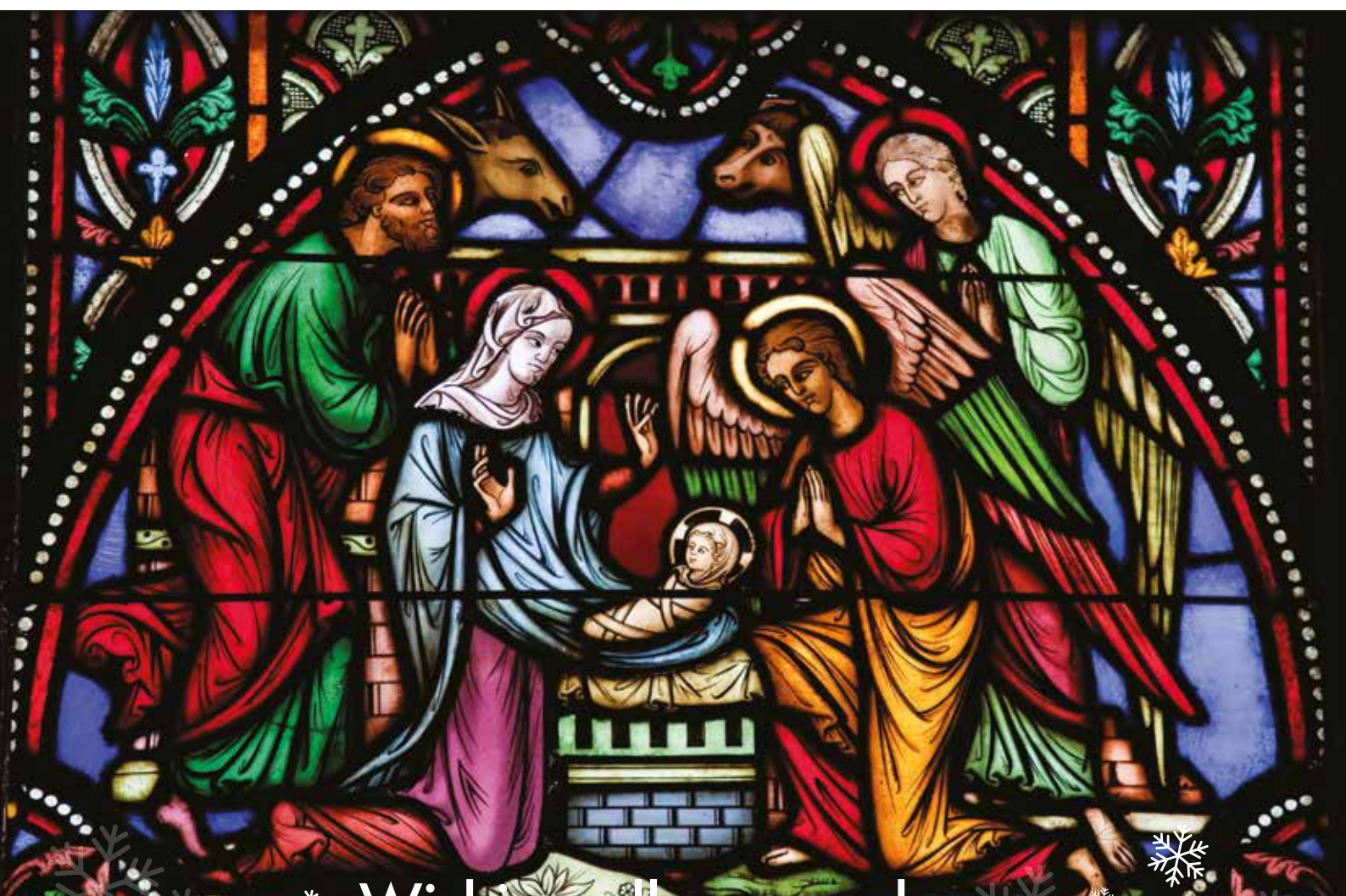


£1

December 2023

3 Herald's

STORRINGTON  SULLINGTON  THAKEHAM



Wishing all our readers
a peaceful and joyous Christmas



St Mary's Church SULLINGTON



St Mary's Church STORRINGTON



St Mary's Church THAKEHAM



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St Mary
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PARISH
CLERGY

STORRINGTON Rector Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow, BTh, MPhil (742888)
The Rectory, Rectory Road, Storrington RH20 4EF
kathryn.windslow@btinternet.com

SULLINGTON AND THAKEHAM WITH WARMINGHURST

Priest-in-Charge Revd Sara-Jane Stevens (currently on sabbatical)
Contact The Rectory, The Street, Thakeham RH20 3EP
Felicity: office.stwparishes@btinternet.com (07923 420834)

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

All telephone numbers are 01903 unless otherwise stated.



Jesus is the reason for the season!

Christmas has so many symbols; Father Christmas, stars, Christmas tree, advent wreath, holly and ivy, turkey, tinsel, sequins, and carols. During December many people look forward to a Christmas party or getting together with friends and family. But what is December all about? What is Advent for?

December, or Advent, is a time of preparation and waiting for *the best gift ever*. The world

has waited an eternity for The Gift that is remembered at Christmas. Not a Tiffany bracelet or a favourite perfume; The Gift is the child Jesus. Jesus is God's best gift of unending love and complete forgiveness. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. So, Jesus is *actually* the reason for the season!

Wizard sang, "I wish it could be Christmas every day" well it can be. For Christians, every time we worship together it is a little Christmas and a little Easter rolled into one. When we live faithfully with God in our hearts and Jesus by our side through the Holy Spirit then we are making the most of The Gift of Christmas. We don't have to try to be perfect (thank goodness!) because the baby born at Christmas grew up to be Jesus who died and rose again so we could be blameless in God's eyes. Jesus is The Greatest Gift you will ever receive. Have you unwrapped your gift yet? Have you got to know Jesus?

We spend so much time preparing for Christmas day. Sometimes having our decorations up for 24 days before Christmas arrives. We prepare special food, iron our best clothes and crack open the best wine for our nearest and dearest to share. Yes, Christmas is worth preparing for, as long as we don't forget the main character of the event - Jesus. Why not spend a little time this month learning about Jesus. Here is a challenge, read Mark's Gospel!

This is sadly my last article for the 3 *Heralds*. Towards the end of February I start a new post as Associate Priest in the Thorngate and Blackwater Benefice in Hampshire. I am sad to leave but am excited for the future, not just for me but for you all, as God reveals the next chapter in all our lives. It has been a wonderful five years here, and I have great memories of Thakeham and Sullington.

Jesus is the reason I came to Thakeham and Sullington and He is the reason our churches exist. Jesus is the hope for our future. Hold tightly to him as God leads you on into 2024.

God bless,

SARA-JANE

Priest-in-Charge of Sullington and Thakeham with Warminghurst

Christmas Greetings
The clergy and their families wish all parishioners
Peace and Joy at Christmas and every Blessing in the New Year

ADVENT: WINTER WAITING
Last leaves drift down now,
Trees standing bare along the skyline –
Each branch etched clear against the winter light.
On the dark fields the furrows turn
To bare-backed ridges whitened hard by frost.
Yet deep within this sullen soil
New life already waits for birth –
Release to life by the returning spring.

Regenerating God, harrow our hearts
Till we become the opened ground
In which your Spirit's seeds
Take root and grow.
Jill Jenkins

CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS
We invite extra singers who would like to join Storrington Church Choir for the Carol Service and other Christmas services to come to the Christmas section of the choir practices on Fridays at 7pm, starting on 3 November; regular Choir please arrive at 6.40pm to practice for the forthcoming Sunday.

FEATURES

My Pride and Joy – A Morris Cowley	15
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Football and the Church – Part 1	23
National Success for Storrington Photographer	29
Lost Woods Project	30



What's happening at

St Mary's Thakeham



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Churchwardens

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

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

Treasurer

Lis Slaughter
stmarysthakehamtreasurer@gmail.com

Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson (01798 813121)
office.stwparishes@btinternet.com

PCC Secretary

Allison Goodfellow 01903 740499
allisongoodfellow@btinternet.com

Electoral Roll Officer

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

Organist

Position vacant

Church Bookings

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

Bellringers: Tower Captain

Roger Watts (01798 813775)

Gift Aid Officer

Bob Timms (01798 813807)
Cootes, The Street, Thakeham, RH20 3EP

Safeguarding Officer

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

PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR

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

Parishes Office: **New hours – Tue & Wed 9.30 to 5pm**

Loving God and loving our neighbour

THAKEHAM CHURCH FILLS SHOEBOXES

It was fantastic to see 46 shoe boxes filled with essentials and gifts, donated and wrapped at the Church for All service at Thakeham on 5 November.

They are bound for Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria and Ukraine, where they will be given out by the Link to Hope Team to people who are desperately in need. Rev Richard Barron prayed over them during the service and, packed in Chris Whitehead's car, they will be taken to Link to Hope in Worthing, where Chris will spend some time helping to pack them into bigger boxes ready for their journey.

This expression of love and caring for others tied in so beautifully with David Whitehead talking about the parable of The Good Samaritan. We can all show God's love to others by sharing what we have.

We pray that those who receive these gifts will know they are thought of and loved by us and by God.



Thakeham Knit and Stitch Group

Tuesday 12 December at 12 Noon

Everyone Welcome

Thakeham Church Room

Further information available
from Wynn Lednor on 743025



Please note
change of date
and time for this
meeting only

**ST MARY'S THAKEHAM INVITES YOU TO
MEN'S BREAKFAST
SATURDAY 27 JANUARY
Thakeham Village Hall**

8.15am for cooked breakfast served at 8.30am

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

**With guest
speaker**



St Mary's Thakeham

invites you to get in the Christmas spirit
and join us for

**Beer and
Carols**

Saturday 9 December

5.30pm – 6.30pm

Thakeham Village Hall

**Family friendly!
Other drinks available!
Christmas jumper
competition!**



Matthew 5:16

“Let your light shine before all people, so they may see your good works and praise your Father in heaven”

What's happening at

St Mary's Sullington



www.st-marys-sullington.org info@st-marys-sullington.org

Churchwardens

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

2nd position vacant

Treasurer

David Baxter (744346)

Retired Clergy

Revd Jill Simpson (01798 813121)
office.stwparishes@btinternet.com

Churchwardens Emeriti

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

Pastoral Care

Ann Salinger (01798 813481)

PCC Secretary

Position vacant

Freewill Offering & Gift Aid Officer

David Baxter (744346)

Electoral Roll

Heather Cotton (745751)

Organist

Position vacant

Church Flowers

Altar Rota Jean Hoadley (01798 812658)

Safeguarding Officer

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

Lift Co-Ordinator

Anne Owen (743973)

Church Fabric Officer

John Williams (07841 204330)

THAKEHAM AND SULLINGTON:

T: 01798 813121 / 07923 420834 • Email: office.stwparishes@btinternet.com

Times of Church services can be found on page 18. Alternatively you can visit the Church website for further details.

