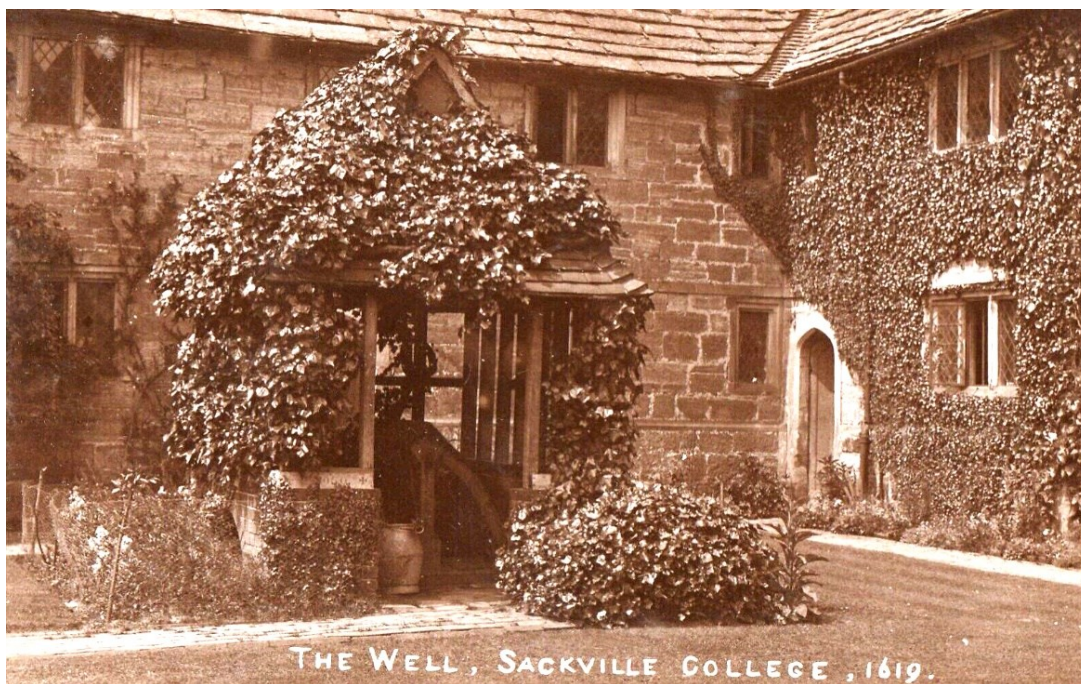


SACKVILLE COLLEGE



Friends' Newsletter

Spring 2024



News from the Warden

Dear Friends of Sackville College

We are hoping Spring and sunshine are just around the corner, following the very wet and soggy last few months. Preparations for our May Day opening shall commence soon and any offers of assistance would be gratefully received and appreciated.

Our Christmas Carol Concerts were a great success, as always, and we raised £1,131.00. The Chapel decorations were marvellous and our talented team of volunteers "did us proud". Also, a very special thank you to Cantu Amici, for gifting us a splendid evening of harmonious singing.

The College will open as usual from June to September, and I look forward to seeing our many Friends again.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter

With best wishes
Rosalind Crowther

Cover Picture – postcard from the collection held at Sackville College

Events at Sackville College

Sultry

On a rainy November evening, Sultry, an A Capella singing group, came to Sackville College, to sing to a delighted audience. The eight singers are based in Luxembourg but when they visited England, Karen, their musical director, asked to come and sing at Sackville College. Karen's mother, Anne, is a long-standing Sackville College Guide. This is probably the most international group who have ever come to the College and included English, Austrian, Spanish and French singers.

My favourite was the song *Africa*, which is usually heard with instrumental accompaniment, but worked beautifully with the range of Sultry's voices. All who attended would love to see them at the College again.

Quorum Chamber Choir

Conducted by Adrian Goss, Quorum presented **Autumn Leaves**, a programme of music for Autumn and Advent, in Sackville College Chapel. The first part consisted of sacred songs, including music by William Byrd, Palestrina and 'Jesu the very thought is sweet', translated, appropriately, by John Mason Neale from the words of St Bernard of Cluny (c.1090-1153) and set to music by Charles Wood (1866-1926). This section ended with Christmas motets by Poulenc. We then had wonderful tea and cakes in the common room, and thanks go to all who baked the cakes. The second part included secular songs by Finzi, Stanford's *Bluebird*, *Autumn Leaves* by Kosma, *The Longest Time* by Billy Joel and three Hungarian folksongs. Adrian gave us some background information about the songs, which added to our enjoyment. Quorum sang brilliantly, under Adrian's skilful direction. We really hope that Quorum will return to the Chapel for another concert, soon.

