



## Chipperfield's Poppy Waterfall

Earlier in the year, Revd Sarah suggested that the Knatty Knitters group create a poppy waterfall to cascade down the outside of St Paul's Church for Remembrance Day. Some of you may have seen the 'work in progress' displayed from the church's pulpit for VE Day 80.

We gathered a large number of poppies with the help of other knitters in the community, including the Chipperfield Tuesday and Thursday walkers groups. Sue Walker also organised contributions from residents at Portobello Place Care Home, Chesham. The poppies were attached with cable ties to pond netting, kindly supplied at a discount by Chipperfield Garden Centre.

On Sunday, 2 November a small group of volunteers hoisted the poppies into place using ladders and throwing ropes attached to a tennis ball over the Church roof! After securing the ropes to a wooden plank at the top of the net, the poppies were slowly pulled up into place. We will share more about this experience (with photos!) in the February issue of Chipperfield News.



Poppies made by St Paul's pupils

Many thanks to Justin, Richard and Stephen for the work they put into this engineering feat. The Knatty Knitters and Church are very grateful for their successful solution. The poppy waterfall will stay in

place throughout November. During this time, there will be a competition to guess the total number of poppies, with the money raised going to the Royal British Legion.

*Bethan Rees-Whybrow*

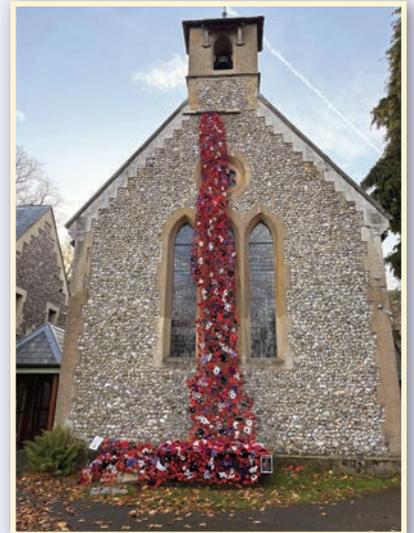
*The significance of the different poppy colours:*

**Red** symbolises all who died in World War 1 and subsequent conflicts. The red poppy originated from the poppies that grew in Flanders fields after WW1.

**White** represents a commitment to peace.

**Purple** remembers all animals that died in wars.

**Black** reflects the Black Poppy Rose, which was created to commemorate "the contributions of African, Black Peoples, West Indian, Caribbean, Pacific Islands and Indigenous Communities to Global Wars that have paved the way for the 'Cultures' we know and understand today." <https://www.blackpoppyrose.org>



## Savoury Food Week at St Paul's

Each year, as part of our planned curriculum and drive to develop our pupils personally, we complete 'food weeks', whereby our children have the opportunity to plan, make, taste and evaluate different dishes.

This term pupils engaged in our savoury food week. They were set the task of making some tasty meals that their parents would have the opportunity to try at our Parent and Teacher consultations. Within our food weeks, pupils explore food and nutrition, thinking about what constitutes a healthy meal. They are then responsible for preparing and making the dishes in a safe way. As the children move through the school, the selected meals become progressively harder, with the aim of developing their life skills. The children did a fantastic job with their savoury dishes, and we are already looking forward to our 'sweet food week' in March, when we prepare some yummy puddings for our Mother's Day Tea. *Luke Varney, Headteacher*



**THANK YOU to all my wonderful delivery people!**

You are a very special band and deliver in all weathers, battling with fierce letter boxes on cold, wet and windy days to get the News to the village. Such fun! **I am so grateful to you all.**

Once again there have been some changes, and I am also grateful to the people who have volunteered to take on a round when I have been stuck to replace someone who has had to give up. Thank you!

Many thanks to **Emily & Leo Kirby** who have taken on the huge round of the Croft Estate now that Isaac has moved on, and to **Anna** of The Street

who kindly took on Lucinda's round when she had an operation.

