Good Neighbours

Some 2,700 copies of Hurst Green News are printed each month and posted through front doors throughout this community. It's an incredible undertaking made possible by a team of around 80 volunteers who between them fold the newsletter and then deliver it. A big thank you to everyone who is involved! It seems to be appreciated by those who receive it. Fortunately it does not have to compete with too many pizza or double glazing leaflets on door mats in Hurst Green!

I sometimes consider who behind those front doors picks it up and reads it through. There are those with young children who appreciate the events which are publicised which they might attend. There are those enjoying retirement who have time during the day to go to an art group, lecture or recital. There are those rushing off to work who may give it a quick glance to check they're up to date with the community and perhaps read it on the train. And then there are those who are more house bound and, through older age, inclination or any number of other reasons, are unable to attend the events on offer but for whom the newsletter itself provides a welcome connection to the local community.

How much do we know about those who live behind the front doors in our road? How much should we know? I've been thinking a lot lately about those we don't know at all, who keep themselves to themselves but perhaps not through choice. Many, many years ago I used to enjoy the soap opera Neighbours! The theme tune is one of those annoying songs that to this day sticks in my mind “Neighbours...everybody needs good neighbours... with a little understanding you can find the perfect blend... neighbours should be there for one another, that's when good neighbours become good friends". Annoying though it is, it does contain some truth! So I encourage you to try and greet and get to know someone in your street who you haven’t met before. You never know when they might need you or you need them.

And of course never forget that your local churches and the people in them are your neighbours too. So if you're reading this and are desperate to get out more but can't, or would like someone to visit you for a chat and a cup of tea, then do not hesitate to get in contact with us (our phone numbers are over the page). One of the most famous sayings of Jesus is “Love your neighbour as yourself.” We can and should do that for one another. And the churches here in Hurst Green in particular represent the friendship and love of Jesus for you all.

Love in Christ, Revd Anna Eltringham, St John's Hurst Green and St George's Crowhurst

A prayer from the C of E Prayer Book (Common Worship)
Jesus, our companion, when we are driven to despair, help us, through the friends and strangers we encounter on our path, to know you as our refuge, our way, our truth and our life. Amen

ALL SOULS' DAY SERVICE
at St John’s Church on Sunday, 2 November, 3.30pm

We will remember by name all those from this parish who are known to us who have died during the last two years, and any other loved ones you would like to be remembered.

Please write their names on the list which will be on the table at the back of church until 11.45am on Sunday 2 November.

What is this?
You may have seen similar black and white boxes in advertisements in magazines, on posters or in newspapers. It is a QR Code. QR or Quick Response Codes are a type of two-dimensional barcode that can be read using smartphones, that link directly to text, emails, websites, phone numbers and more! If you have a smartphone like an iPhone, Android or BlackBerry then there a number of different barcode scanner applications (or Apps) such as Red Laser, Barcode Scanner and QR Scanner that can read and decode data from a QR code. The majority of these are completely free, and all you have to do once you install one is to use your phone's camera to scan the barcode, which will then automatically load the encoded data for you. If you scan this particular QR code, it will take you straight to the homepage of the St John's Church website.

Come and enjoy a VARIETY CONCERT
St John’s Church, Church Way Saturday 25 October at 7.30pm

There will be performances of singing, instrumental music and the spoken word. Tickets, £10: Joan Brackpool: 714095 or joan.brackpool@btinternet.com

Glass of wine and nibbles included
All proceeds to St John's Church

Hurst Green School (3-7 Years) has changed its name! From 1 September 2014 the new name is:

Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery

‘Bringing out the best by caring, learning and achieving together’

Wolfs Wood, Hurst Green, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0HJ
712171; school@hurst-green.surrey.sch.uk
Headteacher: Jean Atkins Cert Ed NPQH
www.hurst-green.surrey.sch.uk

Children’s Church
For toddlers and children who have just started school

Monday, 27 October
3.30pm at St John’s Church
and on the 4th Monday
of each month

EVERYONE IS WELCOME
Anyone looking after your children is welcome to bring them.
Further information - 715769