As one Friend remarked, 'If we have concerts of such a high standard here at Sackville College, there's no need to go to London!'

Forthcoming events

Friends AGM Wednesday 24th April at 3pm in the Common Room

Sunday 14th July, we hope to have the summer barbecue for Friends of Sackville College and their friends and family again this summer. Offers of help to set up, serve drinks, serve the desserts and to make tea and coffee would be much appreciated.



Work parties

The monthly work parties continue and a loyal group of Friends come to Sackville College to help with outdoor tasks. The February & March outdoor tasks was preparing bundles of canes for sale at May Day, whilst others sorted out and classified documents, inside. This is also a social occasion, with a break for tea, coffee and cake in the common room.

Please contact friends@sackvillecollege.org.uk if you would like to join us.

Postcard From the Garden



Hello from the Potting Shed

I've been sheltering in the greenhouse from the rain this spring. This has given me the chance to get some seeds off to a good start in the greenhouse and the seedlings are growing well. These will be for the vegetable garden and the May Day plant stall.

I have managed to get out into the garden already to plant onions and broad beans, which are doing well.

I've also been busy trying to get the first cut of the lawns done, between showers.

There have been some very busy Friends' work parties: trimming bamboo and bundling it up to sell on May Day, along with the normal plant sales on the front lawn.

If anyone has any spare plants, all donations are welcome towards the May Day plant stall.

Once again, I would like to thank The Friends of Sackville College for their support.

Hopefully we will get some better weather soon...

Marcus

From the Archives

Roy Strong, *The English Icon: Elizabethan and Jacobean Portraiture* (London and New York, 1969)

This lovely art history book, by Roy Strong, was donated by Penny & Anthony, in memory of Anthony's sister, Jean. It will be a delightful book for the Guides to browse through, whilst waiting for visitors. There is a print of the portrait of **Thomas Sackville, 1st Earl of Dorset**, by **John de Critz**, and there are reproductions of two portraits of **Richard Sackville, 3rd Earl of Dorset**, one of his brother, **Edward Sackville, 4th Earl of Dorset**, two of Richard's wife, **Lady Anne Clifford**, and one of her second husband, **Philip Herbert, 4th Earl of Pembroke**, all by William Larkin.

Roy Strong wrote that **William Larkin** was probably of English birth. Larkin worked for a distinguished clientele, from about 1610-20. For that brief period, Larkin was a major figure in English painting. Many of the portraits have the figure standing by an expensive carpet and a curtain.

Lady Anne Clifford recorded in January 1619

'The 16th came my Lord of Arundel and his Lady. The same day I sent my cousin Hall of Guildford a letter and my picture with it, which Larkin drew at Knole this summer'.

She clearly sat for her portrait in summer 1618, and she gave the portrait (or a sketch?) to her cousin, Margaret Hall. A drawing from the painting is kept at the National Portrait Gallery in London. There are not many records for 1618 in her surviving writings, so we don't know any more.

See J. Malay ed., *Anne Clifford's Autobiographical Writing, 1590-1676* (Manchester, 2018), 72.



338 Anne Clifford, Countess of Dorset c 1610
Oil on canvas
83¼ x 51¼ in / 211.5 x 130.2 cm

PROVENANCE always at Knole.