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in us

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

ST. MARY'S CHURCH THAKEHAM
with Warminghurst

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER
6pm Carols by Candlelight
with mince pies and mulled wine

CHRISTMAS EVE
4pm Donkey Service
11.30pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
10.30am Christmas Celebration
with Communion

ST. MARY'S CHURCH SULLINGTON
A shepherds' church at the foot of the Downs at the end of Sullington Lane

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER
3pm Evensong with carols

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER
3pm Carols by Candlelight
with mince pies and mulled wine

CHRISTMAS EVE
11.30pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
10.30am Christmas Day
Holy Communion

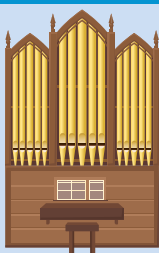
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CHRISTMAS STALL

On 10 December we will be holding a stall at the Christmas Tree Festival at Warminghurst Church from 10am to 4pm with lots of Christmas items to purchase in aid of St Mary's Church, Sullington. We look forward to seeing you there.





What's happening at St Mary's Storrington

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

Churchwardens

churchwardens@storringtonparishchurch.org.uk

Christine Tuson (905932)
Robinswood, George's Lane RH20 3JH
Michael Taylor (742218)

Treasurer

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

Parish Secretary

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

PCC Secretary

VACANT

Retired Clergy

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

Vergers

Michael Taylor (742218)

Sacristy Team

John Taylor (745477)

Captain of Bellringers

John Taylor (745477)

Parish Visiting Scheme

Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow
(742888)

Recorder

Alison Hammond (07840 522832)

Electoral Roll Officer

Rosemary Humphreys (367149)

Director of Music

Stephen Bloxham

Assistant Organist

Ian Miles

Readers

Sam Ward (893794)

Sidesmen

David Rice (746816)

Church Flowers

Susanne Carter (746837)

Safeguarding Officer

Jackie Lee (743661)

Christian Aid Co-ordinator

VACANT

The Rector, Revd Canon Kathryn Windslow, will take Friday as her day off.
The Rectory Office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am – 1pm.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Church Services see page 18.

Choir: Fridays, 6.40pm – 7.45pm. Anyone interested in joining the choir please contact the Revd Jacquie Peal – 743083.

Altar Servers: Revd Jacquie Peal (743083)

Bellringers: Fridays, 7.45pm – 9.30pm.

Church & Churchyard Maintenance: John Butler (745091)

Mothers' Union: Jean Hunt (01798 813681)

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

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

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

STORRINGTON REGISTERS

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

28 Oct Madeleine Margaret Teare (daughter of Rachel and Stuart)

29 Oct Joshua Maurice Norman Suter (son of Natalie and Jordan)

29 Oct Barbie Hall (adult)

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

16 Oct Jean Amy Lucas (91 years)

CHILDREN'S GIFT SERVICE

Sunday, 3 December at 10am

During the Family Service on Sunday 3 December at 10am, everyone is invited to bring gifts for needy children which will be distributed, through Family Support Work. FSW are suggesting any of the following would be much appreciated:

0-4 yrs – early years toys, simple jigsaws, cars, dolls, let's pretend toys, colouring books, crayons, picture books, Duplo

5-8 yrs – cars, dolls, let's pretend toys, board games, colouring books and pens/pencils, simple craft kits, Lego, reading books and books for parents to read with them

9-11 yrs – board games, colouring/activity books and pens/pencils, craft kits, science kits, Lego etc, outdoor games (footballs, etc).

All gifts please should be new and unwrapped so that FSW practitioners can select the most appropriate presents for their caseload children.



KATHRYN'S RETIREMENT

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

EVENSONG WINTER TIME

Evensong, usually held at St Mary's, Storrington, on the first and second Sundays in the month, will start at 4pm from Sunday 5 November.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE AT ST MARY'S, STORRINGTON

**Sunday
24 December
at 4pm**





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Open Thursday – Sundays, 10am-4pm.
 See website for more details
www.sullingtonmanorfarm.co.uk

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

f *ByreCottagesSussex*
f *Sullingtonmanorfarm*
@ *@sullingtonmanor*



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL AT WARMINGHURST CHURCH

8 to 10 December, from 10am to 4pm daily

Free Entrance

Come and see creativity on show in a rural setting, the Friends of Warminghurst Church Christmas Tree Festival, at the beautiful Warminghurst Church (RH20 3AW) is not to be missed.

This popular community event offers the perfect opportunity to schools, charities, businesses and societies to promote their talent in festive style. The unique space is transformed with beautiful Christmas trees, and offers many attractions such as live music performance, book signings, the Friends' famous cake stall, an excellent raffle, Bric a Brac, and refreshments, to name a few.

Candlelit Carols on Saturday 9 December at 4pm

An informal carol singing with readings. Mulled drink and mince pies. Space is limited due to the trees.

For more information on the Festival please contact us by email: info.fowc@gmail.com or call Rachel on 891312, or follow 'Warminghurst Church' on Facebook for the daily programme through the Festival.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

ST. MARY'S CHURCH STORRINGTON

CHILDREN'S GIFT SERVICE

Archdeacon Luke of Chichester will be with us at our 10am Family Service on **Sunday 3 December**. Everyone is invited to bring gifts for needy children which will be distributed through Family Support Work. Details are on page 6.

CAROL SERVICE

The main Parish Carol Service will take place on **Sunday 17 December at 6pm** with full choir

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

This special Family Service takes place on **Christmas Eve at 4 pm**. A collection is taken for the Children's Society

MIDNIGHT MASS

is celebrated at the new time of **11 pm on Christmas Eve**

CHRISTMAS DAY

The main service will be **Christmas Family Communion with Carols at 10am**. There will be a **Holy Communion service at 8am**. No evening service on Christmas Day

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

Collections will be taken at Midnight Mass and on Christmas Day in aid of *Turning Tides* and Church funds

Baptism

*A warm welcome
to Madeline*

28 October

Madeleine Margaret Teare, daughter of Rachel & Stuart, was baptised on 28 October at St Mary's Church, Storrington.

CHILDREN CELEBRATE HARVEST

It was wonderful to welcome the juniors from Storrington Primary School for their harvest celebration at St Mary's Church, Storrington. 240 children plus teachers and parents filled the Church with joyful seasonal singing and some brave souls read out their poems. We were blessed with sunny weather for their walk to Church across the Glebe Field.

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Thakeham Road, Storrington RH20 3NG

Thursday 21 December

3pm – Carol Service

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24 December

11.15pm – Holy Communion

Christmas Day

Monday 25 December

9.30am – Family Worship

Everyone is welcome



SERVICE OF LIGHT, HOPE AND REMEMBRANCE

Nearly 100 people came to a Service of Light, Hope and Remembrance on 5 November at St Mary's Church, Storrington. The service gave people an opportunity to remember their loved ones through prayers and readings. As names of those who have died over the last few years were read out, people were able to come up and light a candle in their loved one's memory and to take a daffodil bulb to plant as a sign of hope for the future.



Storrington and Sullington Warden Chris Poore received a donation for £1000, presented by Reverend Canon Kathryn Windslow on behalf of St Mary's Church, Storrington.

The money will go towards the warden-run Fun day on 19 August 2024, which is free to all residents.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

13 December

Sing-along
carols

Children from
Storrington Primary
School will be singing

Mince pies and other
goodies

NOTE: NO CAFÉ
ON 27 DECEMBER



DON'T BE ALONE THIS CHRISTMAS

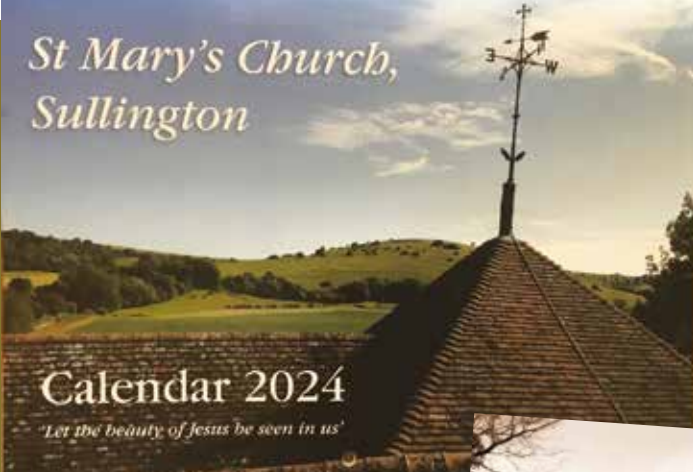
Admission
by ticket only
£10

Don't want to
be on your own
this Christmas?
Then join us for lunch.
1pm Christmas Day
at The Old School,
Storrington.

Thank you

Book your place by
15 December
Transport available if required.


For more details please contact:
Sue Kibblewhite – Tel: 01903 745325



St Mary's Church, Sullington

Calendar 2024

'Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in us'

CHURCH CALENDAR

St Mary's church, Sullington calendar for 2024 is now for sale!

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Many beautiful photographs

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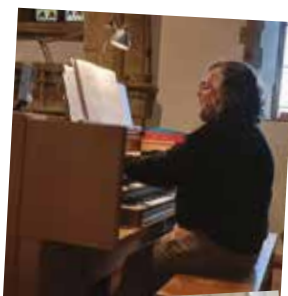
THE ORGANISTS AT PLAY...

Thank you, Johannus!

On Saturday 4 November, St Mary's Church, Storrington held a concert to celebrate 10 years of its church organ, Johannus Ecclesia D-350.

After much fundraising, the organ was installed in the late summer of 2013 with kind fundraising from the congregation and overseen by the wardens and the previous Director of Music, George Jones. Current church organists, Ian Miles and Stephen Bloxham, played a variety of pieces, with a beautiful Flower Duet (*Lakmé*) in the first half and a rousing Sussex by the Sea march to finish. Lueen Francis' grandson, Leon, also took part playing his trumpet accompanied by the organ, including a brassy *Trumpet Voluntary*. Many thanks to all the musicians who took part and to those who came along to support the event; it was a great afternoon of music, tea and cake. Over £400 was raised for Church funds.