Thank you, too, to **Malcolm Paton** who took over Harriet Heathcote's difficult round when she left for University. Mary Paton already delivers the News to a different area, so this is doubly kind!

When Tina Robinson moved away from Megg Lane, **Daniel Vishnick** very kindly offered to take on the delivery to Megg Lane, and when Brian Hudson could no longer deliver to Wayside, **Tom Hyatt** took on the task. Thank you all.

**Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful, healthy 2026.**  
Popsi



For the sixth year, our long serving volunteers, together with some enthusiastic newcomers, came out to collect for the RBL on two Saturdays between 9am - 3pm. A huge thank you to you all for braving the cold, the wind and the gazebo taking off. A big thank you to those who came out early to set up and to Ian Chantrell

for decorating the village - I'm sorry that you were too early for our photographer. Our five stalwart door-to-door collectors were also in action. In all, over fifty enthusiastic volunteers encouraged folk to dig deep to raise much needed funds for the RBL. We very much appreciate the shops, churches, pubs and school for displaying poppy tins, whose weight proved that cash is still out and about. Mark Jarrad and his team will now see how much was raised. Has Chipperfield beaten the £6,563 raised last year, and have we and Bovingdon jointly exceeded last year's fantastic £12,105.25? On behalf of the RBL, thank you all for ensuring that Remembrance remains a special time in Chipperfield. Sue Walker

**Many thanks to Mike Brankin who was out and about with his camera to record as many collectors as he could.**

**From left to right, 1st row** - Gay Jarrad; Ann Soanes; Lucy and Peter Williams; Karen and Graham Melhuish; Liz Frow. **2nd row** - Anne King; Jenny Cole and Jaz Pabla; Monika Chalut and Popsi Stokes; Doris Yates and Sue Walker; Paul Kearney. **3rd row** - Stephen Morrill, Jenny Laurie and Mike Joseph; Doreen Durrant and Tom Keatly; Peter Corbett; Audrey Robinson, Lucinda Blake and Diane Strawbridge; Zahia Rogers. **4th row** - Robert Henry and Shelagh Nicholls; Tony Soanes; Andy Coote; Jane Kearney; Susan and Clive Turner; Peter and Sandra Chipperfield. **5th row** - Janette Hyatt; Richard Phillips, Harold and Pauline Williams; Eunice Scadden; Chris and Sue Pinney; Wendy Foskett and Carolyn Ashby.



## Vacancy: Benefice Administrator – Sarratt and Chipperfield

The Benefice of Holy Cross, Sarratt and St. Paul's, Chipperfield is seeking an enthusiastic, motivated and highly organised person to join the team as a part-time Parish Administrator.

The role sits at the heart of parish life and offers a unique opportunity to play a key part in supporting both parish missions and day-to-day operations serving the local community.

The role involves providing comprehensive support to the Rector and Churchwardens in all administrative matters within the parishes, including secretarial and office management duties. Some previous secretarial or administrative experience is therefore essential. Honesty and the ability to maintain confidentiality are essential.

The ideal candidate will demonstrate strong administrative skills, efficiency and excellent interpersonal abilities along with good IT proficiency. A good working knowledge of Word, Excel, and Outlook is essential. They must have a willingness to understand and support the vision and objectives of the Christian Church and Church of England.

**Hours of work:** 16 per week, flexible over 3 days (Monday to Friday)  
**Salary:** £14 - £16 per hour, depending on experience.

The post will be subject to a basic DBS check and will report to the Rector and PCC's.

References will be taken up after interview. Please indicate clearly if anyone may not be approached at this stage.

If you would like to apply for this position, please email your CV to [rectorchipperfieldsarratt@outlook.com](mailto:rectorchipperfieldsarratt@outlook.com) by the closing date of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Please note: Applicants must have current permission to work in the UK and be able to provide proof of eligibility.

Our recruitment process will comply with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. You can request to know how your personal data will be used.

