



HURST GREEN NEWS

November 2023

New 'Tin Tabernacle' in Hurst Green

I loved the BBC sitcom Blackadder. It was compulsory viewing for me as I grew up. I loved Rowan Atkinson, Tony Robinson, Hugh Laurie, Rik Mayall, and Stephen Fry's characters. It was for me, along with the Good Life, the quintessential British comedy. Perhaps what I most enjoyed was Baldrick's regular attempts to devise a "cunning plan" to get Blackadder and himself out of another dire situation. Of course, Baldrick's plans were always, always mad, always hilarious, and were never ever going to work outside of his head.

You may have noticed a large hole in Hurst Green. The Manse and the "Tin Tabernacle" have been torn down to be replaced with a gaping hole. I have to admit, I had a lump in my throat as the demolition went ahead and I have only served here for three years. I cannot imagine how those who have used the church building for decades must have felt at the demolition, particularly now as all they have is a slightly disappointing hole in the ground. I must admit that this week as I stood looking at the hole, the thought did cross my mind, have we gone and done a Baldrick here? When you look at it objectively the plan to build a new church can appear a bit mad. A tiny congregation, in a church that many people thought had shut down years ago, want to replace a much-cherished building on a prominent piece of land at the centre of the village with three houses and a rather modern church building which may not be to everybody's taste.



However, as I think back to how the "Tin Tabernacle" came to be on Hurst Green Common, I find a certain confidence. The land on which the new church building will sit was given to a handful of people to build a place of prayer more than a hundred years ago by Mr Blackman. I suspect that many at that time thought Mr Blackman's decision to give the land for a place of prayer rather mad, wasteful, and imprudent. After all, they would argue, it meant Mr Blackman couldn't finish the row of terrace homes he had planned, and partly built for the workers in his laundry. However, Mr Blackman's generosity led to a century of service with worship, marriages, anniversaries, children's clubs, committee meetings, birthdays, funerals, Christmas Fairs, Easter Egg parades, the list is endless being celebrated in the "Tin Tabernacle".

Whatever, my and possibly your doubts are, God willing, there will be a new "Tin Tabernacle" on the site in September 2024. I am very much looking forward to another century of worship, marriages, anniversaries, children's clubs, committee meetings, birthdays, funerals, Christmas Fairs, Easter Egg parades happening along with things we can't even begin to imagine in the new "Tin Tabernacle". Isaiah 43:19.

Keith Dickson, Pastor, Evangelical Church

Remembrance Sunday, 12 November at St John's Church

8.30am: Holy Eucharist

10am: Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation (not a communion service)

11am: Act of Remembrance in the churchyard
Everyone is welcome.



Saturday 2 December
11am-2pm

Limpfield Infant School Christmas Fair

Westerham Road,
Oxted RH8 0EA.
Crafts, toys, cakes,
café, games and more.



10am - 4pm, Saturday 11th November
St John's Church,
Church Way, Hurst Green, RH8 9EA
 Handmade crafts, cards, toys, pictures,
 homemade cakes, pottery, books, jewellery
 and much more.

There will be creative workshops for all ages
 plus a raffle, face painting and tea and cakes.

A chance to get ahead with your Christmas shopping!

Admission fee: £1, Under 18s Free
 For info: stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk
office@stjohnshurstgreen.co.uk

Money raised will contribute to supporting several local projects.

All Souls' Day Service at St John's Church on Sunday 5 November at 3.30pm

We will remember by name all those from this parish known to us who have died during the last two years, and any other loved ones you would like to be remembered. You will be able to light a candle if you wish and place it in front of the altar. Names can be added to the list which will be on the table at the back of the church from Sunday 22 October until 11am on 5 November. The service will be followed by tea and biscuits in St John's Room.



ST JOHN'S
Café Church
 11:30AM
 3rd Sunday of the month

19 November - 10 December

Join us for a Community Brunch at 11am followed by a relaxed, informal service for all ages, at 11.30am, where children and adults can flow freely around the church, enjoy crafts, learn about faith and chat with friends over coffee.



The December issue of Hurst Green News will be published on 25 November 2023.

Please send material for that issue by FRIDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2023 to The Editor: hgncompiler@gmail.com. The Editor reserves the right to edit copy.

The Hurst Green News is published by St John's Parochial Church Council (Registered Charity 1133107) as a church and community newsletter.

It is financed by advertisements and St John's Parochial Church Council.