352 Anne Clifford, Countess of Dorset, later Countess of Pembroke c 1615-20
Oil on panel
23 x 17½ in / 58.5 x 44.5 cm

Vita Sackville-West

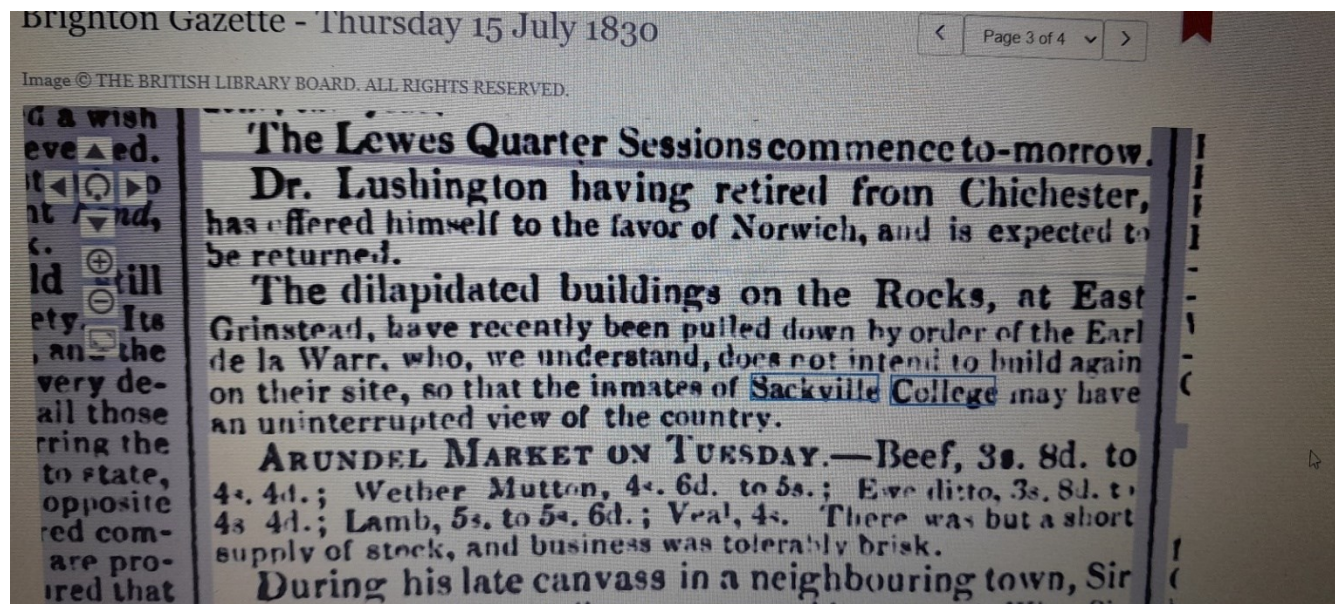
Mention of Vita Sackville-West (who wrote a short Guide to Sackville College in the 1930s), always sparks my interest. In a biography of the writer Georgette Heyer, it transpires that George Heyer, her father, became Organising Secretary for the Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre Committee. This committee aimed to build a theatre dedicated to producing the works of Shakespeare, by 1916, to mark the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth in 1566. The advent of the First World War prevented this from happening-and the Globe Theatre was not founded until many years later. However, in July 1910, George Heyer may have been present at a fund-raising Shakespeare Masque held in the park at **Knole, 'the great house of the Sackville-**

West's in Kent'. Those taking part included: **Vita Sackville-West**, Ellen Terry, Mrs Winston Churchill and Elizabeth Asquith.¹

In the early 1600s, **Lady Anne Clifford**, before her marriage to **Richard Sackville, 3rd Earl of Dorset**, enjoyed taking part in masques at Court. Lady Anne was the lady of Knole, by virtue of her marriage, whereas Vita Sackville-West was unable to inherit Knole in her own right, by virtue of being a woman, by the laws of the time.

Brighton Gazette for Thursday, 15 July 1830

The Warden found mention of Sackville College in the Brighton Gazette for Thursday, 15 July 1830



It was kind of Earl De La Warr to have 'the dilapidated buildings' on the Rocks pulled down, to give Residents of Sackville College 'an uninterrupted view of the country'.

¹ Jennifer Kloester, *Georgette Heyer: Biography of a Best Seller*, Chapter 2.

The Valentine postcard (Image of Sackville College)



This postcard was sent to a Miss Jenner of Uckfield (in 1903). The comment on the back is 'I wonder if you would prefer a poem', which suggests that it was a Valentine postcard. What Miss Jenner thought of the postcard of Sackville College is not recorded.

Cornelius Vincent Neale

In the last Newsletter, I referred to a book called *Letters of Historic Interest from Vincent, only son of Dr John Mason Neale, Hymnologist and historian, Cousin to Lord Alverstone, Lord Chief Justice of England, first published in book form by his Sister-in-Law, Mrs Sidney Oldall Addy*. I remarked that although the letters are addressed to 'Dear Mary', this is not his sister, Mary, who married the Rev'd Lawson. Instead, the lady is **Mary, the wife of Sidney Oldall Addy and described as his sister-in-law**.

