



HURST GREEN NEWS

October 2022

When light becomes night

Driving around during these greyer and wetter days I have been struck how we can suddenly feel plunged into the night in our still leafy wooded areas such as Merle Common or Wolf's Hill.

The contrast really is stark - day seems to turn to night in a second and back again when emerging the other side.



Thank goodness for the 'cats eyes' in the middle of the road that help us stay on our side and guide us through the darkness (so long as we have our own headlights on of course). 'Cats eyes' were invented by Percy Shaw. One night, when he was driving home it was particularly dark and foggy and he feared he would veer off the road and onto the hillside. All of a sudden he noticed a stray cat on the side of the road whose eyes reflected his headlights and instantly he knew where not to go. The invention was born and refined: bright enough to guide, robust enough to withstand tyres at speed and even self-cleaning through the collection of rainwater that splashed on the reflectors when cars that drove over them depressed them into the road. Such remarkable stories of ingenuity give us all hope!

Driving through the dark woods reminded me of these words from Psalm 139:

"Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you."

As autumn turns to winter we may be more conscious of the dark both within and without. We may spiritually wonder 'is there anybody out there?' Whatever we believe, the bible helps us to consider that maybe, just maybe, we're not alone. If we begin to walk the path of curiosity and faith, we may just notice that someone is there to guide us, help us and keep us on track, just like those bright 'cats eyes' on the road, that shine like stars in the night.

Anna Eltringham, Rector, St John's

Girlguiding at Aggies Hall

The Girlguiding Association is the leading UK charity for girls and young women. On a Monday night at Agatha's Hall the Hurst Green units meet:

- 1st Hurst Green Rainbows (4-7 year olds) - 5pm-6pm.**
- 1st and 2nd Hurst Green Brownies (7-10 year olds) - 6pm-7.30pm.**
- 1st Hurst Green Guides (10-14 year olds) - 7.30pm-9pm.**

Rainbows is all about developing self-confidence, building friendships, learning new things and having fun. Girls get their hands dirty with arts and crafts, get in touch with nature and play games - it's all about learning by doing. Brownies is about trying new things that teach girls aged seven to 10 about themselves, their community and their world and Guides have an exciting and varied programme designed to inspire and challenge girls from 10-14.

Rainbows and Brownies are bursting with energy so we would particularly like to invite and welcome more Guides along. For more information and to register please go to: www.girlguiding.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE!

St John's Church will be hosting an

**Autumn Fair on
Saturday 19th November
from 10:00am - 4:00pm**

There will be lots of stalls selling all sorts of craftwork (ideal for Christmas presents), creative workshops for children and adults, refreshments, and a raffle.

More details to follow in next month's issue.

Cafe Church at St John's

3rd Sunday of every month
16th October 2022, 11am



Join us for a Community Brunch followed by a relaxed, informal service for all ages, where children and adults can flow freely around the Church, enjoy crafts, learn more about faith and chat with friends over coffee.



Ruben's Fund Halloween Fundraiser Party

**30th October 2022, 2pm-4pm
St Agatha's Hall, Hurst Green**

Tickets cost £5 per child (age 3-10yrs) and £1 per adult. They can be purchased at Bargain Booze in Hurst Green and La Maison Boutique in Oxted.

There will be games, music played by GasFunk, Honey Bee face painting, a fancy dress competition with prizes, and goodie bags.. For more info contact: Rubensfund@gmail.com



HURST GREEN CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

At St John's Church there are services of Holy Communion on Sundays at 8.30am (said) at 9.45am (sung) and at 12 noon on the 4th Wednesday each month, followed by lunch. The 9.45am service is available via Live Stream. The church is open every day from 10am to 4pm. For updates and the latest information, please check websites below.

ST JOHN'S, CHURCH WAY

Rector: Anna Eltringham, 01883 712674,
14 Oast Road (day off - Monday)
Assistant Priest: Mary Seller, 01883 715675, 11 Home Park
Curate: Lotwina Farodoye, 07553 305087
Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary:
Monica Fenton, 01883 715769
www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 01883 712017,
Pastor@hgec.org.uk / www.hgec.org.uk

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

All Saints' Church Chichele Road, Oxted, 01883 627762
St Ambrose Church Warren Park, Warlingham
Parish Priest Fr Stephen, 713776
www.oxtedandwarlinghamparish.org

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The Church of the Peace of God
21 Bluehouse Lane, Oxted, 01883 730406
oxtedurc@gmail.com
Church Administrator:
Claire Harris, 01883 730406
www.oxtedurc.org.uk

Tandridge Handicraft Society

On 17th October 2022 the Tandridge Handicraft Society is hosting a talk with examples on patchwork. "So Much More Than Hexagons" will be presented by Nancy Adamek of LinaPatchwork.com.