## Chipperfield News needs YOU!

The Chipperfield News team urgently needs volunteers to take over the finance and advertising roles from Peter Corbett (finance) and Tom Bryan (advertising).

Both Peter and Tom are long-serving volunteers with Chipperfield News, for which they have our heartfelt thanks and appreciation. However, both have reached a time when they need to hand over the reins to their successors.

**The situation is a serious one. If Chipperfield News is to continue and be sustainable, we need to find successors to Peter and Tom soon.**

The roles are not onerous and a proper handover and lead time will be provided. We're a friendly team and the new volunteers would be made very welcome. So, if you, or anyone you know, would be interested in either of these roles, please contact Peter, Graham, Tom or Chris Pinney (Chair) direct on the following numbers:

Chris	01923 269604
Peter	01923 267066
Graham	01923 269915
Tom	07786 964190

Thank you

## SANG Update - December 2025

**It's been a busy month on the Common as we undertake important works during autumn and winter, the best time of year to minimise disturbance of nesting birds, plants and animals. Some work may appear drastic, partly because it's a long time since it was last done. Rest assured, these areas will be bursting with life again in the spring!**

This month we've been restoring Apostles Pond, Manor Pond and Pill Pond. Qualified contractors undertook this specialist work, removing invasive plants from the ponds and banks, creating more open water and providing marginal habitat for aquatic plants. Now we need rain to refill the ponds after a hot, dry summer.

Last month we cleared pathways and open areas of fallen trees,

scrub, brambles and bracken, hiring an impressive remote-controlled machine which mowed up vegetation and scrub. This will open up the Common and promote regrowth.

*Further works on the Common include:*

- Installation of signage, waymarking and fingerposts
- Pollarding of lime trees around Apostles Pond
- Safety works on potentially dangerous trees

**The Friends of Chipperfield Common** meet each month at the **Cricket Ground Car Park** for **9am**, alternating between **Thursdays** and **Saturdays**, to run practical tasks. If you'd like to join us, meet us there or email [steven.werrell@dacorum.gov.uk](mailto:steven.werrell@dacorum.gov.uk)

