



HURST GREEN NEWS

August 2014

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

Published on 2 August

AUGUST = HOLIDAYS (FOR SOME)

August is traditionally the holiday month, when we take a break from routine activities, and if we are lucky, get away to another place - the seaside or countryside, or an exotic destination abroad. Parisians do it in style: at the beginning of August, businesses close down and everyone migrates from the city and they stay away

for the entire month. Holidays are good for us as they give us a change from the hustle and bustle of everyday life and provide time for rest and relaxation. The busy-ness which comprises most of our lives today means that such a break is not only welcome, but also essential for our wellbeing. We need space for recreation and refreshment so that we are in a better state to carry on our lives.

Throughout human history, specific days have been embedded in society for doing things other than work. It seems that it was recognised early on that humans cannot work flat out 24/7. In ancient civilisations, such days would mark events meaningful to the community and involve both celebration as well as refraining from normal daily activities. Sometimes these days were associated with the seasons and agriculture, while others assumed a sacred significance and so became called 'holy days'. Our word 'holiday' is derived from that. The calendar of the Roman Empire had more than 100 days of the year that were 'holy days' dedicated to their gods and goddesses. Having a sacred element in a holiday not only allows our body to rest from its work regime, but also the mind and spirit to have time for refreshment too.

In Christian thought, a time for rest is considered to be integral to creation. The writers of the book of Genesis gave God a day off after his work of creation, and this rhythm of life was considered a good model for humankind, and was enshrined in the fourth commandment which directs us to work for six days each week and rest on the seventh. However, the Christian theology of 'holiday' is that God did more than simply have a day off, he sanctified that day, blessed it and made it holy, thus elevating it to a special significance. This implies that we should treat our days of rest and holidays as special, and seek to get the most benefit from them in terms of the re-creation of our minds as well as resting our bodies. Further, it is not only humans who need refreshment. In agriculture, proper management of the land requires that every few years the land should be left fallow, with no sowing or reaping. The earth too, needs time for refreshment and renewal.

So, good stewardship of the resources of the earth as well as maintenance of our own wellbeing requires holidays. However, not everyone is able to take a holiday; they can be costly in both effort and money. Also, not everyone goes away in August, many people get away at other times of the year, but the commuter trains are noticeably empty this month, making journeys more comfortable for those who do have to travel. If you are going away on holiday this August, may I wish you a very happy, enjoyable and restful time, and true refreshment of your body, health and spirits. *Mary Seller, Assistant Priest, St John's Church*



Visit to World War 1 Battlefields in Belgium



At the end of June a group of local people, mainly from St John's Church, had a very thought-provoking day trip to Belgium to visit the First World War battlefields in the Ypres Salient. This small region of Belgium saw almost constant fighting for the duration of the war and is home to many of the War Graves Commission's cemeteries.

We first visited the Essex Farm Cemetery and Advanced Dressing Station, where Dr John McCrae worked and wrote the well-known poem "In Flanders Fields". One of the soldiers buried there, Valentine Strudwick, was only 15 years old when he was killed. At the Tyne Cot cemetery we saw nearly 11,000 graves, over 8,000 of which are of unidentified British or Commonwealth servicemen. There were also a few graves of German soldiers. The Passchendaele Museum had reconstructed dugouts and trenches, which brought home to us some of the awful conditions endured by the troops.

One of the most moving parts of the day was a visit to the Ramparts Cemetery in Ypres, where Alfred Habgood from Oxted, who was killed in 1915, is buried. We laid a wreath on his grave, said some prayers and sang The Lord's My Shepherd.

Finally, we attended the daily "Last Post" ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres. The Gate is covered in inscriptions listing the names of some 72,000 men who have no known grave. Four of our party were privileged to take part in the ceremony: Rhod Illman lowered the flag of the RAF Association and Frank Hutchings laid a wreath on behalf of St John's Church with two pupils from Limsfield Primary School, William Starr and Adam Wright. It was a very moving end to the day.

Our thanks go to Alex Starr, who organised the trip. *Barbara Richards*



Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery OPEN MORNING

Wednesday 24 September, 9.45am – 11.45am

- An opportunity to visit our School and Nursery set in our spectacular grounds
- Observe a normal day in the classroom
- See how we care, learn and achieve together using our excellent facilities
- Experience the Hurst Green welcome and, over a cup of tea or coffee, ask the Headteacher, Governors and friends of the school any questions you may have

Wolfs Wood, Hurst Green, Oxted RH8 0HJ Tel: 01883 712171

Headteacher: Mrs J Atkins www.hurst-green.surrey.sch.uk

FOR GOD, KING AND COUNTRY

An exhibition and services at St John's, Hurst Green to remember the role of local people and the national church during the 1914-18 War



Sunday 3 August

10am: All-age service

8pm: Reflective Vigil Service



Daily until Saturday 9 August:

WW1 Exhibition open 10am to 4pm

Refreshments Available

The next issue of Hurst Green News will be published on 6 September 2014. Please send material for that issue, including items for the diary, no later than **FRIDAY, 22 AUGUST 2014** to The Compiler, 3 Parklands, Oxted, RH8 9DP; e-mail: hgncompiler@gmail.com. The Compiler 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 CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