I suggested that this Mary must be **Mary Golden Parkin**, who, in 1899, married Sidney Oldall Addy (1848-1933) an antiquary, writer and solicitor. She was indeed the sister of Vincent's wife.

Our Head Guide, Graham, spent many hours investigating and has found out a great deal about the family of the wife of Cornelius Vincent Webster Neale. I am most grateful to Graham. The full details of his research can be made available for the Guides.

Briefly, **Cornelius Vincent Neale married Eliza Ann Parkin, (b. 1847)**. Eliza Ann's mother, also Eliza, died in 1853 and her father remarried, in 1857. His second wife, Emma, bore him 2 daughters and a son. The first daughter of the second marriage, **Mary Golden, was born in 1859**, so she was twelve years younger than her half-sister, **Eliza Ann**.

Cornelius Vincent Neale and Eliza Ann were married in 1875. Cornelius Vincent lived from 1846 to 1927.

Sidney Oldall Addy MA (Oxon), solicitor, married Mary Golden on 14 July 1891.

VINCENT'S SISTER-IN-LAW

The father of **Eliza Ann, the wife of Cornelius Vincent Webster Neale**, was John Parkin. He was a manufacturer and merchant of steel goods and lived and worked in the Sheffield area. He married Eliza Poynton at St John's, Burslem, Staffordshire, on 13 October 1843. They had three children, Sarah Lucy (b.

1845), Eliza Ann (b. 1847) and Catherine (b. 1851). In 1851, the family were living in Upper Thorpe, Nether Hallam, Sheffield, and employed a house servant and a nurse. The family had moved to Ecclesall Bierlow, Sheffield, when John's wife, Eliza, died in 1853.

John remarried in 1857, Emma Carr, and, in 1861, his family, living at home in Nether Hallam, comprised his wife Emma, Sarah Lucy, **Mary Golden (b.1859)** and John (b. 1861) and also a domestic servant and a nurse. His daughters **Eliza** and Catherine were away in a girls' boarding school in Thetford, Suffolk. The 1861 census recorded that John was employing 20 men and 4 boys in his steel business.

John and Emma had another daughter, Alice Susannah, who was born in 1865 (baptised 27 September 1865, St Mary's, Sheffield).

Sadly, John Parkin died on 17 April 1869 in the family home at 335 Glossop Road, Ecclesall Bierlow, Sheffield.

By 1871, Sarah, **Eliza** and Catherine were living together at 6 Willingham Terrace, St Pancras, London, and working as daily governesses. In the census, **Eliza** was designated as the head of the household.

Eliza married Cornelius on 21 December 1875 at All Saints Church, Blackheath Common. An announcement in the *Hampshire Advertiser* of 25 December stated that Cornelius had married "Lizzie the second daughter of the late John Parkin Esq of Sheffield".

On 14 July 1891, **Mary married Sidney Oldall Addy MA(Oxon), Solicitor, in Sheffield Parish Church.**

Cornelius Vincent Webster Neale was born 10 Apr 1846 at Reigate and grew up at Sackville College. [He went to Cambridge, like his father]. He emigrated to USA, with his wife Eliza, in 1877. On 9 Apr 1878, after an examination, he was admitted to practice as an attorney in the Supreme Court of California.

He travelled back to England and returned to New York from Liverpool on 1 Sep 1890 on the Cunard ship Sereria. On another occasion, he arrived back in New York from Liverpool on 21 Aug 1908 on the Lusitania, but Eliza was not with him.

He became a naturalised US citizen at some time. In the USA, he called himself Vincent.

By 1910 he and his wife lived in 600 Laurel Place, San Rafael. He was a self-employed lawyer.

In 1920 they lived in 448 Grand Avenue, San Rafael. They had a servant Mary Roles, 51, a widow born in Canada. He was issued with a US Passport on 6 May 1920.

He died on 20 Aug 1927 at San Rafael, Marin County, California and was **buried on 23 August 1927** following a service in St Paul's Episcopal Church, San Rafael. From his obituary in the San Rafael Independent, he had two relatives living in California, John Parkin (his wife's half-brother) and Mrs Harry Francis (his wife's sister).

