit our website at www.wcds.co.uk

*Angela Sloan, Chair WCDS*

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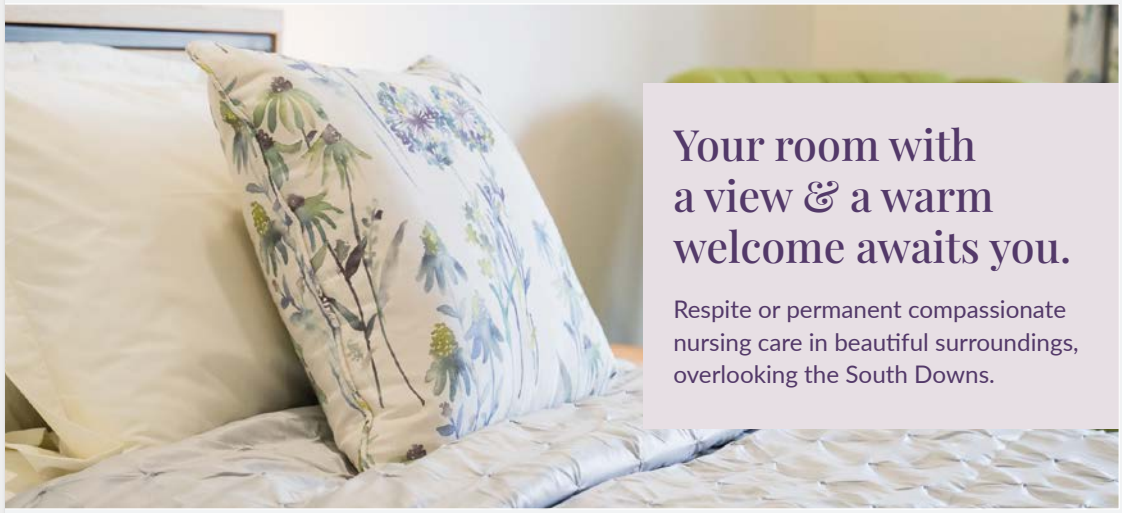
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# WEATHER WATCH

Despite prominent events both in the UK and internationally during July the weather here became just as newsworthy across the Media! It was an extraordinary month. No rain at all fell until the 26th and it only measured 0.1mm and in some places in Sussex such as Shoreham no rain fell at all. The 4th heat dome occurred since late May, a term described in my June column, exacerbated the already tinder dry landscape. No day was cooler than a warm 24˚C and 18 were warmer than 26.7˚C (80˚F) which used to be regarded as a hot day and reached 33˚C on the 10th. The sun shone relentlessly on most days, all this due to persistent high pressure which fended off the normal progression of weather fronts in from the Atlantic or the development of any thundery showers. Over England as a whole it was the warmest, sunniest and driest July in nearly two hundred years of records.



*High summer and a lovely cottage garden near St. Mary's Church Thakeham. July 2026.*



*The Downs Link path near Henfield later in July with the countryside much browner. Picture Jenny Currie*

With the ground so dry across southern England it helped to starve moisture and repressed the fronts that create the rainfall. This was evident too in past drought-stricken summers such as 1976, 1947, 1911 and 1921. The jet stream, the fast-moving current of air over 10 kilometres above the surface which normally steers and develops areas of low pressure accompanied by cloud and rain our way has been far to the north. Sea temperatures have been several degrees above par around our coasts; the atmosphere has warmed by similar amounts due to anthropomorphic or human influence with all the above combining in what could be described as 'the perfect storm of events'.



*The fine weather continues and the landscape is gradually losing its verdance. Near The Old Sullington Rectory*

I witnessed one outcome when travelling along the A27 near Hove, late afternoon of the 10th when in the distance towards The Devils Dyke plumes of smoke arose from a wildfire. Some 8 fire appliances battled to put out the flames and worked through the night to extinguish the flames. This is not the first time that the countryside has been tinder dry for the White Mill on Sullington Warren was burnt to the ground in August 1911 during what was a warm and very dry summer. In those days it was an exposed heath with few trees but lots of bracken, gorse and heather. Whilst in 1976 there were over 1500 garden and countryside fires across the Southeast, many of which occurred during the summer.