**Saturday, 20 December will be our Christmas working party. Please do join us.** *Steven Werrell, SANG Officer*



# CHIPPERFIELD CLUBS, CLASSES AND SOCIETIES

EVENT	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Art Workshop	Saturday monthly	9.30am	Parish Room
Brownies	Wednesday	6.30pm	Parish Room
Cake & Create - Decorating class	Sunday, 7 December	10.00 am to 1.00pm	Village Hall
Chipperfield Care - Coffee Club - 16 December, 20 January	Tuesday monthly	10.30am to 12.30pm	Village Hall
Chipperfield Choral Society - 4 Dec, 11 Dec, 18 Dec, then from 8 Jan	Thursday	7.30pm to 9.30pm	Village Hall
Chipperfield pre-school and out of school care	Monday - Friday (Term time)	7.30am to 6.15pm	Small Hall
Church Choir	Friday	7.45pm	Parish Room
Drumming	Tuesday monthly	7.00pm	Parish Room
Eurythmy, followed by coffee	Monday	10.15am to 12.15pm	Parish Room
Gentle Yoga - 1 Dec, 8 Dec, then from 5 Jan	Monday	1.30pm to 3.00pm	Village Hall
Inspire (ladies group)	first Monday of the Month	1.30pm to 3.00pm	Parish Room
Invigorating Local Walks	Tuesday and Thursday	9.30am	Blackwell's car park
Keep Fit	Tuesday	11.30am	Parish Room
Keep Fit - gentle!	Thursday	9.30am	Parish Room
Keep Fit	Thursday	10.30am	Parish Room
Knatty Knitters	Wednesday	2.00pm to 3.30pm	Parish Room
Pilates	Tuesday	9.30am and 10.30am	Blackwell's
Pilates - to 17 Dec (excluding Wed 27 Nov. No break for half term)	Wednesday	6.30pm to 8.30pm	Blackwell's
Pilates - 3 Dec, 10 Dec, 17 Dec, then from 7 Jan	Wednesday	9.00am to 11.00am	Village Hall
Pilates	Monday - evenings at 6.50pm and 7.55pm (for an hour each)		Parish Room
Pilates	Wednesday (for an hour each)	10.00am, 11.05am, 12.10pm	Parish Room
Pilates	Friday (for an hour each)	10.00am, 11.05am, 12.10pm	Parish Room
RSPB Talk - 'Wildlife in Spain' by Andy Tucker.	Monday, 1 December	7.45pm to 9.45pm	Village Hall
RSPB Talk - 'The Pantanal' by Roy Atkins.	Monday, 5 January	7.45pm to 9.45pm	Village Hall
Selah Church - from 4 Jan	Sunday	9.30am to 1.30pm	Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls - to 16 Dec (excluding 4 Nov)	Tuesday	7.00pm to 9.30pm	Village Hall
Short Mat Bowls - 5 Dec, 12 Dec, 19 Dec, then from 2 Jan	Friday	1.30pm to 4.00pm	Village Hall
T'ai Chi	Friday	1.45pm	Parish Room
Tappy Toes - Tots Toes - 2.6 yrs	Friday	9.30am to 10.00am	Village Hall
	5 yrs - 5 Dec, 12 Dec, then from 9 Jan		
Tappy Toes - Toddle Toes - walking to 2.5 yrs	Friday	10.15am to 10.45am	Village Hall
	5 Dec, 12 Dec, then from 9 Jan		
Toddler Group	Tuesday	9.30am	Parish Room
Yoga - all levels	Thursday	10.00am	Blackwell's
Yoga for men	Tuesday	7.00pm	Blackwell's
Yoga with Carolyn	Thursday	7.00pm to 8.00pm	Blackwell's
Youth Group <a href="http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7587">www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7587</a>	Thursday	6.30pm to 8.00pm	Parish Room
Zumba - 4 Dec, 11 Dec, 18 Dec, then from 8 Jan	Thursday	10.30am to 11.30am	Village Hall
Zumba - 5 Dec, 12 Dec, 19 Dec, then from 9 Jan	Friday	11.30am to 12.30pm	Village Hall

For information about an event, club or class, contact the appropriate hall booking agent listed on the back page or visit the village website: [www.chipperfield.org.uk/organisations](http://www.chipperfield.org.uk/organisations).




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The Churches in Chipperfield

ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7587

Incumbent: Reverend Sarah Miles

Tel: 07525 491496

rectorchipperfieldsarratt@outlook.com

UNITY



ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY

Father Richard Mway Zeng SDS

01923 266177

Assistant Priest: Fr Dieudonne Zeng SDS

ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS

The lights are twinkling, the trees are up and the sounds and smells of Christmas fill our homes; cheesy songs blast from the radio and cheesy straws and other culinary delights fill our kitchens. We rush about to get ready; to be prepared. But what are we rushing to be ready for?

As we look towards the beginning of the festive season, we enter a time of waiting; we enter Advent; we enter a time of preparation for the arrival of the Christ Child. We are waiting for a new world to be born.

We watch and wait again as the Christ child enters into a world at war; a world where peace is disturbed; a world where light shining in the darkness may seem to make little difference. And yet...

The Christ Child comes again into a world of disruption to bring light, to be the Light of the world; to be the light that shines in the darkness and the messiness of humanity into a world where the shadows seem dark and long; to bring light into the darkest corners of our world and lives if we allow; and to bring us once more to a place of hope, of peace, of love.

As we allow the light of Jesus the Christ to shine in and through us again, we too become light bearers within the darkness. We too become light that draws others to the Christ Child, as we reflect the light and glory of the good news of that very first Christmas and the love which God has for creation and all humanity.