ST JOHN'S, CHURCH WAY

8am Holy Communion
10am Parish Eucharist
 Crèche and Children's groups - all ages

12 noon Holy Communion, David Gresham House
Other services: details in church porch

Wednesday **12 noon** Weekday Eucharist
Priest-in-Charge Anna Eltringham, 712674, 14 Oast Road (Day off - Friday)

Assistant Priest: Mary Seller - 715675, 11 Home Park
Southwark Monica Fenton - 715769

Pastoral Auxiliaries: Pearl Hobson - 712366

METHODIST CHURCH, HURSTLANDS

10.30am Morning Worship and Junior Church
6.30pm Evening Service
Minister: Karen Bell - 371346 (Day off - Friday)

EVANGELICAL CHURCH ON HURST GREEN

10.45am Family Worship
Pastors: Steven and Margaret Cox - 717510

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

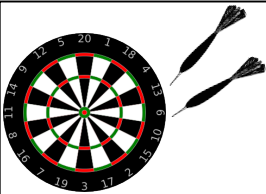
All Saints' Church, Chichele Road, Oxted - 627762
St Ambrose Church, Warren Park, Warlingham - 622142
5.30pm Saturday First Mass of Sunday, All Saints' Oxted
9am Sunday St Ambrose, Warlingham
11am Sunday All Saints' Oxted
Parish Priest: Fr John Olliver - 713776

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The Church of the Peace of God
21 Bluehouse Lane, Oxted - 730406
10am Sunday Service includes story-time for children, Junior Church, and communion monthly
Minister: David Skitt - 01342 837449

Please telephone any of these numbers for details of weekday worship and activities, to discuss baptism, marriage, or the arranging of a funeral, or if you want help in times of joy or sorrow.

St Agatha's Hall Booking Secretary: M Walker, 714492



HOLLAND SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Most local people know that there is a sports club down at Mill Lane playing field. Many are aware of the weekend football and the athletics training on weekday nights. Some would know about the Monday and Friday night darts, or remember that cricket used to be played on the field.

The name of the club is Holland Sports and Social Club and its original aim was to provide organised sports for the whole community, which has been very successful. However many people do not know about the social side of the club. They are unaware of the excellent bar, or the live music, poker nights, quiz nights and bingo that regularly take place. They probably don't know that membership is open to all, costs very little and is easy to acquire.

The Club is now inviting people to visit the club to try out the facilities and consider joining. In the past the club has been seen as something of a closed shop; in reality nothing is further from the truth and everybody is welcome. Why not come down on a summer evening and enjoy a nice cold drink outside on the patio? The club is looking for new social members, and also new darts players. We are also interested in running a pool team. The football sides are always on the lookout for new players and any prospective new athletes are very welcome.

Anybody who does visit may be interested to know that the bar they are being served at was completely built by members of the club. In fact nearly everything from the brickwork, patio, tiling and plumbing was laid or installed by members, proof of the time and energy that members have put into making the club what it is today.

Finally the club supports various charities and has raised thousands of pounds for good causes. It is now involved with a project close to its heart: 'Oak Aid' is raising funds for a new oak tree, to replace the one destroyed by the winter storms.

Holland Sports is an important part of our community. If you are interested in joining, please contact the club direct on 01883 716529. *Steve Walker*

Hurst Green Badminton Club

The Hurst Green Badminton club has been meeting every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm for over 25 years, at the Hurst Green Community Hall, behind the shops in Pollards Oak Road, Hurst Green. In that time well over one hundred players have come and gone. With an age range from over 80, down to 14 (with parents in attendance) the club has a friendly family feel. The players come mostly from Hurst Green, Oxted, Limpsfield Chart and Limpsfield, but some have come from farther afield in the past. There is no barrier to membership, provided you know how to play.

The club predominantly plays mixed doubles, for people who have played Badminton before, and want to play for fitness and fun. The fees are as low as they can be kept; at the moment the annual subscription is £40 (half price for members still at school) plus £1 per night when they play, which is much less than many other Badminton clubs.

It does not matter if you are young and fit and a rising star, or an ex County player who has had enough of competition events and just wants to keep in practice, or anywhere in between, Hurst Green Badminton Club could be just what you are looking for!



If you would like to know more, and would like to play (the first session is free), please make contact with Corinne Macdonald on 01883 714099. Make badminton one of your five activities each week.



An Invitation: Come and sing with us

Hurst Green Singers start rehearsals again on **Tuesday 2 September** at 8pm in St John's Church, Hurst Green. The Choir is always looking for new talent. You don't have to be able to read music (although it is of course an advantage) and there are no auditions. Just come along on a Tuesday evening in term time and you can be sure of a warm welcome. You'll find us to be a friendly group that just enjoys singing together. We have two concerts a year in St John's Church, one at Christmas and the other in the summer, and there is usually a repeat performance of the summer concert in Shoreham Church where we combine with Shoreham Singers. The programme for our Christmas Concert is based on composers active at the time of the First World War, including Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Parry, Holst and Ireland. We will also of course, as always, be singing Christmas carols to celebrate the season.