Watch out for more details of next year's concerts: Taylor Maid on 27 January and Brighton Welsh Male Voice Choir on 2 March.



Storrington Village
IS HOSTING A SPECTACULAR

CHRISTMAS Event

COME JOIN US FOR 3 DAYS OF

FOOD PRIZES MUSIC FUN

NOVEMBER 30TH~DECEMBER 2ND
Storrington Village

MEET SANTA & HIS ELVES HOT CHESTNUTS
LIGHT UP PROCESSION LIVE MUSIC
FAIRGROUND ATTRACTIONS
FESTIVE MARKET STALLS AND MORE!

See reverse for more information!

THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ

The annual Sullington and Thakeham Churches Christmas Quiz, in support of Family Support Work, has been compiled again this year. Something to exercise the brain whilst entertaining the family over the Christmas and New Year holiday, just £2.

Copies will be widely available through the local churches and elsewhere locally. For more information please see www.stmarysthakeham.org. If you would like extra copies to sell to friends and family, please contact Liz MacGregor, lizmacg1@gmail.com or phone 746046. Also available in Storrington Rectory Office.

Please send completed entries to:
Liz MacGregor, Five Oaks, Nightingale Lane, Storrington RH20 4NU.

Closing date 6 January.

Family Support Work
THE SUSSEX CHARITY FOR CHILDREN SINCE 1870

Christians in Storrington
Monthly Inter-Church Prayer Meetings
Everyone welcome

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

Tuesday 5 December – Chemin Neuf Community will lead
Tuesday 2 January – Life Community Church will lead

One in faith and love and praise

Carol Service
By Candlelight

Our Ancient Church will be lit by hundreds of candles - it will have never looked so beautiful!

PLEASE DO COME!
MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES

SUNDAY 17TH
DECEMBER 6PM
THAKEHAM CHURCH

Waxcaps and swifts

Last week I had tea, and cake, with three members of the local group of Sussex Wildlife Trust, Storrington and Arun Valley. It was great chatting about a range of subjects, but especially about environmental matters. While I'm happy to 'put the case' to those who doubt the climate emergency is real, it's refreshing to spend time with like-minded people. Anyway, the conversation turned to fungi, as it does at this time of year. I have just completed SWT's online course which was a beginner's guide to fungi. One or two I already knew, fly agaric being one, but jelly ear was new to me. Don't you just love the names of fungi? Another is waxcap; we have waxcaps in Storrington churchyard; so exciting! I realise that one of my motivations for addressing environmental issues is the excitement and pleasure I find in the little details, like a mushroom that looks different.



Golden Waxcap mushroom (hygrocybe-chlorophana)



We also talked about swifts. By December swifts are of course long gone; they visit us from about May to July, but while they're in the UK their aerial activities are captivating. I have cherished memories of evenings at my summer music course in Dorset, year after year, sitting listening to the swifts outside as I waited to listen to music inside. Sadly, suitable places for swifts to breed are getting scarce. SWT has a current project putting swift breeding boxes in locations to build up breeding numbers. Unfortunately, the Church tower can't be one of them because there isn't safe access for the boxes to be installed, but the Rectory is a good place. So, we hope next summer to have swifts around that area.

If you think your house might be suitable, contact the local SWT and ask about it. swtstorringtonregion@gmail.com

<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/what-we-do/local-groups/storrington-arun-valley-regional-group>



Another jumper?

It's that time of year; the clocks have gone back; the heating is definitely needed and Christmas is only about three weeks away by the time you read this. Heating a church effectively and affordably is a perennial subject in the Facebook Churchwardens' group I belong to, and in the PCC. Many churches, including ours, have oil or gas boilers, and it's a challenge to set the programmes so that we're comfortable during the different times we use the Church. I'm currently investigating a temperature recorder so I can see how the temperature in the Church varies during the week.

The challenge at home is similar, but at least you probably have more control over the space. A debate that has been going on for decades is whether it's better to keep your heating on all the time or to turn it on and off as you need it. Uswitch has an interesting page on this subject. <https://www.uswitch.com/energy-efficiency/heating-on-all-the-time>

Meanwhile at home I'll turn the thermostat down one degree and put on another jumper to conserve both energy and our money!

Well done Waitrose!

As I was browsing one of the local social media sites recently, a thing popped up: "Washington residents recycle your electricals at Waitrose." This claimed that you can take your small, broken electrical items, such as irons, radios, hairdryers and the like, and batteries to Waitrose and they will put them into a recycling system that John Lewis Partnership operate. I

was not convinced so I went into Waitrose and checked. It's true; you can do this. So, well done Waitrose!

And, if you think the item might be repairable, try the Repair Café on the first Friday of each month at the market in the Village Hall, from 9.45am to 11.15am.

Just one thing

Christmas is coming and I like to have a Christmas wreath or two. I order them from a local person in Thakeham who uses agra-wool instead of green florist foam because agra-wool is fully compostable and vastly better for the environment.

Christine Tuson, ctuson@lineone.net

CHRISTMAS CONCERT
featuring traditional and contemporary carols
and Cecilia McDowall's
CHRISTUS NATUS EST

Saturday 9th December 2023 | 6pm
St Mary's Church, Petworth

The Leconfield Singers
Highfield School Chapel Choir
English Philharmonia Brass
Conductor | Graham Will

Adult £10-£20 | Child (under 18) Half price
Tickets | www.leconfieldsingers.co.uk/events

THE LECONFIELD SINGERS
Retiring collection to Petworth Community Gardens

Come and join our SPACE

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

We take a break in December and start again on Tuesday 9 January 2024.

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

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

For more information contact Barbara (741236).

MY PRIDE AND JOY

My car is a Morris Cowley; it came off the production line in July 1923, making it 100 years old this year.

I have owned the car for seven years and have carried out restoration work and some modifications, such as indicators, which really are a must in today's traffic.

The car takes part in rallies in various parts of the country during the year, which involves driving on a variety of country roads which, in some cases, can be a challenge for both car and driver.

A few facts about the car:

It has two wheel brakes operating only on rear wheels.

The tyres are known as beaded edge and are approximately three inches wide.

The fuel system is gravity fed with the fuel tank behind the dashboard.

Needless to say, there are no seatbelts!

As vintage motorists, we always drive within the capabilities of the car which governs the speed at which we travel. Do bear in mind though, it takes longer to stop when we put the brakes on!

Garth Wiltshire



SUSSEXDOWN CHAPEL SERVICE

Monthly chapel service has resumed at Sussexdown (Care South) in the RAFA chapel. Following a 32 month hiatus of Covid restrictions, Sullington Parish are pleased to offer a traditional language Prayer Book communion with hymns for residents and their friends. We really look forward to seeing you in the chapel on the first Thursday of the month at 2.15pm.



MONTHLY TALK

SHACKLETON

MAN & MYTHS

BY MICHAEL SMITH

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2.30PM

STORRINGTON & DISTRICT MUSEUM,
THE OLD SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE,
STORRINGTON, RH20 4LL

MEMBERS £6

NON-MEMBERS £8

PAY AT THE DOOR

JUSTGIVING DONATION CODE

I WONDER IF THEY HAD ANY LUCK...

Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton (1874 – 1922) was an explorer who led three British expeditions to the Antarctic.

After the race to the South Pole ended in December 1911, with Roald Amundsen's conquest, Shackleton turned his attention to the crossing of Antarctica from sea to sea, via the pole. Disaster struck this expedition when its ship, *Endurance*, became trapped in pack ice and was slowly crushed before the shore parties could be landed. The crew escaped by camping on the sea ice until it disintegrated, then by launching the lifeboats to reach Elephant Island and ultimately South Georgia Island, a stormy ocean voyage of 720 nautical miles (1,330 km; 830 mi). The wreck of *Endurance* was discovered just over a century later.

Michael Smith is an author and journalist who specialises in the history of Polar exploration. He has written books on Polar history and lectured extensively.

THE VILLAGE HUB'S FESTIVE EVENT

Saturday
2 December,
12 noon to 4pm

Santa is back this year with his cheeky elves at The Village Hub. Come and see Mr and Mrs Claus, with free gift while stocks last! There will also be lots of free activities for the kids and mince pies for the adults. We look forward to seeing you there. Time slotted tickets will be available on the day. Any questions please email thevillagehub@lccsto.org.





SULLINGTON 160 YEARS AGO

EXTRACTS FROM CANON PALMER'S DIARY – DECEMBER 1863

Tue 1: Very wet from 11 am all day. No farmer pays me a visit: and I have only received £25 of Tithe to this day: with the exception of Lady Skinner, none of them have the courtesy to proffer even an excuse! At home all day, make Erskine epitomise Lord Elgin's life, as given I hope prematurely in *The Times*. Read over Nutt's Bee book and find the facts contained in it extremely interesting.

Wed 2: A very strong gale with pouring rain. The paper has two pieces of intelligence for us today. Sir John Lawrence goes out by the next mail as successor, or reliever, to poor Lord Elgin and Commander. George Palmer is appointed to the *Aurora*. Annie has been very poorly all day, and I much fear that our expedition tomorrow will not be to her taste. Erskine wins a grand victory at Fives and sighs for Christmas holidays. Shakespeare's *King John* we are reading today.

Thu 3: Terrific gale with rain during the night followed by stormy day with severe wind from the NW. Poor Annie all day in agony, bodily and mentally, on the one side was a toothache on the other an invitation for the first time to go with me to Lancing to the Carr-Lloyds. We finally decided against her going. So at 4pm I drove away alone into a country I knew not and to dwell with inhabitants some of whom I had never met before! After losing my way 2 or 3 times I at last got down to the house and found Mrs Lloyd, Miss Lloyd and 2 Misses, nieces, in the Drawing Room: had a very loyal reception – at dinner old Medland, Major and Miss Ingram young Parish from the Lancing College and young Hilton who performs on the organ there – also a young daughter sat on my left hand Miss Fanny Carr-Lloyd not yet out.