St John’s Hurst Green and St George’s Crowhurst

Hurst Green Infant School and Nursery
Members develop friendships, have fun within responds to disasters at home and abroad. support local and international charities, and the local Rotary Clubs. The Oxted and organisation for women, was formed in 1924. Inner Wheel, the largest worldwide

Penshurst Place. This is a great opportunity to Lewis, specialist on daffodils and herbaceous journalist, working for 11 years f

7.30pm in the White Hart Barn Godstone. The An evening of Gardeners

you can order one online and th

attractive designs, which are very good value. If you prefer to use a prin

gifts and lots more. There are cards for all occasions in a wide range of

community projects.

I hardly dare to mention that Christmas is not that far away, an excellent time to explore the wide range of gifts and cards. There are cards for all occasions in a wide range of attractive designs, which are very good value. If you prefer to use a printed catalogue you can order one online and then easily order by page number. 

Hurst Green Gardening Club

With the leaves falling thick and fast, rake them off lawns to help aerate the roots; prune roses, which is difficult as they seem to still be blooming, but important to prevent wind-rock. Insulate sun-loving, fragile shrubs with either fleece or bubble wrap; good time to lift and divide overgrown clumps of herbaceous perennials. I have taken cuttings from a large pelargonium plant which has been really beautiful this summer growing in such warm conditions. Just the right time to plant out winter bedding plants, such as wallflowers and violas (winter pansies), also tulip bulbs into warm soil to give them time to settle in readiness to give a superb show during April/May. Those of us who have heavy clay soil, when the soil gets very soggy later during Autumn heavy rain, mulching will help to maintain soil structure until early spring when the soil should be workable! Don’t forget that your indoor plants need very little water now and hopefully geranium cuttings and pelargonium cuttings will give a good cheery display on a sunny windowsill during the coming winter months!

Why not join us at our monthly Gardening Meetings at St Agatha’s Hall every second Wednesday? We have a varied programme of interesting speakers covering all aspects of tips on gardening. Our next Meeting is on 8 October entitled the Four Gardens of the RHS (speaker Graham Usher). Make yourself known to me or one of the members on arrival and come enjoy a friendly evening among like-minded gardening folk! 

Jane Firmin
Dates for your Diary 2014

6 & 8 ...and every Monday and Wednesday, Harry’s ACOL Rubber Bridge Club, Oxted Red Cross Centre, 1.15-4pm, 715900 or 713128

7 Oct Tandridge Access Group, Oxted Council Offices, 2.30-4pm, B. Harling, 723034

7 Oct Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207

8 Oct Oxted & Limpsfield Flower Society, 2pm, St Peter’s Hall, Limpsfield:

Sue Flight, ’Take Five’, competition - Bind Me or Pin Me

9 Oct ...and every Thursday, Oxted Country Market, 10-11.30am, Oxted Red Cross Centre

9 Oct Pollards Oak W1, Methodist Church Hall, 7.45pm: Putting a smile on their faces - Tale of an African School - Edward Bellingham

13 Oct Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.45pm Methodist Hall - Bring & Buy Sale

14 Oct Carers’ Group, Community Room, Eastlands Close, Oxted, 10.30-12, B Harling 723034

15-18 The Oxted Players - My Boy Jack, Barn Theatre, Oxted, 2.30pm (Saturday) and 7.45pm

21 Oct Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207

23-25 The Barnstormers - 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Barn Theatre, Oxted

27 Oct Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.45-4.15pm Methodist Hall

AGM - have your say on how the Club is run

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

MY CHANGING WORLD

I have lived in Hurst Green for over 50 years and have been a supporter of St John’s for all that time. There have been so many changes in my lifetime, including organised religion.

My first experience was when I was evacuated to the Rhondda Valley to escape the London blitz, aged 9. We attended the famous old Saron Chapel three times every Sunday, all in Welsh. I can still remember the Lord’s Prayer in Welsh, and my favourite hymns are still Diadem, Calon Lân and Aberystwyth.