As often at the start of a new season, there will be a special evening on **Tuesday 16 September** when any new or prospective members will be able to meet choir members informally over a glass of wine and nibbles. The evening starts at 7.30pm, 30 minutes earlier than usual; all will be welcome. *Full details on the Choir's website: www.hurstgreensingers.co.uk*

More Dates for your Diary 2014

- 4 Aug Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, Lunch Outing to 'Bridges', Edenbridge
 4 & 6 ...and every Monday and Wednesday, Harry's ACOL Rubber Bridge Club,
 Oxted Red Cross Centre, 1.15-4pm, 715900 or 713128
- 5 Aug Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 5 Aug Tandridge Access Group, Oxted Council Offices, 2.30-4pm, B. Harling, 723034
- 7 Aug ...and every Thursday, Oxted Country Market, 10-11.30am, Oxted Red Cross Centre
- 12 Aug Carers' Group, Community Room, Eastlands Close, Oxted, 10.30-12, B Harling 723034
- 13 Aug Oxted & Limpsfield Flower Society, 2pm, St Peter's Hall, Limpsfield - to be arranged
- 13 Aug Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall, 8pm: 50 Greys of Shades - Colin Moat
- 13-16 Kenley Holiday Workshop - Half a Sixpence, Barn Theatre, Oxted
- 14 Aug Pollards Oak WI, Summer Social Get Together - to be arranged
- 19 Aug Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 2 Sep Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 6 Sep Local Churches Comedy Event (fund raising event with comedy magician John Archer)
 8pm, Barn Theatre, Oxted. Tickets £5 from secretary@godstonebc.org or 01883 734502

Children's Church

For toddlers and children
 who have just started school



Beginning again on
Monday, 22 September, 3.30pm
at St John's Church
 and on the 4th Monday each month

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Place, time and date for a possible
 August meeting not confirmed
 Please ring 715769 for information.

Hurst Green News can also be read on
www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

East Surrey Museum

1 Stafford Rd Caterham CR3 6JG
 (just 50 metres from Caterham Station)

The museum has a programme of Summer Activities for
 accompanied children. Times are 10.30am - 12 noon and
 2-3.30pm on each day.

Wednesday and Thursday:

6 and 7 August: Colour fossil stencils, draw a fossil,
 museum trail (all day)

13 and 14 August: Make a Stone Age pot. Talk by the
 Curator on local archaeology and geology - 2pm

20 and 21 August: Colour fossil stencils

Saturday 23 August: Museum trail and colouring

Wednesday and Thursday 27 and 28 August: Make a
 model mammoth or dinosaur from potter's clay

All materials are supplied, there is no charge but donations
 are welcome. For more information phone 01883 340275,
 Email: eastsurreymuseum@gmail.com or see the website:
www.eastsurreymuseum.org.uk

FAITH APPETIZERS

(with the aim of attracting people interested in discussing the
 topics, whatever their religious persuasion, if any)

Served up by David Skitt

Basic Questions followed by an informal chat over Hors D'oeuvres

Date / Question	Appetizer (from 9pm)
4 September: Is God Love?	Melon
11 September: Jesus, Superhero or One of us?	Spring Rolls
25 September: Forgiveness, does it work?	Paté
2 October: The Bible and the Holy Spirit	Fish
9 October: Why the church?	Soup

8pm on Thursdays in Oxted URC Concourse, Bluehouse Lane

To book your place please phone or e-mail the Church Office:
 01883 730406 ext 1 or oxtedurc@gmail.com

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Hurst Green Busy Bees Pre-school and Forest School

Places available September 2014



Open Day

Friday 5 September 10 to 12

For children aged 2 to 4 years, 8.15 to 1.15
 in term time. Extended sessions to 3pm

The Evangelical Church Hall, Hurst Green Road

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 learning and creativity in a homely atmosphere.

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Oxted One World Group



...would like to thank shoppers who gave to
 the recent collection held at Morrisons,
 Oxted and the Group's team of volunteers
 who collected the donations. The £403
 raised will go towards one of the overseas
 aid projects the Group is proposing to fund.

The next money raising event is a Bottle Stall at Hurst Green
 Fair 20 September.

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of God's Church:

- 13 July Phoebe Woodward
 27 July Evie Butcher

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to all her relatives and
 friends:

- 2 July Audrey Percy

St John's Book of Remembrance

To have a name entered, phone 712845

Photography Competition at the Village Fair

There will be a Photography
 competition at the Hurst Green Fair
 on Saturday 20 September. The
 subject is 'Our Village'. There are
 two sections, one for entries from
 adults, and one for children under
 ten. Entries are free, to be sent to
 36 Barnfield Way, Hurst Green,
 RH8 9QF. Photographs will be
 displayed and judged on the day.
 We cannot return entries.

Marie Dowbiggin, Fair Committee

ANYONE FOR CRICKET?



Come to Master Park, Oxted on
 Sunday afternoon 7 September

to watch the annual match

St John's, Hurst Green

v

St Mary's, Oxted

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