Fri 4: Was fine and very brilliant – a white frost. The colonel had prayer at 8.30: Reading all the psalms for the day and a part of the Liturgy, it is a fair sight an English Gentleman's household so assembled and the Patriarch being priest as in the Days of Yore. After breakfast the young ones and Miss Lloyd went off to Brighton, the Colonel showed me over his place which is beautifully arranged and very cosy. Peeps from the terrace and woods about are very pretty: Shoreham looks positively picturesque with the enchantment of haze the fine tower and the shipping beyond the bridges. After lunch inspected Lancing College which is a fine building, which in that state reminds one of the story of Him who began to build but who was not able to finish. A temporary chapel has been made out of the future library and was gorgeous with cross candles etc. Came home by 6 o'clock having paid a very simple domestic visit. Colonel Lloyd I found remarkably kind and seemingly desirous of being intimate.

Sat 5: Dull and rather scuddy and blusterous. Ballard brother and sister rode here to lunch with kind invitations to Erskine and self. A parochial case of a little difficulty at Threales. A couple named Parker produced a child on Tuesday and without providing the doctor so that when they sent me to Baptise the child I find that the poor thing was unbaptised and unregistered. My only course was to obtain a certificate from the registrar to permit the interment sine service. Mother and Annie to Brighton and Annie for her tooth.

Sun 6: Advent II. Fine but damp after night's rain. Small congregation today – why? Preached from the favoured vineyard being lesson for today and a first sermon on the Absolution. Ellen writes from Devonport where she is now with George who is engaged on board the *Aurora*.

Mon 7: Dull and dismal but fine and mild. Erskine goes to shoot with the Ballards. I am busy sending off a box of books to George. George C Gibson writes to say that he has forwarded for my use 12 dozen Fives balls!

Tue 8: Dull and drizzly and muggy. Walked to Highden to lunch with a message from Edward, who writes (November 3rd) from Delhi; under canvas in good health and spirits. Only Lady G, Mrs Richards and Captain Goodrick: then on to Cobden. When discovered in a conversation with Mrs Luxford the secret of the non-attendance of young Luxford at the sacrament: Simple 'Follow the Leader Principle'. Dined at the Ballards.

Wed 9: Very wet throughout. Heavy Fives with Erskine beating him: George C Gibson sends him grand present of racquet balls. Carpenters here making beam in loft. Cooper thrashing and Venn looking at him.

Thu 10: Fine and brisk. Again heavy Fives, again quadruply victorious. A grand movement of a gigantic box tree from the high lawn to left of dining room windows: Managed it on a door and rollers.

Fri 11: Dull and signs of approaching storm. Prophets for 3 days have foretold of a crashing gale tomorrow. Our box tree was firmly and satisfactorily settled in his new bed today; the myrtle was also moved from its bad position to the space midway between the dining room windows. F Mant Fived and lunched today: called on Power who lives in Worthing. *Punch* good for this week.

Sat 12: Dark and stormy but only wind. The Crawley Trial closed until Thursday when the Colonel will read his defence. *The Times* gives an account of a prize fight twixed England and America in the persons of King and Heenan last Thursday only to show the brutality and bloodiness of the exhibition: a leader on the event sings the same moral song. Justice Wrightman aged 80 years dies suddenly whilst holding the winter Assize in Nottingham. Erskine a little rusty today over old works which galls him. To Cobden riding to read to Mrs Luxford senior and junior on the Holy Communion, which I hope to administer to them at or about Christmas. Mrs Woods is taken seriously ill with the dropsy (in the Union) and expresses a wish to see me. Seeing in the paper the death in action of Willie Gillies aged 24 a cousin: he fell in India in a NW border fight while leading up his guns to the front poor fellow! He leaves a newly married wife and baby just out to join him and a family in England he was well known as a young officer of much real promise.

Sun 13: Advent III. Fine and still after frost. Preached a second sermon on 'The Vineyard' making the application more directly practical: also a list of seven on the liturgy to end of Absolution. Old Barnard of Clayton remains dangerously ill.

Mon 14: As yesterday though more beautiful. Lady Elgin died on 20 November. Visited Mrs Woods in the Union: she is near her end and seems devoutly ready to go: she complains much of the noise which seasoned with curses with blows goes on from morning to midnight from around below and above. This should be enquired into; is it the same in all Unions or is it a want of discipline in this? Moving shrubs and my dwarf apples and cherries. And also slew a pig much to Erskine's genuine horror.

Tue 15: Very dark and lowering, but over mild and still. To see old Barnard of Clayton, who sent for me: found him much swollen with gout in the stomach: sensible and collected and listened to the prayers I offered up with much approval and earnestness. Drove Erskine to Chilington and Annie home there from.

Wed 16: Dull and drizzly, a sharp fall of the barometer. Erskine goes shooting at Rock so I to my sermon, also old Barnard in afternoon; who seemed very restless but a trifle better. George C Gibson comes with Freddie. Erskine returns rather disgusted with young JB who was on his part thoroughly humorous but his father spoils him. Today his commission for the 11th has come from the Horse Guards. Read Macaulay's essay on Madam D'Arblay. Written with more than customary piquancy.

Thu 17: Fine but slaty sky with strong wind. Erskine takes holiday for packing etc. We have an exciting chase after a hare, also a trio in Fives in which I but 'squeezedly' victorious. In afternoon I am on parochial visit to Cobden preparing the Luxfords for the Sacraments. Then to Clayton but Barnard was too poorly to see me. Wordsworth publicly protests against the appointment of Stanley to the Deanery of Westminster: A letter for EP Arnold in large type is in today's paper defends and rejoices heartily for it.

Fri 18: Stormy sky with strong W and rapidly falling glass – mild. Crawley's speech is answered calmly and logically by the prosecutor Colonel Shorter. The line taken being an unexpected one altogether. Drove Annie to Wiston and we were surprised at learning from the plain butler that we couldn't see her. Why - ? Because 'she was put to bed last night'? A boy or a girl. It's two! said the great man to our great amusement: thence to Steyning and home, evening being very threatening. Annie begins to make wreaths.

Sat 22: A gale last night subsided without rain this morning and bright day ended with a sharp frost. Sudden and striking rise of the glass from 29.75 to 30.20. Began my notes on Maurice's 'Prophets and Kings'. Took the usual almsgiving tour around the parish. Evening sets in very sharp – busy with the Star the woodwork of which Erskine has made very cunningly. George Wright from Cowes rather dolefully, being evidently in want of home comforts, and a little wife.

Sun 23: Frost disappeared before midday dull and cloudy. A letter from Edward November 23 from Delhi, all well, was about to move up to Meerut (40 miles) to relieve the 90th. Charles Goring inundates us with game. George C Gibson the young Sandham play Fives. A despatch from Lord Lyons predicts peace within three months – South being exhausted.

Mon 24: Gloomy, but fine and mild. Annie has done the Church single handed this time. I sent the Star of this shape (shape of star drawn) over the chancel arch: a text in black and red over the communion table – a wreath over the chancel arch, round the capital of the pillars the night and font and first arch together with the usual sprinklings complete the work. Worked hard at sermons and Maurice's 'Prophets and Kings' of which last I have got the pith of Ezekiel.

Tue 25: Fine warm fleecy sky Aprilish. A miserable attendance at the Holy Communion but a large one in the evening. Colonel Sandham and 3 children in afternoon. I gave an extemporary from Luke I v.58 We are thus dispersed today Mother, Annie and Emmie at home. Charlie at Horsley on visit. George off to Cowes as Commander of the Aurora and Edward at Meerut most probably. Colonel Crawley is pronounced 'Not Guilty' on both charges.

Thu 26: Dismal drizzly. Emmie leaves us for Bradstock and Chithurst.

Fri 27: Christmas I. St John's Day. Dismally raw with early rain, afternoon fine. Made St John my hero today throughout the sermon with much pleasure, the first and last chapters in Revelation. Congregations poor. Charles Goring spent the day Lady Goring being in Town for a family meeting. Boyle writes about new pupil coming to me.

Sat 28: Cold and raw frost again turned to fog. Over the hill to give the sacrament to Mrs Luxford and to distribute tickets: thence to Highden, where dining meeting Whiting and 'Johnnie B' Billiards.

Sun 29: Stormy with driving mists. Had made arrangements to go to Arundel this morning but weather prevented. Mrs Ballard sends an invitation to my mother and so wording her note that my mother took high offence and declined and sends Annie. I rode to Ashington and paid my respects to the Rector and his Christmas family. Busy making abstract of accounts: Annie gives me hers which are frequently to be wrong.

Mon 30: Fine and bright after slight frost. Paid calls with Mother and Annie at Fryen and Storrington Rectory. Chattie not well and sounding me through Annie about privately baptising her twins. Whiting has no objection to my doing it, but it is plain that it is not allowed unless the children are ill and that it could seem a favouring of the rich over the poor, and also were I to do it at Storrington would compare with my ease Whiting's strictness in obedience to the law of the Church. Dined with the Ballards a nice little party and Ballard has a new piano.

Tue 31: Very rough cold east wind, a more dismal conclusion to 1863 there could not well be. Also Mother and Annie are more or less poorly. I work on a sermon and make them an exaltation for the New Year. I also see to my accounts which seem satisfactory as I have nearly £2 over my balance in hand. God has been very merciful to us all this year sparing all and blessing all. Edward especially in his illness in Delhi in the summer. I cannot thank him better than acknowledging his love and promising to strive more heartily than I have done to my work here and bring my own will and temper into obedience to the will of Christ. God grant that I may try to improve.



DECK THE HALL!

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Sandgate Singers
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Christmas concert*

*Carols, words and
music for all*

Conductor:
William Waine

Accompanist:
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Sunday 10 December 2023 at 4.00pm
Our Lady of England RC Church, Storrington RH20 4LW

TICKETS (including festive refreshments)

Adults £12, children free

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MEETINGS

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Christmas Lunch

14 December
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MORE INFORMATION:
www.storringtoncc.org.uk or
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Camera Club

CHURCH SERVICES AT A GLANCE

STORRINGTON St Mary's



THAKEHAM St Mary's



SULLINGTON St Mary's



DATE	FESTIVAL OR SUNDAY	STORRINGTON	THAKEHAM	SULLINGTON
3 December	Advent 1	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Family Communion Children's Gift Service with Archdeacon Luke of Chichester 4pm Evensong	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington 'Christingle for All' Service	8.30am BCP Communion 3pm Evensong with Advent Carols
10 December	Advent 2	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 4pm Evensong	8.30am Celtic Communion 10.30am Morning Prayer	10.30am Holy Communion
17 December	Advent 3	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion with Prayers for Healing 6pm Parish Carol Service	6pm Carols by Candlelight with mulled wine and mince pies	3pm Carol Service with mulled wine and mince pies
24 December	CHRISTMAS EVE	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion 4pm Christingle Service (for families) 11pm Midnight Mass (note new time)	4pm Donkey Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion	11.30pm Midnight Communion
25 December	CHRISTMAS DAY	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Christmas Family Communion with Carols	10.30am Christmas Communion	10.30am Christmas Communion
31 December	Christmas 1	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion	10.30am Zoom Service (email parish office for login)	10.30am Zoom Service (email parish office for login)
2024 7 January	Epiphany 1	8am Holy Communion (said) 10am Parish Communion NO EVENSONG	10.30am Joint Thakeham/Sullington 'Church for All' Holy Communion Service	8.30am BCP Communion 3pm Evensong

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

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

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

Daily Mass: Monday – Friday 9am.