The Light of the World comes again and again into our world. There is nothing that can stop that light and the hope that the light brings into all our lives. So, this December and this Christmas time may you all find light, love and hope as you watch and wait. May you all be blessed with a Christmas filled with much joy and laughter as we celebrate together, and may you know the light of the Christ Child in your homes this year.

As we celebrate together in our villages with carols, Christingles and even a surprise donkey here or there, why not join us for one of our services? You are all very welcome.

Every blessing for a peace-filled, love-filled Christmas... Revd Sarah



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OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR RC CHURCH

Time flies, doesn't it? Yet when did 1st September become the time to get ready for Christmas? We had hardly finished celebrating the August Bank Holiday when the shops started displaying Christmas cards, decorations, trees, lights, mince pies and Christmas puddings. I know they say 'shop early for Christmas', but is that a tad too soon? Oh dear, am I sounding like Scrooge or the Grinch? As a child, I remember that the Christmas cake and Christmas puddings were made in November. Also, the Christmas tree was put up on Christmas Eve along with any other decorations. For Christians, the Christmas season begins with Christmas Day on December 25th, following the 4-week Advent season of preparation that is intended to recharge our commitment to Jesus. We started the holy season of Advent this year on Sunday 30th November and a new Liturgical Year began. We will use the A cycle of readings, with the gospel coming mainly from St Matthew. If you look at the first Sunday of Advent readings, you will see that our attention is focused not on the birth of Jesus but on the fact that He will – as we say in our creed at every mass - 'come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end'. The emphasis in the first part of the season of Advent is to remind us and alert us to this fact so that we are always prepared and ready to meet him when he comes. "Stay awake," Jesus says in the section of Matthew's gospel. This is not supposed to be a fearful and glum event but we shouldn't become smug. The readings on the second Sunday of Advent make clear the importance of becoming humbler and asking for forgiveness for any wrong doings. Not easy, is it? This again is a preparation for the coming of Jesus. It isn't hard to be distracted by what really is of little or no consequence, is it? As we come to the end of Advent, we can clearly hear the change in the readings, which are then talking directly about the birth of Jesus. As

we gather around the Crib on Christmas morning, we focus our minds on the true meaning of Christmas; namely, that God so loved the world, so loved His own creation, that he sent us His Son to be our Saviour, and that we at Christmas declare and celebrate that splendid event - the birth of the child Emmanuel, a name which means God-is-with-us. The feast of Christmas is about God's love for us. Each of us is precious in His eyes. This is always worth celebrating. As the prophet Isaiah said [Isaiah 9:2]. "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them." As we read in John 8:12, Jesus himself said, 'I am the Light of the World'. Yes, He is our light, and his followers have been trusted with this light to reach out and to spread it around to others. We can do this by being examples of Jesus' love and kindness. Christmas is a time that brings us comfort, peace and happiness. May this feeling fill your hearts and homes during the coming year. Happy Christmas everyone.

Sue Croucher

Pints of View

There will be no Pints of View in December. Our next Pints of View will be at **The Boot** in Sarratt on **Monday, 19 January 2026** starting at 8pm, when **Andy Coote** will lead our informal discussion on the subject **"What does the development of the silk roads tell us about modern trade wars?"**. Join us then to consider how the world can be put to rights. Everyone welcome.

John Guy

**CHIPPERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL****Parish Council - 6 January 2026****Blackwell's, starts 7.45pm****Planning Committee - 9 December 2025****6 & 27 January 2026****Blackwell's, starts 7.15pm**

Usha Kilich, Clerk to the council, 01923 263901  
 parishclerk@chipperfield.org.uk  
 www.chipperfieldparishcouncil.gov.uk

Visitors are welcome in the CPC office in the Village Hall on Monday - Thursday 11am to 1pm, Friday with appointment only.