Sussex has a long-standing weather record, 384 hours of sunshine in July 1911 which is the most ever measured during a UK calendar month. It might not have been beaten – data is still coming in at the time of writing but it will be close.

Still at the beginning of the month The Flower Festival at Thakeham had some lovely displays and I noticed an eye-catching wildflower display in a garden close to the Church. In the second week the fields were beginning to turn brown near the old Sullington Rectory and by the last week on the Downs Link Trail north of Henfield the countryside was tinder dry and even on the penultimate day the sky at Worthing Beach was still distinctly Mediterranean. It was truly a month that will linger long in our memory.



*A Mediterranean like sky at Worthing towards the end of the historic month of July 2026*

Will the exceptional conditions continue during August – will our taps run dry, read next month's Weather Watch to find out.

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


FILM NIGHT

**At Sullington Parish Hall**
**Wednesday 9th September 2026**

MOTHER'S PRIDE



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**Ken Collins on 01903 740745**

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

**Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District**

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STORRINGTON SLIMMERS

**MONDAY EVENINGS from 7pm to 8pm**
**We now meet at Storrington Rectory Office, Rectory Road, 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.



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## Probus Club Celebrates 40 Years of Friendship, Fun and Community Spirit

More than 50 members and their wives and guests came together to celebrate a remarkable milestone as the Probus Club of Storrington & District marked its 40th Anniversary with its Annual Ladies' Night Dinner at West Sussex Golf Club.

Held on Friday 31 July in glorious summer weather, the evening was a fitting tribute to four decades of friendship, companionship and community involvement. Guests enjoyed an outstanding 1980s-themed three-course dinner before an evening of laughter and entertainment created entirely by Club members.

The celebrations began in spectacular style with a colourful Parade of Past Presidents making their entrance to Shirley Bassey's Get the Party Started. Some embraced the spirit of the occasion by dressing in costumes inspired by the legendary singer, providing an unforgettable opening that had the audience laughing and applauding from the outset. One of the evening's most popular moments was a specially devised game in which every guest unexpectedly became a winner, while a nostalgic journey through the Club's 40-year history reminded everyone of the friendships, achievements and memorable occasions that have shaped the organisation since it was founded in 1986. The celebrations reached a fitting finale with the premiere of The Probus Way, a song with lyrics written especially for the anniversary by Club members and enthusiastically performed by the aptly named The Motley Crew. Their performance demonstrated that while professional musicians they may not be, enthusiastic entertainers they most certainly are.

Founded in 1986, the Probus Club of Storrington & District brings together retired and semi-retired men who enjoy good company, stimulating conversation and an active social life. Members meet regularly for lunches with guest speakers and enjoy co ee mornings, walks, visits, holidays and a varied programme of social events throughout the year. The Club is always pleased to welcome prospective new members from Storrington and the surrounding villages. Anyone who would like to discover more about the Club is warmly invited to attend a meeting as a guest and experience first-hand the friendship and companionship that have been at the heart of the Club for 40 years. Contact the Membership Secretary at storringtonprobus@outlook.com or visit the Club's website at storringtonprobus.com.




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| | 3rd | STORR & W/CHILT | DIAL POST / OLD BARN NURSERY (Coffee / Lunch) | £4 | 11AM |
| | 4th | STORR & W/CHILT | VARIOUS / MACULAR GROUP (Chanctonbury Leisure Centre) | £3 | 1PM |
| WED | EVERY | STORR & W/CHILT | PULBOROUGH LUNCH CLUB (Pulborough Village Hall) | £4 | 10.30AM |
| | 3rd | STORR & W/CHILT | RUSTINGTON or HORSHAM (Rotates monthly. Lunch & Shop) | £6 | 11AM |
| THUR | EVERY | W/CHILTINGTON | STORRINGTON / WAITROSE | £3 | 9AM |
| | 1st | STORR & W/CHILT | STORRINGTON POP IN LUNCH | £3 | 10.45AM |
| | EVERY | STORRINGTON | STORRINGTON / WAITROSE | £3 | 1PM |
| FRI | EVERY | STORRINGTON | STORRINGTON / WAITROSE | £3 | 9AM |
| | EVERY | STORR & W/CHILT | PULBOROUGH / TESCO, SAINSBURY'S | £4 | 9PM |
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# CRICKET IN STORRINGTON

## Another Full-On Month

July was even busier than June with all sections of the Club playing League, Festival and Friendly cricket with mixed results.