For other midweek services, confessions etc., please contact

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Howell

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

Tel: 740338

STORRINGTON CHAPEL

North Street

Sunday Services 10.30am and 6.30pm

Enquiries to Storrington Chapel Evangelical Church,

North Street, Storrington RH20 4DH

Email: contacts@storringtonchapel.org.uk

LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH, STORRINGTON

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, Spierbridge Road

Family Worship – Sundays 10am

Enquiries to Katherine Edwards

Life Community Church Office, 7 The Square, Storrington

Office open: Monday – Wednesday.

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

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

TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Thakeham Road

Sunday Service 10.30am

Minister: Revd Dr Frank Okai-Sam

Tel: 01273 597122

Email: trinitychurchstorrington@outlook.com

www.facebook.com/TrinityStorrington

Our building is now registered for same-sex marriage

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Fri 9.45am Storrington Community Market – Village Hall

STORRINGTON LIBRARY – Tel. 839050

Opening Hours

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

Knit and natter Adults Wednesdays 2pm-3pm

Toddler time Under 5s Thursdays 10am-10.30am

Rhyme time Under 5s Tuesdays 10.45am-11.15am

STORRINGTON

POP-IN LUNCH CLUB

Storrington Village Hall

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

Enjoy a nourishing meal with dessert

ALL ARE WELCOME

Buy a ticket at The Hub in Storrington

Co-ordinator: Penny Barnes (01798 815129)

Come and meet old friends and make new ones

All for only £3!



The Churches of Storrington invite you to

SUNDAY LUNCH CLUB

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

10 December

at the Old School, School Lane, Storrington

Tickets £4.00 are available from

Louisa Austin, Church Street, Storrington



WHAT'S ON

DECEMBER	
Fri 1	
7.30pm	Storrington Museum – Talk – p15
Sat 2	
10am	Storrington Conservation Society – Working Party – p26
12 noon	Children's Festive Event – Village Hub – p15
Sun 3 Advent 1	
10am	Children's Gift Service – St Mary's Storrington – p6
3pm	Evensong with Advent Carols – Sullington Church
Mon 4	
2.30pm	Reading Friends – Storrington Library – p20
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – St Mary's, Storrington – p24
Tues 5	
10am	Inter-Church Prayers – RC Church (side-chapel) – p13
2pm	The Arts Society West Sussex – Talk – p25
Wed 6	
	Storrington Dramatic Society Pantomime – p21
Thu 7	
11.30am	Pop-In Lunch Club – p18
2.15pm	Service at Sussexdown – p15
7pm	West Chiltington Floral Club Christmas Extravaganza – p33
	Storrington Dramatic Society Pantomime – p21
Fri 8	
9.45am	Storrington Community Market Christmas Special – p25
10am	Warminghurst Church Christmas Tree Festival – p9
	Storrington Dramatic Society Pantomime – p21
Sat 9	
9.30am	Sandgate Conservation Society – Working Party – p22
10am	Warminghurst Church Christmas Tree Festival – p9
2pm	Storrington Horticultural Society – Afternoon Tea – p21
5.30pm	Beer and Carols – p4
	Thakeham Gardeners' Club Christmas Party – p33
	Storrington Dramatic Society Pantomime – p21
Sun 10 Advent 2	
10am	Warminghurst Church Christmas Tree Festival – p9
1pm	Sunday Lunch Club – Old School, Storrington – p18
4pm	Sandgate Singers Christmas Concert – p17
Mon 11	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – St Mary's, Storrington – p24
Tue 12	
12 noon	Knit and Stitch – p4
7.30pm	Rotary Film Night – <i>Oppenheimer</i> – p29
	Storrington Camera Club Christmas Lunch – p17
Wed 13	
10am	Midweek Holy Communion at St Mary's, Storrington
10.30am	Café in the Church Christmas Special – p10
7.30pm	Sullington WI – Meeting – p34
Thu 14	
2pm	Memory Moments Café – p20
7.30pm	Storrington Camera Club – Meeting – p17

Sat 16	
5pm	Scouts Carol Service at St Mary's, Storrington
7pm	West Chiltington Dramatic Society Members' Evening – p25
Sun 17 Advent 3	
3pm	Carol Service – Sullington Church – 5
6pm	Carol Service – Storrington Church – p9
6pm	Candlelight Carol Service – Thakeham Church – p13
Mon 18	
7pm	Storrington Slimmers – St Mary's, Storrington – p24
Thu 21	
10.30am	Cuppa and a Chat – p23
Sun 24 Christmas Eve	
	For services, see pages 5, 9 and 18
Mon 25 Christmas Day	
	Christmas Day Lunch at the Old School, Storrington – p10
	For services, see pages 5, 9 and 18
Thu 28	
2pm	Memory Moments Café – p20

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL DAYS

DECEMBER	
1	<i>Charles de Foucauld, 1916</i> , hermit in the Sahara
3	<i>Francis Xavier, 1552</i> , considered to be one of the greatest missionaries since St Paul
4	<i>John of Damascus, c749</i> , saint and author of many texts and hymns <i>Nicholas Ferrar, 1637</i> , founder of the Little Gidding Community
6	Nicholas, Bishop of Myra , c.326, saint with a reputation for secret gift-giving and is the model for Santa Claus
7	Ambrose , 397, patron saint of Milan, Italy
8	The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
13	Lucy , 304, patron saint of blind; island of Saint Lucia named after her <i>Samuel Johnson, 1784</i> , poet and essayist, wrote <i>A Dictionary of the English Language</i> (150 years before Oxford English Dictionary published)
14	John of the Cross , 1591, one of foremost poets of Spain, as well as a saint
17	<i>O Sapientia</i> , Worship – part of Common Worship liturgy in C of E <i>Eglantyne Jebb, 1928</i> , British social reformer and founder of <i>Save the Children</i>
26	ST STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR , mentioned in the Book of Acts
27	ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
28	THE HOLY INNOCENTS , remembering when Herod ordered all new born males to be killed
29	Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170 , saint and martyr
31	<i>John Wyclif, 1384</i> , translated the Bible into common language

ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HUB

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

TUESDAY

In Stitches – 1.30pm to 3pm

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



WEDNESDAY

Bible Encounter – 10am to 12pm

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



THURSDAY

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

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



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

Meet new friends, enjoy homemade delicacies for £3 per person. Book tickets in advance from The Village Hub.



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

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



FRIDAY

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

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



SATURDAY

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

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



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS ON FRIDAYS

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre

Sparks Toddler Group – 10am – 11.30am

Come and connect with other parents and guardians at our baby and toddler group for the local community. Each week there are toys, bouncy castles, crafts, a bible story, a song and some refreshments (for children and adults). Entry is £2 per child and £1 for each additional child, and if it is your first time it is free! There is no need to book in advance.



Fireworks Kids Club – 6pm – 7.15pm

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



Wildfires Youth Group – 7.30pm – 9pm

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



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

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



ON 4 DECEMBER THIS MONTH!



Storrington Library

Ryecroft Lane, Storrington, RH20 4PA
01903 839050

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

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

Know Dementia

education, advice & support

Memory Moments Café - Storrington

For people with memory problems and their family / care partner

Second and fourth Thursdays of the month
Ravenscroft Guide and Community Hall
2.00pm - 4.00pm

Join us for a little fun and laughter, with tea/coffee & cakes,
plus music, games, dance, crafts and much more.



For info call 01273 494300 or info@knowdementia.co.uk

Registered charity no. 1154361



STORRINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society welcomed Mr Paul Patton who gave a very interesting and entertaining talk entitled 'Autumn Aspirations, looking forward to spring'.

The talk outlined the things we should be doing to prepare and help our garden and pot plants before and during the winter period so they are ready and well supported as spring approaches. Within this activity we should not forget the lawn, as well as any water features and, of course, the wild life which uses the garden. Gardens and growing spaces require preparation for the more dormant winter conditions and to ensure they are properly prepared to take full advantage for spring. Many things are just good housekeeping, such as tidying and cleaning the greenhouse, and cleaning and storing pots and containers so that they are ready for spring.

Although the winter season is nearly with us, remember bare-root fruit trees and bushes can be planted between November and March if the soil is not frozen. You can also prune apple and pear trees, and gooseberries and current bushes.

Don't be too tidy though! Leaving some growth on your perennials will provide winter habitat for the wild life that uses your garden. Some dry stems will make it much easier for many insects to hide in and survive the winter. Also remember to ensure water remains available for wildlife and keep bird baths ice-free; the placing of a tennis ball in ponds or water features creates a hole in the ice for access to the water. Protect outside water taps and move tender plants to a sheltered place and in very cold spells cover with fleece, hessian or straw to protect them from frost. Most roses should be pruned in January or February, as well as removing any dead, diseased or damaged stems. Regarding the lawn, remove as much moss as and dead growth as possible and apply a winter feed, ensuring all lawn tools are cleaned and ready for spring.

Remember for next year there are plants that can bring colour to your garden during winter, including Crocus, Snowdrops, winter aconites and Hellebores, to name a few.

The meeting closed with a raffle and light refreshments. Our next meeting on **9 December** at Storrington Village Hall is our Christmas Afternoon Tea from 2pm to 4pm, admission by ticket only. There will be no speaker at this meeting.

Michael Webber
www.storringtonhorti.org.uk



STORRINGTON DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Wow! It's the month of Christmas and what better way to really get into the spirit than to spend an evening booing the baddies and cheering the goodies. You can if you come to Sullington Parish Hall on either **6, 7, 8 or 9 December** when Storrington Dramatic Society presents a different version of *Cinderella* entitled *Cinderella II – The Sisters Strike Back* by Andrew Yates. All the usual characters (or their like) are there, but will Cinders get her happy ending or will the Ugly Sisters complete their dastardly plan?!!