**ST PAUL'S PARISH CHURCH WARDENS****Judy Olney: 07958 377622**

juditholney57@gmail.com

**David Collette: 07740 319008**

david.stpaulscw@gmail.com

**ST PAUL'S AND HOLY CROSS BENEFICE**

Contact details: **Sonya Tolmie**  
 holycrossstpauls@outlook.com  
 01923 264377

**BURIAL GROUND**

For requests for a burial or interment, please contact the Trustees of the Burial Ground:

**Mike Joseph** on 01923 261305  
 or **Tony Thompson** on 01923 265690

**ST PAUL'S PARISH REGISTER****Funeral: Moya Clifford** - 10 October 2025**Interment of Ashes:****Rita Harvey Forsythe** - 23 October 2025**Richard Edwards** - 30 October 2025**Julie Kim Peck** - 5 November 2025

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**Church Choir**



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**CHURCH CALENDAR****ST PAUL'S CHURCH, CHIPPERFIELD AND THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, SARRATT**

The Church of England Benefice of Sarratt and Chipperfield

**Holy Cross Services** start at 9am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, and at 10.45am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.**St Paul's Services** start at 10.45am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, and at 9am on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.**For the most up-to-date information, see our Benefice Weekly News Sheet.****You can find us on 'A Church Near You' [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com)****Join us for worship and fellowship. Everyone welcome.****DECEMBER 2025**

<b>Sunday 7</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross St Paul's
<b>Sunday 14</b> 9am 10.45am 6.30pm	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist Service of Lessons & Carols	St Paul's Holy Cross St Paul's
<b>Sunday 21</b> 10.45am  4pm 6.30pm	<b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> All Together Benefice Eucharist gathering at 10.30am for pastries & drinks before the service Christingle Traditional Carols followed by refreshments at The Cock Inn	St Paul's St Paul's Holy Cross
<b>Wed 24</b> 2pm 4pm 11.30pm	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> Crib Service Crib Service Midnight Mass (1st Communion of Christmas)	St Paul's Holy Cross St Paul's
<b>Thurs 25</b> 9.30am* *Note time 10.45am	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> Family Eucharist for Christmas Day  Family Eucharist for Christmas Day	Holy Cross St Paul's
<b>Sunday 28</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>1st Sunday of Christmas</b> Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's Holy Cross

**JANUARY 2026**

<b>Sunday 4</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY</b> (Sunday nearest 6th January) Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross St Paul's
<b>Sunday 11</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>BAPTISM OF CHRIST</b> (Sunday nearest 12th January) Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's Holy Cross
<b>Sunday 18</b> 9am 10.45am 6.30pm	<b>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</b> Morning Worship All Together Benefice Eucharist Compline (traditional night prayer)	Holy Cross St Paul's Holy Cross
<b>Sunday 25</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>CONVERSION OF PAUL - St Paul's Patronal Festival</b> Morning Worship Benefice Eucharist	St Paul's Holy Cross
<b>FEBRUARY 2026</b> (first part of month)		
<b>Sunday 1</b> 9am 10.45am	<b>PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE</b> Candlemas (Sunday nearest 2/2) Morning Service Benefice Eucharist	Holy Cross St Paul's

**Please continue to pray for the health of our nation and each other****DIARY OF SERVICES AT OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE SAVIOUR RC CHURCH**

Sunday	10.00	Mass	<i>NB For further information regarding</i>
Saturday	18.30	Vigil Mass	<i>weekday Masses, please check the</i>
Friday	10.00	Mass	<i>newsletter available at Saturday Mass</i>

**Chipperfield Care**

Registered Charity Number 1002737

**CHIPPERFIELD CARE is a group of volunteers who have got together to help those who are unable to find their own transport to essential appointments such as hospitals, doctors, dentists, medical clinics, fortnightly Sainsbury's shop etc.**

If you are having problems getting to these, and are unable to use public transport or ask family for help, please call our **Help Line on 01923 264700 - 9.30am - 12.30pm** on weekdays, and we will do our very best to help.