The 1st XI had wins over Crawley and Broadwater. In the former match Andy Livermore scored a half century whilst Frankie Brown and Douglas Sopp took four and three wickets respectively to secure an eight wicket victory. Against Broadwater Andy was our top scorer again but Thomas Wroe claimed the honours with a superb bowling performance: seven wickets for 23 runs off 6.4 overs that included two maidens. The side lost to Horsham in a high scoring match with Thomas taking three wickets after James Linazasoro had scored a fifty. Our U14 junior Massimo played for Horsham in this match!

The 2nd XI beat Ram by six wickets after Laurence Nash just missed out on a century. His 99 included four sixes and thirteen fours. Ben Davies, one of our U14s, chipped in with a creditable and personal high score of 40 runs. The side lost to Horsham by five wickets despite James Linazasoro taking four wickets after scoring 27 runs.

The Sunday Friendly XI notched up one win over Horsham Trinity in the return match after losing by just four runs in the first match which featured a century in each side's innings. Our century was scored by Massimo who had hit seventeen fours before retiring on exactly 100. Another of our players, Hitish Patel, scored 55.

Our Women's softball side achieved their first victories by beating Worthing's Chippingdale and local rivals West Chiltington & Thakeham. Lea top scored in both matches well supported by Alice in the former match.

Our U14 boys were beaten twice by Findon. In the higher scoring return match Massimo's score of sixty was outdone by a former Storrington junior, Fraser Shakespeare, making an unbeaten century for Findon!

Our unbeaten U14 girls beat West Wittering and Aldwick. In the former match, won by seventy two runs, Christie top scored with 30 (retired) whilst in the latter match, won by fourteen runs, Emily scored an unbeaten 45 (a new personal best – but see later). Lea took five wickets in these matches.

Other wins were chalked up by the U13 boys against Worthing and Littlehampton, Clapham & Patching: U9 girls against West Chiltington & Thakeham; U11 girls against Goring by Sea. The U13 girls also played in a 6 a-side softball tournament at Goodwood with eleven other teams, achieving wins over Aldwick, Middleton, West Wittering and Worthing.

Our next report will cover the Sussex Junior Cricket Festival U14 Mixed Shield competition that took place at the start of August which produced a number of outstanding performances by our boys and girls, the most notable one being the first ever half century scored by a female for the Club. Congratulations Emily.

*Chris Winter*





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# ROTARY CLUB OF STORRINGTON AND PULBOROUGH DISTRICT

## Anna Upton is the new President of Storrington and Pulborough District Rotary



Anna was born in England but her parents and family come from Latvia, having arrived in this country after the war. She studied Mathematics at the University of Exeter working mainly around academia in administrative and management. After early years in a College of Further Education, she spent 20 years working for the Royal Society of Chemistry, becoming Membership Affairs Manager. Her final 14 years were spent working as a Consultant for the British Mass Spectrometry Society achieving the high point of her career running their hugely successful International Mass Spectrometry Conference.

She met her husband Paul in 2008 and when they both retired, they moved down to Storrington. Anna had never come across Rotary before. Her neighbour took her down to the Rotary Club within a week of moving in. She has not looked back since becoming Hon Secretary in 2018 and has been serving for 6 years.

She comments, that "Being involved with a club that is so active, lively, hardworking and enthusiastic, is great. It is so worthwhile being able to contribute to supporting local communities, in Storrington and Pulborough and the surrounding villages. It was such a wonderful way to join in with other groups and meet people, many of whom are now friends". When not involved with Rotary activities, Anna and Paul enjoy, amongst other things, walking, going to the theatre and concerts – all so well served in Sussex.

To learn more about Rotary and the club, please contact Anna at uptonanna2@gmail.com




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Maria Radford, email: 3heraldseditor@gmail.com
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Mrs Sue Kibblewhite (745325) email: 3heraldsadverts@gmail.com

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

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**Area Distributors**

**Storrington:** Marj Mitchell (07521 412699)

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

**Thakeham:** Mrs Karen Arkle (email: karendarkle@gmail.com)

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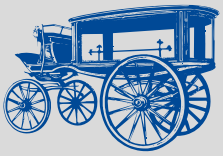



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