Tickets are on sale at Fowlers Estate Agent (a big thank you to them), priced £12 for adults and £6 for children under 16. Tickets may also be bought online through SDS website: www.storringtondramatics.co.uk.



Whether you come and support your local drama group (we are always looking for new talent) or not, we at SDS wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year

David Chinn



THE SUSSEX TRAVEL LOUNGE

Thank you for the lovely welcome we have had so far from the locals in and around the surrounding village.

I decided after eight years of operating The Sussex Travel Company in Horsham, to open another agency.

Looking at the demographics of where we have a lot of existing customers outside of Horsham, I decided to opt for the lovely village of Storrington.

I started my career in 1987 working as a Saturday girl for Thomas Cook and have worked in nearly every type of career in the industry from independent agencies, corporate travel, events, and a business development manager for a tour operator.

Being an independent travel agent, we can source a wide variety of holidays, so whether you are looking for a UK break, a family holiday, a cruise, a luxury getaway, skiing trip, coach trip or a city break, we can help you. We also have an IATA licence, so are able to book flights.

We are ABTA and ATOL bonded which means that your money is financially protected when you book with us, and we go above and beyond to ensure you have the best possible holiday. We are always at the end of the phone no matter what time of day.

Lots of people have often questioned why have a premises, and I may be old fashioned but I know from the past eight years that people like to come to talk to us and have that face-to-face interaction when discussing holidays. We can advise on destinations and offer information from our first-hand experiences.

There are currently five of us working within the two shops and between us we have many years of travel experience. Check out our reviews on google @thesussestravelcompany; you will see that we have a 5* rating.

Travel has always been my passion and I love helping people make happy memories to cherish for life. We look forward to meeting you in the future, so please contact us on 01903 253626 or email holidays@thesussestravellounge.co.uk.

Tanya Pace



NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN UPDATE

It's that time of year when I'm starting to think about Christmas and New Year. Like me, you will probably be looking for that special present and I know I will be looking online and buying from adverts I see. But do be safe; for online safety tips, see this following advice:



Buy online safely

Nowadays you can buy pretty much anything online. But fraudsters use auction sites, social media networks and other online marketplaces to lure in their victims with advertisements for products that simply don't exist. Learn how to spot the signs of an untrustworthy advertisement, post, or email through the web site *Get safe online*.

And you can use that site to find out whether a website is likely to be legitimate or fraudulent; just enter 'Get safe online' in your browser search engine.

Remember! If it looks too good to be true, it probably is. If you think you've been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

December activities and events:

- Christmas Cuppa and Chat – Thursday 14 December at Chanctonbury Leisure Centre, 10.30am to 12 noon
- Every Friday – Storrington Chapel Café in North Street, 2.30pm to 5pm (term-time only)
- St Mary's Church Café – Wednesday 13 December, 10.30am to 12pm
- Christmas Day Lunch - The Old School - £10. Must be booked by 15 December; call 01903 745325

I know there will be residents who will be on their own this Christmas. Please spare a little time to speak to a neighbour and check on them.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Chris Poore

Guides

2nd Storrington

Our September term started with some games to welcome the new Guides who had moved up from our three feeder Brownie units.

The term has been a variety of different evenings, including self care, where the Guides made their own lip balm and tried face masks and hand creams kindly donated by The Body Shop. Also a Taskmaster evening where the girls competed in teams against each other to complete various challenges. We have practiced map reading and learned the basics of using a compass as well as decorating cakes like campfires and artwork on tiles with an autumn theme 'sharpie art', permanent marker and rubbing alcohol.



We have also supported the Royal British Legion again this year by manning their Poppy Appeal stall in Mill Square on the two weekends leading up to Remembrance Day. This year we were joined by a few 1st Sullington Brownies and we also attended the Saturday wreath laying and Sunday Remembrance



parade with our unit flag as well as having the privilege of being able to parade with our Petworth division standard this year.

Finally, this Autumn term we are having a fun swim session, creating Christmas gifts and decorations and enjoying an end of term party where our new members made their promise.



SANDGATE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Into December where there will be only one work party in action. They will be found on Sullington Warren on **9 December** between 9.30am and noon, so come and join us as you will be most welcome. All tools, gloves etc are provided, so simply just turn up.

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

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

Brian Burn

FOOTBALL AND THE CHURCH PART ONE



It may be a surprise to many that professional football in England has its roots in the Church.

"I believe that all right-minded people have good reason to thank God for the great progress of this popular national game." Those words were spoken by Lord Arthur Kinnaird, the holder of the still unbeaten record of nine FA Cup Final appearances and the longest-serving chairman in English Football Association's history.

Kinnaird, one of the leading Christian figures of the late Victorian era would not have spoken those words lightly. As one of the pioneers at the forefront of football's amazing development from an amateur sport played by a small number of well-to-do enthusiasts, to the country's national game enjoyed by countless thousands, he was able to look back with gratitude on all that had been achieved and thank God for it.

Remarkably, of the clubs that have played in the English Premier League since its inception in the 1992-93 season, 14 also have good reason to take Lord Kinnaird's words to heart - they owe their very existence to churches. But these same clubs know very little about the circumstances that led to their birth or the people involved. This is hardly surprising in view of the fact that church teams, when they started, were the equivalent of today's public parks teams and did not keep extensive records of their activities. How could they possibly have guessed that one day they would become famous and that details about their founders, match results, players' records, minutes of early meetings, etc, would be of enormous interest to thousands of their future supporters? Furthermore, much of the limited source material that was once available has since been irretrievably lost through fire or neglect.

Football was considered to be a violent and dangerous sport until attitudes began to change in the 19th century. Thomas Arnold, who was appointed headmaster of Rugby School in 1828, emphasized the importance of sport in young men's education. Like most head teachers in public schools, Arnold believed that sport was a good method for "encouraging senior boys to exercise responsible authority on behalf of the staff". He also argued that games like football provided a "formidable vehicle for character building".

Those who wished to encourage sporting activity among working people, the ex-public-school men keen to tackle the problems of industrial Britain, needed a point of entry to a social world which was often distant and generally alien. One of the most useful means of approaching working-class life was via the Church. Of course among many of the clergy belief in athleticism was almost as striking as their belief in God (one prominent headmaster had said, "The laws of physical well-being are the laws of God"). Few doubted the needs for large-scale recreation as part of the Churches' solution to the nation's ills. Clergymen seized on football as an ideal way of combating urban degeneracy. Robust games could, they believed, bring strength, health and a host of qualities badly needed by deprived working people, especially the young. As a result, churches began to spawn football teams in the years immediately following the concession of free Saturday afternoons in local industries.

Chris Powell




Cuppa and a chat

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

Chanctonbury Leisure Centre,
Spierbridge Road, RH20 4PG

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

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







TAYLOR MAID

ST MARY'S CHURCH
CHURCH ST
STORRINGTON









27th JAN 2024

SATURDAY • 7PM

TICKETS £15 (TO INCLUDE A GLASS OF WINE/SOFT DRINK & NIBBLES)

FROM: FOWLERS 01903 745844
KING & CHASEMORE 01903 745761
& THE RECTORY OFFICE 01903 742888 • STORRINGTON

ORGANISED BY ST MARY'S CHURCH STORRINGTON CONCERT COMMITTEE

STORRINGTON & SULLINGTON - REFLECTIONS OF THE PAST

REVD HENRY PALMER AT SULLINGTON – PART 18

Domestic problems were never far away, so it was off to Ballards in the matter of a cook. There he found "Mrs B who talked the matter over with much gusto." Also much involved in local affairs, Mr Palmer attended a meeting of the turnpike trustees in Storrington, where he was able to gain a point in getting a committee appointed "to sit upon the channel below Wiggonholt." He was, for his pains, appointed with Bacon and Ellis, to the committee. Travelling around widely as he did, on foot, horse or driving, the state of the "roads" and paths was of personal interest. Lunching with Whiting, he met Jem Maitland, "who I thought an oiled and curled Assyrian Bull!" Later, dining with Major Sandham of Rowdell House, meeting Capt Maitland RE and General Williams RE, quite a military event. At the other end of the social scale he read to his two invalids, "and never saw such a continuous filthy stream of tramps as now infest our roads." Accompanying Capt Jem to Madehurst and riding Ruby, she went lame "to my great trouble and we had to march solemnly home all the way to the top of Houghton Hill in the teeth of a keen NE air..."

The Rector noted in *The Times* a paragraph headed "Peril of the Sea" describing the escape of the crew of the *London*, apparently due to the providential carelessness of EE [of interest to him because EE had been his pupil].

The 3rd Sunday in Lent found "All our school children laid up with throats, etcetera, so the singing was somewhat doleful." More sad news, of the death of the Revd N Blagden, Rector of Ashurst, after ailing for some time. Mr Palmer noted that "he will be no loss to his parish! A man utterly neglectful of his duties," though he added more charitably, "as a private individual kind and amiable." Attention to his duties had always been assiduously paid by the Revd H Palmer, and now it was time for the Annual Vestry. GCG attended for the first time "and was much amused." Everything went much as usual, Mr Skinner with his grievances against Willmer, the waywarden, and Charles Barnard has the conceit to think himself and his pretty voice worth more than £1 per quarter."

Lunching with King at Fryern, the Rector met his three brothers-in-law, "two of them fresh from Australia, lean bearded and Yankee-ish. King shewed me his yacht and asked me some day to try a sail in her. She is only 33 tons, 42 in length and 11 in beam, but as natty a little craft for the size as you will see anywhere." These lunch and dinner engagements were a good opportunity of discussing all kinds of important matters. GCG lunched at the Rectory on the following Sunday, where they talked over the possibility of a school in Sullington. No time wasted, they agreed to meet in Storrington about it the following evening. Mr Hemingway called and they had a general conversation about schools, and a subject of keen interest to him, the Storrington and Sullington Flower Show, a happy look forward to summer, but with snow still lying on the ground, the Rector's duty took him up the hill on foot to the cottages at Cobden.