*Patricia Harrison (Organiser) and Judy Saunders (Chairman)*



## Chipperfield Horticultural Society

Our final event of 2025 took place on 21 October, when Maria Coote, a former lecturer at Capel Manor, spoke to us on the vital subject of “Composting”. We learned that layers of green and brown materials keep the heap moist, compost should be turned regularly, and things chopped as small as possible to speed up the composting process!

A big “Thank You” to Committee members and all who have helped throughout the year with setting up and clearing up, baking delicious scones and cakes, donating raffle prizes, collecting membership fees and supporting all that we do - we couldn’t do it without you!

2026 begins with our **AGM** on **Monday, 2 February** in the Parish Room at 7.30pm. After the formal part of the evening, **Steven Werrell** from Dacorum Borough Council will talk about the Common and its management plan. This will be followed by cheese and wine and a chance to catch up with friends old and new.

We wish all our members a happy festive season. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you in 2026. New members are always welcome!

Please let us know if your contact details have changed at **chipperfieldhortsoc@hotmail.com**.

We are a supportive, friendly group and would welcome some new committee members to help run the Society going forwards.

Mo Barton



## Chipperfield Tennis Club

In front of an enthusiastic crowd, the CTC Mixed Doubles Final was very keenly contested to a very high level of tennis.

**Nick Ginty** and **Charlotte Moor** pushed **Nick Fanshaw** and **Olivia Fields** all the way, but Nick and Olivia held on to win their 4th title in a row.

Similarly, in the Ladies’ Doubles Final, **Ann Witter** and **Claire Boyle** retained the trophy for a 3rd year, beating **Angie Moxey** and **Shirley Broadbridge** in a very entertaining match on a glorious autumnal Sunday morning.

The Ladies’ Plate Final was won by **Lisa Welling** and **Justine Wood**, and the Men’s Plate Final by **Dave Moxey** and **Gary Broadbridge**. Congratulations to all members who participated in this year’s tournament which started back in March. Alan Rees, Chair



## Chipperfield Short Mat Indoor Bowls Club

### What’s In A Name?

Most clubs have members with the same Christian name; it’s a generation thing, popular names of the period or year. At Chipperfield Indoor Bowls Club we have 2 Terrys, 2 Alans, 2 Grahams and 2 Johns and these bowlers often play together in competitions and matches. This year we were lucky enough to have two great bowlers who share the same Christian name win the Pairs Competition Cup. Congratulations to **Graham Parsons** and **Graham Skinner** who were presented with their cup at our Annual Dinner earlier this year.

Contact: John Theobald, Club Secretary - 07761 256462



Graham Skinner.  
Photo by Marion Brown



Graham Parsons.  
Photo by John Theobald.



## Parish Council Update - December 2025

Dear Villagers

At our October meeting we continued with work to replace the two damaged centre-village signposts with similar new ones. We also confirmed support to replace the hedging around the Memorial. This work will take place shortly after the 9 November Remembrance Service, and we hope that the proposed Eucalyptus plants will fare much better than their predecessors. Many thanks go to our warden Vas for all his work on keeping the Memorial looking so good.

We also supported further clean-up work at the allotments and confirmed CPC grant funding for a number of worthy village causes, notably those in support of our younger villagers.

Behind the scenes we continue to work with other Parish and Town Councils to object to the proposed funding cuts by DBC which will impact us from next year onwards. On a more positive note, we hope you are as impressed as we are at the ongoing SANG work on the Common, where you can now see the original rectangular outline of Apostles Pond and enjoy your autumnal walks through some of the previously overgrown paths now cleared. Do also watch out for the new Common signage, expected shortly.