Sarah Lucy Parkin (b. 1845 Sheffield, the older sister of Eliza Ann Parkin) was married, by licence, at St Thomas's, Portman Square, on 12 April 1882 to Harry Francis (b. 1857), Gentleman, son of Major General Henry Francis, Royal Artillery. **One of the witnesses was her half-sister, Mary Golden Parkin.** Later that year, Harry and Sarah emigrated to the USA and settled in San Francisco, California. **Sarah, who was known as Lucy, was present at the funeral of her brother-in-law, Cornelius Vincent Webster Neale, in 1927.** Also present, was **her half-brother, John Parkin.** Her husband died on 19 March 1934 and was buried at Colma, San Matio, California. Lucy died at San Rafael on 7 February 1936, aged 92, and it is likely that, after her husband's death, she went to live with **her sister Eliza** (wife of Cornelius Vincent) in San Rafael, as that was where her death was recorded.

GFE 3 Dec 2023

The Obituary Notice for Cornelius Vincent Webster Neale

By 1927, the only one of the four Neale sisters still living was Katherine Ermenild, who was the Mother Superior of St Margaret's Convent, East Grinstead.

San Rafael Independent Tuesday, August 23, 1921 Page 4

Vincent Neale, an old and respected resident of San Rafael, passed away at his home on Grand Ave last Sunday afternoon, immediately after his friend and rector, the Rev. Ernest Bradley, had offered the prayers of the church. Mr. Neale was stricken some 3 years ago, since which time he had been a helpless invalid, but his remarkable vitality and the constant and devoted nursing of his beloved wife kept him in practical comfort and ease until the final call came.

He leaves to mourn his death, his wife Lizzie Neale, Mr. and Mrs. John Parkin and family of San Rafael, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Francis of San Francisco. There is also a sister in England, who is the Mother Superior of the Anglican Convent of St. Margaret's, at East Grinstead, Sussex. The burial will take place from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, De Hiery Street, at 11 a.m. this morning,

Vincent Neale was a very ardent churchman, and was a member of the Episcopal Convention of the Diocese of California. He served as vestryman in the earlier days of St. Paul's Church. He was educated at Cambridge University, England, and later took up the profession of law.

Inscription

Not Lost But Gone Before

George Edmund Street, architect, 20 June 1824-18 December 1881

I am grateful to Dr Kathryn Ferry for mentioning that this year sees the 200th anniversary of the birth of the architect G. E. Street. The Guides might think that George Edmund Street had nothing to do with Sackville College, as it was William Butterfield who designed the restorations carried out during the time of Warden John Mason Neale (1846-66). This is true, but G. E. Street was a friend of Neale's and Street's work is relevant to Sackville College for three reasons: he drew designs for furnishing a 'Lych Room' at Sackville College with wooden panelling and shutters for the windows and attractive iron hinges. He also drew plans for an ironwork hearse frame enclosing a wooden bier. (These plans are kept at Lambeth Palace Library and I have seen them).² Street also designed the gravestone for John Mason Neale in St Swithun's churchyard.

The plans for the bier may have been incorporated into the final version of the 'coffin carrier' but the Lych Room does not seem to have been created.

Street was the architect for the **Convent of the Society of St Margaret**. He gave his services for his friend, Neale. Neale attended the ceremony in 1865 at which he laid the foundation stone, and there was a huge procession through East Grinstead. After the death of G. E. Street, Arthur Edmund Street (1855-1938), his son, became the architect for the Convent buildings.

Street was a 'craggily handsome man with a powerful intellect, and a brilliant draughtsman'. He worked under George Gilbert Scott from 1844 until he established his own practice in 1849. He wrote articles for *The Ecclesiologist*, the journal edited by John Mason Neale. Between 1852 and 1862, Street trained Philip Webb and William Morris. (Webb designed Standen for the Beale family and used many William Morris designs for the furnishings). Street designed the Royal Courts of Justice in London. He also reconstructed Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, 1868-78, where the chapel has striking similarities to the chapel at The Old Convent in East Grinstead.

² Lambeth Palace Library CM 29.

Street suffered great sadness when his wife Marique died in 1874. In 1876 he married Jessie Holland, a friend of his first wife. Jessie became ill during their trip to Italy and died after they had been married for just eight weeks.

Street himself was buried in Westminster Abbey, near Sir Gilbert Scott and below a brass designed by George Frederick Bodley.

See David B. Brownlee 'Street, George Edmund (1824-81)' *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*.

Kathryn Ferry, *The Old Convent, East Grinstead: John Mason Neale, George Edmund Street and the Society of St Margaret* (Old Convent Estate Residents Limited, 2021), pp. 50-60.