Then came the sad news of Mrs Cartwright's death, with "George, poor fellow, away on leave. He will be much cut up at the occurrence and circumstances of the case," which the Rector did not explain. George was Mrs Cartwright's son and Henry Palmer's cousin. To digress into a little genealogy to clarify this:

The Revd Edward Tredcroft, LL.B., Rector of Pulborough, who died unmarried in 1822, had two natural children who he acknowledged, Ann and George Palmer. [Their mother it is thought was the Revd E Tredcroft's housekeeper, Ann Palmer]. George Palmer [sorry about the unimaginative same names!] was born in 1782 and became Rector of Sullington [Henry Palmer's father] and Ann who married the Revd Edmund Cartwright, Rector of Storrington from 1805- 1811 and a noted historian, was HP's aunt and so her son, George, was HP's cousin and in the navy which was why he was away when his mother died.

In the Sullington rectory a new man arrived, G Paule. The Rector hoping "he will prove an acceptable foreigner" – at that time anyone who came from outside the parish was a "foreigner", irrespective of nationality. After a few days, Mr Palmer wrote "GP, my new hand, seems to understand his work and is inclined to be active," and later, "my new broom sweeps

clean but don't relish the prospect of the cottage. I shall find the matter a puzzle." Where had the new broom come from? Was he not a country boy, or had lived in better circumstances than a somewhat primitive rural cottage? No doubt the Rector had an opportunity of a good chat with him when he "drove to Pulborough with the new man and walked from Coultershaw to Ambersham," when going to Chithurst to see Annie, who was still weak and poorly.

There was a big news item of the day, reporting the death of Richard Cobden at Midhurst. In 1838 Cobden had founded the Anti-Corn Law League in Manchester and made his maiden speech in Parliament three years later on the subject arousing public opinion, even converting Peel and Russell to his free trade views. The Corn Laws charged import duty on corn, making the price of bread dear and causing wages to rise. It mainly benefitted the landlords, and eventually both Tories and Whigs became reconciled to the growing agitation. To the horror of Peel's protectionist followers and the conversion of Peel and Russell to Cobden's free trade views, the Corn Laws were repealed in 1846. This foreshadowed demands for electoral reform, reform of municipal government and even outcries for Army reform after the debacle of Sevastopol. William Russell became the first War Correspondent to *The Times*, causing a reaction against Cobden and Bright, who were critics of the war policy. Many radicals had been strongly in support of the war [Crimea] of which the real hero was said to be Florence Nightingale. Army reform was badly needed, and the growing Volunteer Movement, of which the Revd Henry Palmer was such a great supporter, was designed for defence, not foreign service. Gladstone, who had replaced Palmerstone as Prime Minister in 1866 had his second reform bill defeated as the Rector noted in his diary. Two years later, there was a general election, after which the victorious Gladstone and his ministry had a programme of overdue reforms to carry through.

The funeral of Richard Cobden brought all the leading political figures to Lavington and there was a special train laid on from London to honour the man who had been a prime mover in the great changes that were taking place. The Revd Mr Palmer found himself in this great assembly to witness the event and record that the pall-bearers included Mr Gladstone himself, Bright and Milne Gibson. In the days long before TV and newsreels, this would have been the closest the people of Lavington and other Sussex villages would have come to those who affected their lives.

"We came away from Chithurst, King driving, with Annie, bag and baggage to Coultershall where we parted, Annie going on to Stopham and I back home. All the world seemed to be at the station after the funeral." The next day being Palm Sunday brought two fair congregations to church, where the Rector issued confirmation notices. He called on Holland [there were two, the Revd Charles Holland, priest-in-charge at Shipley, and the Revd William Woolam Holland, vicar of Burpham, who seems the most likely one]. He said, somewhat enigmatically, 'he believed I knew the object of his journey?' What a blunt dogged fellow he is, but a first-rate at sticking to his point."

Joan Ham (Village Historian)

STORRINGTON SLIMMERS

MONDAY EVENINGS from 7pm to 8pm

St Mary's Church, Storrington

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





Cygnets Playing Indoor Cricket

Our Cygnets U11 and U12 squads began playing indoor matches at the end of October. Both matches were against Findon sides and resulted in victories.

The U11s (pictured) had a two runs win with the final ball of their match, scoring 90 runs off 10 overs. The U12s played an U13 Findon side and also had a last ball win, the scores being Storrington 114 for no wickets, Findon 112 for 4 wickets.



Staying with Findon cricket, but going back all of 200 years, a match was played against the Highdown Hill Club (outside Worthing) on Friday 13 June, 1823. The Findon side included three given men from Storrington. In those days it was not unusual for village sides to be strengthened by players from other villages. It was also not unusual for bets to be laid on the results of matches and in this instance the betting was in favour of Highdown. Findon batted twice, scoring 91 and 90 runs, whilst Highdown had just one innings, scoring 95 runs as time did not permit the match to be played out. Of further interest is where the match was played, on a ground known as Findon Stone Walls. The whereabouts of this ground has not been confirmed but it clearly was not the ground at Long Furlong where Findon have been playing for many years. Who the given Storrington players were is not known. The match was briefly reported by the Brighton Herald and New Globe newspapers. A return match was played at the Highdown Hill Club's ground in July and once again there were given players from Storrington in the Findon side. If any of our readers can identify the Findon Stone Walls ground would they kindly give me a call on 07754 080727.

Apologies are extended to Ian Jaggard whose surname was incorrectly spelt in last month's report. Ian had kindly presented a new award to the Club, the Jags Cup, to be awarded to an outstanding junior at the end of each season.

Next month's report will include details of the Club's Annual General Meeting.

We hope some of you were able to make and enjoy our production of *Jack of Diamonds* by Marcia Kash and Douglas E Hughes at the end of November. A review of this will be found in next month's 3 Heralds.



Photo from rehearsals of 'Jack of Diamonds'

Our next event is:

December Members' Evening
West Chilmington Village Hall
Saturday 16 December
Doors open from 7pm with 7.30pm start

It promises to be a truly magical evening, with entertainment from magician, David Croucher. Supper will include festive pies and there will be a licensed bar and raffle. Members and guests are welcome. Tickets are £8 for members and £12 for guests (half-price for under-18s). Bookings will be taken via vicechair@wcds.co.uk between 27 November and 11 December.

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

WCDS wishes you all good wishes for the season!

Angela Sloan
 Vice Chair of West Chilmington Dramatic Society

STORRINGTON COMMUNITY MARKET

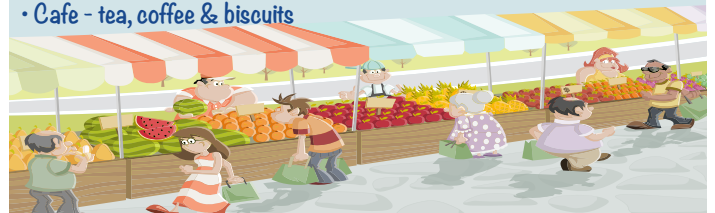
Storrington Village Hall, West Street

FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE:

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

EVERY Friday
9.45 - 11.15am

- PLUS** • Carol's pet rugs, cushions, quilts & bunting
- Books & free magazines • Katie's Forever Living Aloe Vera
 - Erika's Crochet creations • Elaine's Glass Art & Jewellery
 - Iryna's Ukrainian dolls & art • Rich's woodcraft gifts • Velda's aprons
 - Locally produced cards • Gilly's preloved homeware
 - Charl's Neal's Yard products & Flamingo Paperie stationery
 - Nick's Vinyl records, singles & LPs from the 60s to the 90s
 - Sussex Green Living recycling collection point
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8 December - Community Christmas Market

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THERE IS NO TALK IN JANUARY

Tuesday 5 December

Sarah Linton will give a talk on

Christmas: Backstage at Covent Garden

Every year the Opera House puts on a season of Christmas shows, both ballet and opera. This talk takes us into the wings and down the traps to see how they cope with magic coaches and snow bags, plus 17 Sugar Plums and 12 Princes.

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STORRINGTON CONSERVATION SOCIETY

In the article last month, the way farming and other human activity has changed the landscape was described, from the time the downs were tree covered. It has been suggested it is likely that large herbivores, like aurochs, living thousands of years ago, kept that grassland free of trees. There is no doubt that humanity has done much more since! Also, well done anyone who spotted the error in the name of one of the butterflies mentioned. It was not a Grizzled Hopper but a Grizzled Skipper. Definitely not a jumper.

At our very well attended AGM on 28 October, Mick Denness, our Chairman, reported on a busy year. He mentioned our work being carried out at Chantry Hill. A guest, Dominic Sunderland from the South Downs National Park, said that such work has resulted in a marked increase in the butterfly population. Mick also spoke about the clearance of saplings at Hurston Warren and our onslaught on Himalayan Balsam. He thanked the volunteers and asked for more to help in the coming year, when we are looking forward to continuing the Fryern Dell project, now the legal questions have been resolved. A main need is the restoration of the balancing pond, an expensive task. Although our finances are healthy, grants and donations will also be required towards covering the cost of the machinery needed.

The Committee was elected *en bloc*.

The afternoon continued with an informative and entertaining illustrated talk on the Lost Woods project by Michael Blencowe, from Action in Rural Sussex. The project covers the area between the High Weald AONB and the South Downs NP, from Storrington in the West to Lewes in the East. The aim is to protect, revive and restore those woodlands that remain of the ancient forest that once covered the area (our nearest example is Sullington Warren). Michael pointed out they are irreplaceable and are havens for many threatened species. One of the aims is to link woodlands where possible to encourage diversity. The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre has recorded 23,000 species of flora and fauna in the area. Michael went on to mention some of these: amphibians, like toads; birds such as treecreeper, nuthatch, woodpecker and goshawk; flowers, including bluebells, wood anemones and orchids; mosses, ferns and lichens; and of course mammals, red deer, foxes, badgers, rare polecats and endangered species like hedgehogs and dormice. The list is breathtaking, including bats, moths, bumblebees, butterflies, ants, wasps, flies, beetles, snails, fungi, and the vital trees such as beech, oak, hazel and hornbeam. The talk was accompanied by some beautiful illustrations and amusing anecdotes. Michael concluded by encouraging membership of woodland groups and in helping to record species. Details at facebook.com/LostWoodsSussex or lostwoods@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

We then enjoyed tea and cake!

Our work party on Saturday 4 November at Chantry Hill to continue with the scrub clearance as mentioned above, was postponed until



Balancing Pond
in Fryern Dell

11 November due to bad weather. On **2 December** we again meet at 10am, the aim being to clear the paths in The Glade, Downland Avenue. Come and join the cheerful group to enjoy the company and refreshments at half time.

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

Season's greetings to our readers.