HURST GREEN & OXTED 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 12.30pm 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, HURST GREEN

Vicar: Reverend Sue Bosley
Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

Assistant Priest: Mary Seller, 01883 715675

Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary:
Monica Fenton, 01883 715769

Reader: Wendy Hewitt, 07789 680653
www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 01883 712 017,
www.hgec.org.uk

KING'S CHURCH

Contact: King's Centre, 33 Amy Road, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0PW
Simon Quincey, 01883 734 805,
www.kingschurchforyou.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

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St Ambrose Church Warren Park, Warlingham
Parish Priest Fr Stephen, 01883 713776
www.oxtedandwarlinghamparish.org

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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oxtedurc@gmail.com

Church Administrator:
Claire Harris, 01883 730 406
www.oxtedurc.org.uk



Reverend Sue Bosley appointed Team Vicar in the Oxted Team

On 15 October, we were able to announce that The Reverend Sue Bosley, presently Curate of Horley Team Ministry has been appointed Team Vicar in the Oxted Team, with particular responsibility for **St John's Hurst Green and St George's Crowhurst**, subject to completion of the necessary procedures. The Licensing service will take place on Tuesday 30 January at 7.30pm in St John's Church. We look forward to welcoming Sue and her family in due course.



Hurst Green Gardening Club by Brian Parrott

On 11 October, at our last meeting of the year, the speaker, Mike Wachter, gave a new dimension to foraging, which was well received. With the weather being more changeable these days we need to be more observant than before, and plan accordingly. My own circumstances have changed, and I have spent the last 3 months being shown what rewilding actually means. To find out more visit www.rewildingbritain.org.uk. Next year we have a full programme arranged. Our AGM is on 8 November and our first speaker meeting next year is on 10 January. See you there. For more information go to: www.hggardeningclub.blogspot.com



Defibrillator at St John's

We're delighted to advise that a defibrillator has now been installed outside St John's Church. It can be found in a lockable cabinet alongside the west door. As you may recall Anna Eltringham wanted the monies raised from her leaving collection to go towards the cost of this equipment and so we're very grateful to Anna for making this happen. You may not know but using a defibrillator within 3 – 5 minutes of a cardiac arrest means the chances of survival increase from 6% to a huge 74%.



East Surrey Walkers was formed in 1983,

originally as East Surrey Ramblers, and has around 500 members. They are a sociable group whose aim is to enjoy walking in the countryside with an interesting variety of scenery, walking in Surrey, Kent and Sussex. They offer walks on most days with a range of distances between 3 and 12 miles. They are also active in protecting and improving the local rights of way network by members volunteering to inspect paths and undertaking individual maintenance tasks. They also have a programme of regular social events, and have two walking holidays each year, one abroad and one in the UK. Please visit www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk for more details. You are welcome to walk on one or two occasions before you decide whether to join. ESW is part of the Surrey Area of the Ramblers, an organisation encouraging walking, and lobbying in support of footpaths, throughout Britain.



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Louis Matthew Brinton
Lizzie Rosa Brinton

Funerals
Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends

2 October: Roger Fox
St John's Book of Remembrance
To have a name entered,
Email: office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

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Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School, Oxted, RH8 0QU

Tickets £7.50 Under 18s free
Tickets available online
www.thefunorchestra.co.uk

Registered charity no. 1183074

Dates for your Diary October 2023

- 1 November:** Yo Yo's playgroup, Wednesdays in term time, St John's Church, 9.15-11.15am.
1 November: Community Fridge, every Wednesday, St Agatha's Hall, 11.15am-12.30pm.
2 November: Hurst Green Community Hub, every Thursday, St Agatha's Hall, 1-3pm.
 Need a lift? Call Cerys Williams, 07855 987077.
3 November: Oxted Country Market, Friday mornings, 9.30-11.30am, Woodhouse Centre, Oxted
8 November: Hurst Green Gardening Club, AGM St Agatha's Hall, 8pm. Contact: Brian Parrott, Programme Secretary, 01883 723916.
9 November: Pollards Oak WI, AGM York Rooms, St John's Church, 7.45pm.
 Call: Jan Ward, 01883 712143.
13/27 November: Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.30-4.30pm, St Agatha's Hall.
 Call for info and transport: Chair, Diana Drysdale 01883 742708.
20 November: Tandridge Handicraft Society, Woodhouse Centre, Oxted. Every Monday, 1.30-4.30pm. Contact: Jenny Beal (Chairman) 01883 620730. Talk on 20 November: "The House of Embroidered Paper" by Stephanie Smart.