Trivia

Lady Anne Clifford's castle at Appleby, Northumberland is for sale at £9.5 million. Lady Anne's almshouse of St Anne is nearby. She founded her almshouse for 12 women, including a clergyman's wife and an 'injured maid'.

The portrait of **Richard Sackville, 3rd Earl of Dorset**, by William Larkin, is mentioned in the Spring 2024 *English Heritage Members' Magazine*, p. 22. Artist Stephen Farthing has created modern portraits inspired by Larkin's portraits. Farthing's modern 'swagger portraits' will hang alongside Larkin's pictures at Kenwood, London.

Group Visits

Group visits may be arranged outside the general opening times, and refreshments can be provided at a very reasonable charge. If you belong to a group or society, do consider asking them to arrange a tour of Sackville College. This all helps to bring in funds and to raise awareness of the College.

General Matters

Legacies to Sackville College

Leaving a legacy gift to Sackville College is easily arranged with your solicitor. There are 3 main types: residuary, pecuniary and specific gift (personal possession).

Fundraising with Ebay.

Sackville College is now an Ebay registered charity. Place items for sale in the usual way and follow the link to the donation site and pick us! Please ask family and friends who use Ebay to give a percentage of their sales to a good cause. Grateful thanks go to those who have done this, for their support. Sackville College is receiving regular small donations this way.

Accommodation Availability

There are flats available at the College. If you know of anyone who may be eligible, please contact the Almoner at the College Office on 01342 323414 for more details.

Visits to Sackville College

The College is currently closed until mid June. It will be open on May Day. Opening times will be advertised. Private visits are possible but must be arranged in advance with the Office. To arrange a Group Visit please call the Office.

Welcome to new Friends and Thank You to all Friends.

We hope that new Friends will enjoy being Friends and supporting Sackville College.

Thank you to the growing number of Friends. Your continuing support is very much appreciated and brings funds, practical help and additional support to the life of the community at Sackville College. This year, funds from The Friends of Sackville College will be used for replacing the benches outside the front doors, facing the High Street.

The newsletter can be downloaded from

https://sackvillecollege.org.uk/Files/Friends/Newsletters/Current_Newsletter.pdf

We have used email addresses where possible to save printing and postage costs.

Sackville College Contacts

Patron	The Earl De La Warr	
Warden	Mrs Rosalind Crowther	Office 01342 323414 warden@sackvillecollege.org.uk
Trustees	The Countess De La Warr Mr Christopher J. Rolley Mrs Alexandra Durrant	
Sackville College Office	Open Weekday mornings 9am-1pm	01342 323414 admin@sackvillecollege.org.uk
Almoner	Mrs Linda Bryant	01342 323414 almoner@sackvillecollege.org.uk
Maintenance	Mr Marcus Bryant	thepottingshed@sackvillecollege.org.uk
Chaplain		St Swithun's Church
Guides	Contact the Office - Mrs Linda Bryant	01342 323414
Friends' Secretaries & Newsletter Editors	Steve and Caroline Metcalfe	friends@sackvillecollege.org.uk

Important Dates for Your Diary 2024 (**Friends' Events**)

Sunday 7 th April 2:30 pm	Talk by Caroline Metcalfe A Medieval London Craft & Fraternity: Talk on The Brewers of London 1418-1440	Refreshments after the talk, donations to Sackville College Please email friends@sackvillecollege.org.uk to reserve a place so that we know how much cake to bake
Wednesday April 24 th 3 pm	Friends of Sackville College AGM	Common Room, Sackville College Refreshments afterwards.
Monday 6 th May Day	College will be open to Visitors	Offers of help please
Friday 14 th June to Sunday 15 th September	College Open to Visitors 2 pm – 4 pm	
Sunday 14 th July 12:30 pm -	BBQ for Friends of Sackville College and Guests	Details to follow, offers of help welcome
Saturday 3 rd August 7:30 pm	Concert by No Strings Attached	Details and ticket information to follow
Monday 2 nd December 7:30 pm	Carols in Sackville College Chapel	Details and ticket information to follow
Tuesday 3 rd December 7:30 pm	Carols in Sackville College Chapel	Details and ticket information to follow
Friday 6 th December 3 pm	Friends' Carols in Sackville College Chapel	Details and ticket information to follow

Other Events

- For Events run by The Bookshop at Sackville College see <https://www.eastgrinsteadbookshop.co.uk/events-2>