Doors open at 1:30pm and the talk starts at 2pm. Visitors are welcome. Entry is £5 including tea and biscuits. The Society meet every Monday at the Woodhouse Centre, Hoskins Road car park, opposite Tandridge Leisure Centre, Oxted RH8 9HT (postcode for SatNav RH8 9JQ).

Come and join us, we are always keen to welcome new members with similar interests.

Further details on our website www.tandridgehandicraftsociety.org.uk or contact Jenny Beal on 01883 620730



Ladies' badminton

We are a small group of lovely ladies who enjoy playing badminton.

When: Thursday mornings
Where: Oxted Community Hall
53 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9NB

If you would like to join us we would love to meet you. Please ring Lori 07817 236316 for more information.



Hurst Green Gardening Club

Hurst Green Gardening Club

We are back. After a long absence our Village Show was for real in September. And what a show. Aggies Hall was full of flowers, fruit, veggies and plants, and to show lockdown wasn't wasted we also had jams, liqueurs and more. With 321 different classes to choose from there was something for everyone. I even picked some sloes from the hedge behind Aggies and they won a prize! It was all a bit of fun. Although it is nice to win one of the newly polished cups or a certificate for your entry.

What made the show so worthwhile was seeing so many local people coming along to see what goes on, to meet fellow gardeners...and maybe have a cup of coffee and cake.

By the time you have read this you may have also visited us on our stall at the Hurst Green Fair. Finding some plants to sell has been challenging this year.

If you want to find out more about us please come along to our next meeting on October 12th at Aggies Hall from 7pm. If you miss that date our AGM/social is on 9th November.
Brian Parrott

Hurst Green Infant School

A rare Year 1 school space has become available at Hurst Green Infant School. To find out more and to book a tour of the school please email office@hurstgreenschool.org or visit www.hurstgreenschool.org

*"Bringing out the best by caring,
learning and achieving together."*



Holland Junior School

Holland Junior School are holding open days on the following dates and times:

12 October:	9 November:	23 November:
10-11:30am school tours	10-11:30am school tours	2-2:45pm school tours
11:30-12pm Head's talk	11:30-12pm Head's talk	2:45-3pm Head's talk

There is no need to book a place. Please just come along and see our school. You can visit the website here: www.holland.surrey.sch.uk



PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptisms

*We welcome into the family
of God's Church*

17 September: Evelyn Florence Williams
25 September: Arthur Dean Paul Stroud



Interment of Ashes

*Our sympathy goes to all
their relatives and friends*

30 September: Irene Kilpatrick

St John's Book of Remembrance

To have a name entered,
email office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk



**CANCER
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Christmas Fair in support of Cancer Research UK



The Westerham & Oxted branch of Cancer Research UK are holding their annual Christmas Fair to raise money in support of Cancer Research.

Venue: The Barn at Botley Hill, Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, CR6 9QH

Preview Evening: Tuesday 1st November 6 - 8.30pm.

£17 advance tickets only through:

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/preview-evening-tickets-359303726117>

Main Day: Wednesday 2nd November 10am - 3pm, £5 pay on door.

There will be 45-50 stalls with a dedicated food hall and a range of gifts to include - clothes, accessories, bags, jewelry, garden goods, belts and boxers, quality kitchenware, solid oak homeware, stocking fillers for men and women, soaps and skincare.

Dates for your Diary 2022

3 October: Oxted Country Market, every Friday, Woodhouse Centre, Oxted, 9.30-11.30am, cakes & savouries, vegetables, eggs, crafts. To order in advance call 01883 623273

5 October: Yo Yo's playgroup, every Wednesday in term time, York Rooms, St John's, Church Way, Hurst Green, 9.15-11.15am

12 October: Rhyme Time, every 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11am, Windmill Manor Care Home, 2 Fairviews, Hurst Green RH8 9BD

12 October: Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall 7pm. Contact: Brian Parrott, 01883 723916

11 October: Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2nd & 4th Mondays, 2.45- 4.15pm, York Rooms, St John's Church: Contact: Carol Leach 01883 382031

13 October: Pollards Oak WI, York Rooms, St John's Church, 7.45pm. History of the Titsey Estate, Oxted. Speaker: Bill Peters. Jan Ward, 01883 712143

St Agatha's Hall

To enquire about booking, contact the

Booking Administrator:

07769 001796 or

aggieshall@gmail.com

or complete the form on the website:

**stagathashall.weebly.com/
contact.html**

Oxted Bereavement Support Group

The OBSG drop-in support group began in January 2013 as a joint venture between St Catherine's Hospice (led by Bereavement Co-ordinator Annette Phillips), St Mary's, All Saints and Oxted United Reformed Church. The aims of the group are to provide an opportunity for folk who are post bereavement to meet with others to share their experiences and ways of coping, to encourage or enable bereaved people who may be finding it difficult to begin to socialise following their bereavement and to do so within a safe environment by creating a physically comfortable and emotionally safe place, to facilitate a service for those bereaved who do not require or wish to take up formal bereavement support but would benefit from an informal self-help environment, to provide access to information and be the next steppingstone on the bereavement journey for those who have completed a period of formal support.

If you or anyone you know might benefit from attending this Bereavement Support Group, you are most welcome to join. Do not be daunted to attend for the first time on your own, you will be made very welcome. You can always bring a friend. It is a great opportunity to chat, share experiences and discuss ways of coping. We always ensure strict confidentiality.

Attendance is free - refreshments are provided. Anyone is welcome.

When: We meet every other Thursday - 13th and 27th October

Time: Drop in between 1pm and 3pm

At: Oxted United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted RH8 0AA

For more information please email: ctod.oxted@gmail.com or Tel: 01883 722556 (Wendy).

How we supported national mourning at St John's

As the news of the sad death of Queen Elizabeth II was shared, clergy and churchwardens at St John's swiftly started to deploy the Church of England's strand of 'Operation London Bridge' which we had filed for such a time a couple of years before. We immediately lowered the flag to half mast as per protocol and made the church welcoming with a photograph of the late Queen, flowers and a condolence book for messages. We tolled the bell for an hour from 12 noon the day after she had died, ably led by Revd Professor Mary Seller and at 11am the next day the flag was returned to full mast to signify the Proclamation of the new King then lowered again at 1pm on the Sunday, followed by further tolling of the bell as the Proclamation was completed.



Our Sunday services included prayers and reflections and we sang the National Anthem using the word 'King' for the first time which was particularly moving. Personally, I was honoured to receive a communication from the Ecclesiastical Household of the Royal Family that all Chaplains to the Queen, such as myself, would now become Chaplains to the King. When the Queen was lying-in-State at Westminster Hall it was a privilege to join chaplains of many faiths to support those waiting in the very long queue to pay their respects. It has been a very moving time for us all and I hope some have found St John's a place of comfort and peace. *Canon Anna Eltringham KHC, Rector of the Oxted Team of Churches including St John's, Hurst Green*

Hurst Green Singers

If you love singing, you are warmly invited to join the choir of Hurst Green Singers for a 'Come and Sing' performance of choruses from Handel's Messiah on Saturday 12th November at St John's Church, Hurst Green, RH8 9EA.



All singers who read music are welcome - whether or not you've sung the work before. Under the expert guidance of the choir's Music Director, James M Meaders, you will be given invaluable insights and tips on how best to sing this well-loved piece to achieve an accomplished performance. Copies of the score will be available on loan if you require one.

Following registration, the rehearsal will start promptly at 2.00pm with afternoon refreshments provided for singers (included in the £15 price) before the performance commences at 5.30pm. To book your place in the choir, please email hurstgreensingers@gmail.com before 29th October.

Alternatively, if you would simply like to listen to the concert, you are welcome to attend the evening performance; tickets cost £5 and will be available on the door.

Oxted & Limpsfield music society launches special '75th Anniversary Season'

A starry line-up of performers: Singers, instrumentalists and ensembles are set to perform to celebrate the 75th anniversary season of the Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society.

The first concert of the season features Roderick Williams singing Vaughan Williams (on the 150th anniversary of his birth), Gerald Finzi and many others accompanied by pianist Susie Allan on 22 October 2022 at Hazelwood School, Wolfs Hill, Oxted from 7.30pm. Tickets are £30 and free for under 25's.

To see the full programme and buy tickets go to the Society's new website www.olms.org.uk.



Harvest Celebration at St John's

**Sunday 2nd October, 9.45am
All ages welcome**



If you are able, please bring non-perishable and in date groceries to the 8.30am or 9.45am service. These items can include ambient groceries, eg tins, pasta, packet soups, toilet rolls, cleaning products, hygiene products, pet food, wipes etc. We will distribute then these items at our community fridge



Rhyme Time

**Wednesday 12th October
11am-11.45am**

Come along and enjoy 45 minutes of singing and fun for toddlers and parents/carers.

Every second Wednesday of the month.



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St John's Church**

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6th and 20th October
10.30am-12 noon**

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