After the war I returned to London and joined the Youth Club attached to Southwark Cathedral; this brought me into contact with the Cathedral. The Cathedral catered for the range of religious tastes from simple to very elaborate. Eight o’clock communion was a very intimate affair in the Lady Chapel. Ten o’clock in the Cathedral with full choir it was pretty much middle of the road for that time; it was the time of the South Bank Festival of Britain exhibition. Evensong was in All Hallows, a daughter church of the Cathedral with candles, incense and bells - the full works under Father Douglas Rhymes. We also had a Father (Alan) Christmas.

I have always thought that Christianity was based on Christ’s two commandments, to love God and our neighbour as ourselves, and that was all that is necessary. Over the years so many things have been added as being essential to belief, it has caused dissention in the various strands of the Church and even separates people from it. Many traditional essentials have not stood the test of living in the modern world, including the bars to women’s advancement. Women have been priestes for twenty years, why did it take so long to accept the full rights for women? We had a number of women Deans already so the step towards Bishop was small. I do not regard this as anything to do with equality or women’s rights. Bishops should be appointed on the person’s faith and ability, be they male or female.

I am sure the world will keep on changing; we will have to see how organised religion lives with these changes. Terry Marnell

Westerham/Oxted Christmas Fair for Cancer Research UK

Local fundraisers are inviting visitors to their annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday 5 November, 10.30am - 3.30pm at The Grasshopper Inn, Moorhouse, in aid of Cancer Research UK. The £3 entry fee goes to the charity and it is hoped to exceed last year’s total of almost £6,000 raised.

Broadcast and journalist Nicholas Owen, himself a cancer survivor, will open the fair. There will be around 50 stalls selling a variety of goods and it is a fantastic opportunity to do all your Christmas shopping under one roof.

Cancer Research UK Christmas cards and wrapping paper will be on sale and there is a dedicated food and drink hall selling locally sourced produce. Parking is free, and coffees, teas and lunches are available all day.

The Cancer Research UK Local Committee organises fundraising events through the year. To find out more, contact Debbie Innes: debbieinnes@hotmail.com.

The Armed Man, a Mass for Peace Saturday 8 November at 7pm Oxted United Reformed Church

On the eve of Remembrance Sunday, the combined choirs of Oxted and Limpsfield churches, conducted by Ann Osborn, will perform Karl Jenkins’ magnificent and moving cry for peace in the world.

The evening includes a performance of George Butterworth’s 6 Songs from “A Shropshire Lad” Matthew Palmer (baritone) and Connie Luk (piano) and readings of poetry and prose by Tabitha Walsh & Daniel Walsh

Tickets £12 (under 18s - £6) from Choir members or 730406 ext 1 Proceeds to Amnesty International

RNLI Christmas Fair

Oxted Community Hall, Church Lane, Oxted
Saturday 25 October, 10am to 12.30pm
Christmas cards, jewellery, handbags, scarves and other tempting gifts, complimentary tea/coffee & biscuits

Entrance £1 - Everyone very welcome
All proceeds to the Oxted & Westerham branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution

MOOR HOUSE SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

Mill Lane, Hurst Green, Oxted, RH8 9AQ
Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Come and see what we can offer your child
Thursday 23 October 2014 at 10am
Please call: 712271 or Email: admissions@moorhouseschool.co.uk

St Stephen’s C of E Primary School, South Godstone
is holding Open Day sessions on:
Wednesday 5 November:
Between 9.45 and 11.30am with a talk from the Headteacher at 10.30am and At 7pm - talk from the Headteacher, followed by a tour of the school
If you would like to visit the school but cannot attend on this date, please contact the school office: 01342 892219. We would be happy to arrange an appointment for you.

OXTED BAND AUTUMN CONCERT
Saturday 18 October 2014, 7.30pm
ST JOHN’S CHURCH, HURST GREEN
With special guest star Paul Duffy, formerly of the world famous Black Dyke Band

Tickets from White’s Estate Agents, Station Road East, Oxted, 716523 or on the door - Adults £10, Children £5

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism
We welcome into the family of God’s Church:
21 September Chloe Walker
Holli Geddes

St John’s Book of Remembrance
To have a name entered, phone 712845.