St Agatha's Hall

To enquire about booking, contact the

Booking Administrator:
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Wednesday 22 Nov

Wednesday 17 Jan

Wednesday 13 March

1.45—2.30pm

For more information or to book a place, please call
 01883 712171 or email: office@hurstgreenschool.org

Join Creative Community for some fun Christmas events this November!

Saturday 11th November – we will be at the St John's Christmas event running morning and afternoon workshops to make Christmas/Nativity inspired peg people – to use as Christmas tree decorations or for characters in a mini-Nativity scene in your home.

Saturday 18th November from 2-4pm at Hurst Green Community Centre, Oak Close - drop in and join us for a fun afternoon of Christmas crafts – make your own Christmas cards, decorations and small gifts to take home. Tea and cakes available.

Both events are free to attend. For more details email: creativecommunity@btinternet.com.



Westerham u3a Learn for fun, develop an interest, meet new friends, listen to interesting speakers, join outings and events, make best use of your spare time!!



The U3A is a charity, run by volunteers, relying on members getting involved. Membership is just £20 per year (£35 per couple). We welcome you to join us on the first Wednesday of the month for coffee and chat at 10.30am in Westerham Village Hall and on the second Thursday of the month at our Open Meeting at 2pm also in Westerham Village Hall. There are lots of interest groups you can join from Archaeology to Yoga, full details of which are on our website: www.westerhamU3A.org, or call 01883 723207 for more information.

On November 9 we are most fortunate to have a talk by Jennifer Godfrey on the Suffragette Movement in Kent. This will be a follow-up to the talk we enjoyed in February, when Jennifer will delve deeper into the women we met then and what became of them afterwards.

We shall be holding our Christmas Party on Thursday December 7 (not December 14 as previously advertised) at Westerham Golf Club when we hope to give a good start to the festive season.

A new sport is coming to Hurst Green!



You may have heard of Pickleball in the news recently, it's definitely a rising sport in the UK and there are now several clubs in the country. It's fun, easy to learn and great for keeping you active. There are no available-for-all pickleball groups near Hurst Green, but the dream has finally been realised. Thanks to funding from Oxted Parish Council and help from Hurst Green Community Centre Hurst Green's own Pickleball club is coming. **Sessions will be starting on Monday 6th November 2023 from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Hurst Green Community Centre.** All equipment will be provided and training given – you just need to turn up with comfortable sports clothing and a pair of court training shoes. There will be some free sessions held to introduce the sport and sessions thereafter will be £6 for 2 hours. Pickleball is suitable for all ages and abilities, but at present the club will be for 18's and over only. If you wish to attend email Amanda Starr at HurstGreenPB@gmail.com and if you're curious about Pickleball, have a Google!



Oxted Rotary Club Quiz Night 10 November 2023 at 7.30pm St Agatha's Hall, Hurst Green

Tickets are £5 each (maximum of 6 in a team). For tickets, please contact John on 07711 306 543 or president@oxtedrotary.org.uk. This year beneficiary are Oxted Rotary Charities.



You are welcome to bring your own food and drinks.

Advent Carol Service,

**Sunday 3 December
 at 6pm at St John's Church**

A service of readings and music, for choir and congregation, to begin the season on Advent as we look forward to Christmas. **All welcome.**



Hurst Green Neighbour(s) of the Month

This month's nomination comes from Mandy Richmond and is for a group of people at LINK. LINK is a charity founded in 1974 which offers transport to people living within the RH8 postcode assistance to medical appointments in Oxted, East Surrey Hospital, Caterham and sometimes further afield. There is no charge for this service but instead LINK relies on donations to help cover costs.

Mandy would like to thank Nick, Godfrey, Michael, Mary, Alan and Debbie along with all the volunteers who answer the phone to run this great service for local people and who have helped her get to appointments recently.

If you would like to nominate someone for being a great neighbour/friend or have witnessed an act of kindness, please email us at: hgncompiler@gmail.com.



The Oxted and Limpsfield Music Society is excited to be hosting a diverse and attractive song recital by the marvellous Soprano Anna Cavaliero accompanied by pianist Sholto Kynoch, the founder and artistic director of the Oxford Lieder Festival.

Tickets are £30 (with free entry to those under 25). Either on the door or by way of our website at www.olms.org.uk

The concert is at **Hazelwood School's Bawtree Concert Hall, Saturday 25 November, 7.30pm.** Tickets are £30 each, with free entry for under-25s, on the door or via the Society's website: www.olms.org.uk.



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