Full minutes of all our meetings are available online as well as on the CPC noticeboards in the village. As always, do approach me, other council members or Usha if you have any questions or comments or come and join us at our upcoming meetings.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year on behalf of all CPC members. Paul Foxall, Parish Council Chair

## Things That Go Bump in the Night

As the days grow shorter, my early morning and evening walks get darker and it's harder to see nature's treasures, but it's also the best time to hear tawny owls hooting. Tawnies are wonderful parents and continue to feed their young long after they have left the nest but, as the nights draw in, things suddenly change. Their thoughts turn to protecting their territory and keeping their mate. There's no room for the teenagers - they must find a place of their own - and so the hooting begins! If teens don't take the hint, things can turn nasty and their parents will attack. But, even when they leave home, it's easy to move into the territory of another pair that also starts hooting at them! The climax of all this is often around Halloween, which really adds to the atmosphere.

Owls don't actually say "twit-twoo". The females make a sound like 'kee-wick' and the males more of a 'hoo-hoo'. I love to hear their conversations through the trees, and there seem to be several pairs around the garden.

One of my woodwork projects for this winter must be to make another owl box. My late father made one for us years ago and the owls raised one youngster in it, but the tree it was on blew down in a storm and the box was smashed.

The good fruiting season carries on with all my hollies loaded with berries, and my ivy has been a joy. The ivy flowers really late and, on the few sunny October days and at the beginning of November, it was alive with bees, wasps, and a wonderful Red Admiral butterfly feeding up before it went into hibernation. I will pick some berries for Christmas, but leave plenty for the birds.

Have a very Happy Christmas and don't forget to put some food out for the birds, too! *Wendy Bathurst*



## HEMEL HEMPSTEAD LOCAL GROUP

Meetings are normally held on the first Monday of each month at Chipperfield Village Hall, featuring a natural history talk, not necessarily just about birds.

Our next two meetings are on **Monday, 1 December** and **Monday, 5 January**.

In December, our speaker will be **Andy Tucker** with a talk entitled **'The Wildlife of Spain'**. Spain is a country of diverse and plentiful wildlife, which we can enjoy to the full with our tour guide, Andy.

In January, our speaker will be **Roy Atkins**, with a talk entitled **'The Pantanal'**. This is a welcome return by Roy, who is an entertaining Speyside Wildlife guide. Roy will share with us the wonders of this incredible South American wetland.

Doors open at 7.15pm, with the meeting starting at 7.45pm and finishing at around 9.45pm.

As usual, there will be refreshments, a raffle, displays of members' photographs, local news, and other activities.

Our next outings are a local trip on **Friday, 12 December** to **WWT Tring Reservoirs**, followed by a car share trip on **Monday, 12 January** to **Lemsford Springs**. Lemsford Springs is a 10-acre nature reserve in the Lea valley, notable for its shallow lagoons, meadows, hedgerows, marsh and willow woodland.

Anyone is welcome to attend the monthly meetings and outings, whether experienced or not. RSPB membership is not essential. There is no annual membership fee, but a small entry fee.

So, please come along and/or visit our website at <https://group.rspb.org.uk/hemel Hempstead/> or by contacting **Mary** on **01442 264752**. For outing details contact **Axel** on **01442 257856**.

We look forward to seeing you at our monthly meetings. *Ian Parker*



Pair of Bee Eaters. Copyright is with Andy Tucker



Hyacinth Macaw. Copyright is with Roy Atkins

**Chipperfield News** is a newspaper for the community of Chipperfield and the surrounding area. Articles are welcomed though are published at the discretion of the editors. While it is our intention that readers should find these of interest, any such contribution, whether or not it bears the author's name, is published on the basis that the views contained therein may or may not reflect those of **Chipperfield News** and, in all such cases, are not endorsed by the newspaper. As such, **Chipperfield News** takes no responsibility or liability for the information in these articles.

### Chipperfield News

The February 2026 issue is published on 29th January 2026, the last date for copy is 9th January 2026.

Articles or Advertisements are welcome if sent by e-mail or as an attached MS Word doc to:

editor.chipperfieldnews@gmail.com (editorial) - tombryan20@aol.com (advertising).

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**Tel: 07968 728552**

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