Stuart Kersley

[Editor – see page 30 for more details regarding the Lost Woods project and how to volunteer]



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Storrington resident, Alex Swyer, has won a major prize for Landscape Photography. He took a first place in the *Landscape Photographer of the Year* competition open to photographers throughout the UK and Northern Ireland.

Alex's win was in the section of the competition which is sponsored by Network Rail and is for images containing some aspect of railways. This year's theme was 'My Railway Journey' which suited Alex's picture *Looking* very well, even though the landscape is somewhat secondary in the picture. In fact this type of picture is rather different from Alex's usual work; he is a very fine photographer of our local landscape as can be seen on Instagram @alexanderswyer.

The winning picture stands out because it immediately raises a smile and gains the empathy of the viewer. Like many great images it raises many questions. Who are those people, where are they going and why? And those dogs: should they really be on the seats and table like that? Keep an eye out for the ticket inspector!

To achieve this image Alex's camera technique has to be impeccable; railway carriages are not well lit and they are in constant motion. It's difficult enough to grab a shot like that let alone get the decisive moment with all four participants behaving on cue and with a meaningful landscape in the window – a cracking photograph.

Alex is a member of Storrington Camera Club and is the manager of a Garden Centre, not a professional photographer at all. Needless to say he regularly collects silverware in our Club's competitions.



"I took that picture – and now it's in print" Alex Swyer with the winning entry

Alex received the trophy at the Awards Ceremony in London last week, presented to him by Charlie Waite, doyen of UK landscape photographers. The image will feature in the 2023 book of *Landscape Photographer of the Year*. Just to get a photograph selected for the book, from the many thousands of entries, is considered a major achievement by photographers; to win a category that much more so.



The Judges, the Winner and the Trophy

In conclusion, when I first saw Alex's photograph it immediately conjured up Robert Louis Stevenson's famous 1885 poem *From a Railway Carriage*, which you may remember from schooldays. It describes the thrill of the speed of a train journey, railway travel being more of a novelty then than it is now. The poem starts, "Faster than fairies, faster than witches, Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches", thus establishing that unmistakable steam train rhythm which endures throughout, and has been used by many poets ever since. It is the



Looking, Alex's winning picture

last line though which captures so well the experience of watching from the carriage window as the landscape rushes by. Everything is "Each a glimpse and gone forever" unless, that is, you have a camera with you, as Alex so fortuitously had.

Chris West

www.storringtoncc.org.uk
or contact Janet Brown T: 07812 107571
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CAN YOU HELP FIND THE OLDEST TREES IN SUSSEX? NEW LOST WOODS PROJECT CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS



A new project to restore and protect ancient woodlands across the Low Weald and Downs is looking for volunteers to help locate all the area's ancient trees.



The Lost Woods project, supported by a £2m grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, is looking for volunteers and community groups across Sussex to join a team who will receive training in identifying ancient trees and making records of their condition. They are also appealing to the public to send in sightings of old trees within the project area, including those in their own gardens.

The project covers 314 square kilometres, from Lewes in the east to Storrington in the west, and volunteers will be asked to survey 1 sq km patches at a time in the search for ancient or veteran trees. Ancient woodlands are the richest and most complex terrestrial habitats in the UK, and are home to more threatened species than any other. Despite this, ancient trees have little legal protection.

Lost Woods project manager, Sarah Williams, said, "Across Sussex and the UK as a whole, we don't know where all our ancient trees are and so we can't protect those facing threats from development. The majority of ancient trees don't have any legal protection, even though they're really important living habitats and they're often beloved local landmarks. We really need to find our ancient trees and we'd love communities in Sussex to get involved in this giant citizen science project; either as a trained volunteer to go out and make records of our oldest trees, or by telling us about an ancient tree they've spotted. We're really excited to see what trees are discovered."

Using the ancient tree locations, the Lost Woods team will identify land that can be planted with new trees or left to naturally regenerate so that some of Sussex's ancient woodlands can be reconnected. This will create new nature corridors and strengthen habitats. The project team will also work with landowners on plans to restore ancient trees.

Bob Epsom, Woodland Trust outreach adviser for Lost Woods project, said, "Ancient trees are incredible habitats, a single ancient oak tree can be home to over 2,000 species of wildlife, plants and fungi. We hope people will join us as volunteers to find these irreplaceable trees that have been a part of our communities in Sussex for centuries."

All records will be added to the national Ancient and Veteran Tree Inventory, which is available to the public, planners, developers, and ecologists to help identify where our most important trees are located. To sign up as a volunteer to map ancient trees, or tell the team about an ancient tree in your garden or on land you own, visit www.lostwoods.org.uk.

The five-year project, made possible thanks to National Lottery players, will support disadvantaged community groups in Sussex to access and

enjoy woodlands, restore ancient woodlands across the project area, and offer subsidised training courses in woodland management and green woodworking skills. There are many opportunities to get involved or volunteer in the project's programmes.

Top tips on how to spot an ancient tree

- Old trees can be identified if they have some or all these features:
- A wide trunk and a smaller canopy compared to trees of the same species
- A hollowing trunk
- Rougher or more creviced bark
- Stag-headedness (dead antler-like branches extending beyond the canopy)

To sign up to volunteer, or tell the Lost Woods team about an old tree you've spotted, visit www.lostwoods.org.uk.



WEST CHILTINGTON AND STORRINGTON MOTHERS' UNION

On Thursday 9 November we held our meeting which was postponed from the previous week due to Storm Ciarán. Unfortunately Brenda Bull was unable to give us her talk about flower arranging at Westminster Abbey, so she has been re-booked for May next year. Our usual service was led by Jeannie Bell, and Chrystle Kersley played piano for our Hymn singing. We made table decorations ready for our Christmas party in December and enjoyed tea and biscuits and some chatter.

On a more serious note, 1 in 3 women worldwide will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. MU is holding 16 days of Activism in November and December; RISEUP against domestic abuse, which stands for:

- Respond** to disclosure of abuse with compassion and calm
- Inform** the person where they can get help from
- Support** them appropriately and in a safe manner
- Empower** them to grow and heal
- Unite** with other members of MU
- Pray** for an end to domestic abuse in the UK and throughout the world.

Posters will be displayed in public and church toilets with a national Domestic Abuse helpline number on a tear off portion.

Our Christmas Party and Tea at West Chiltington Church Hall will be on **7 December at 2pm**.



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THAKEHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

The speaker at our well-attended October meeting was Charlie Harpur from Knepp, who spoke to us on the rewilding of Knepp and his part in the process as Head Gardener. He illustrated his talk with images of Knepp showing how it was 20 years ago as agricultural fields, and how it is today with trees and scrub which provide home for various animals, many wild and some introduced, such as Tamworth pigs, old English long-horned cattle, Exmoor ponies and red and fallow deer. Charlie's task was to turn the walled garden into a natural area, doing away with the lawn, swimming pool, and the neat, gravel-pathed vegetable garden and replacing them with natural planting to encourage insects and butterflies. Not a project for the tidy gardener!

Charlie was thanked for his enthusiastic talk and members were encouraged to pay a visit.

Our second Plant Sale of the year took place on Saturday 14 October and, thankfully, it was a dry day and attended by many local residents. It wasn't a complete sell-out but we were able to add funds for speakers at our monthly meetings.

Our next meeting on **9 December** is our Christmas Party when we enjoy a two-course supper along with quizzes, games and a little sing along to the *Twelve Days of Christmas*. Tickets for this evening are £5 for Club members and £6 for guests.

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

Sandra Jenkins



A job for a winter's day

One advantage of writing for my local magazine is that I sometimes find myself in conversation with 3 *Heralds* readers when I'm wondering what to write on the day my column is due. This month, then, we're going to tackle the thorny subject of pruning roses.



Why though? What happens if you just leave a rose alone? Maybe nothing, but an unpruned rose is more at risk of disease. If you thin out the growth, it leaves space for air to flow, which is a good thing. Tall stems could get damaged in the wind, which you probably want to avoid and older growth produces fewer flowers. If you grow climbing roses, these will also get further out of sight each year.



Late winter is the time to aim for and the perfect day to prune most roses would be a dry, but not too cold, one in February. It's a pretty quiet month for gardening, the plants will be dormant and the leaves will be gone so it will be easier to see what you're doing. First job, cut out all the

bits that aren't going to give you decent flowers; that's anything that's dead (brown or grey), diseased (spotty), spindly, rubbing against another stem, or very old and stumpy. Cut right back to something decent, or even to the base if necessary. Always cut diagonally, about a little finger's nail height above a bud that faces outwards – that's because a new stem will grow from that bud and you want it growing away from the centre of a bush or from the fence, not into it.



After that, it depends on the type of rose you've got. I've consulted some trusted sources (RHS, David Austin and my memories of Geoff Hamilton on *Gardener's World*) and here's the gist of it. Bush roses can be hacked! Floribundas can be reduced to about 1ft high but don't be afraid to cut Hybrid Tea roses back to six buds above ground. If it's a climbing rose, cut back side-shoots



by half, while for established rambling roses, you'll also want to cut out a few of the older stems right back and tie in new ones. Shrub roses that flower once a year are the odd ones out. Prune them just after they've finished flowering and remove just the dodgy stems (dead, diseased, etc). Newly-planted roses of all kinds need treating differently, but more on that next month.

Cheryl Brown



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Our President welcomed members to the 54th Anniversary meeting, and reminded everyone of forthcoming events.

Our Programme Secretary introduced our speaker for the evening, Bob Hutchinson. Bob had been Defence Correspondent for the UK national news agency, the Press Association, in Fleet Street, before moving to *Jane's Defence Weekly* and becoming Publishing Director for books, magazines, journals and digital titles. He was Chairman of the media side of the Defence Press and Broadcasting Advisory Committee, the unique British system that protects national security in the reporting of military intelligence issues. He is fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and associate tutor in Church Archaeology at the University of Sussex. He was awarded an OBE in the 2008 New Year's Honours list.

A keen historian and archaeologist, Bob believes that Britain's history provides stories of more drama and passion than could ever be made up in any television or film screenplay. In more recent years he has written many books about the Tudors as well as advising on films and TV productions. He has travelled extensively and had a most interesting career. Jean Minter gave a vote of thanks

Following the talk, members enjoyed birthday cake and bubbly, whilst singing a rousing rendition of *Happy Birthday*.

New members and visitors are always welcome. We meet in Sullington Parish Hall, and our next meeting will be **13 December**, when members are asked to bring along a Christmas parcel to be donated to the Family Support Scheme. Should you require further information please contact 741078.

Sara Harden

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