

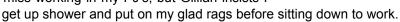
# HURST GREEN NEWS

## October 2021

So how is the return to 'normal' for you?

I realised that the last time I contributed to the Hurst Green News was last year and we were in the midst of the dreaded 'lockdown'. Since then much has changed and we have returned, so say some, to 'normal'.

I guess like everybody else this return to 'normal' has meant significant changes for Gillian, Lucas and myself. No longer is it getting up and going down to work in my PJ's or a once-a-week beard trim. I actually miss working in my PJ's, but Gillian insists I



Perhaps the biggest change for me is that the fellowship is now meeting together in person on a Sunday morning! Last Sunday was the first time I had preached in the church since I became Pastor in April 2020. Now that was a big and, being honest, a frightening change I can tell you.

I nearly made a drastic mistake and rearranged how the chairs were laid out in the church. Fortunately I changed them back to the old, and some would say proper, arrangement before Sunday's worship. I fear changing the seats might have been a change that went too far and wouldn't have been met with wild enthusiasm.

We are now in that period of change from summer to winter and despite a glorious brief few days of warmth recently, we face the prospect of the long grey, cold and dark months of autumn and winter. On top of all these changes the Covid 19 numbers are changing again as they slowly creep up each day. There is talk in the news of a 'fire break' at half term to try and check the rising numbers of Covid cases and deaths. This is a very unwelcome change if it should happen.

Even those who don't follow the news closely will be aware of climate change and how the world's weather patterns are changing quickly, and usually with devastating results, for those who have least in our world.

I for one don't really recognise this 'new normal' and I am somewhat daunted by the never-ending procession of change upon change upon change.

In the uncertainty of change I found encouragement in the news reports after the Haitian earthquake and subsequent tropical storm. I was encouraged that so many of the survivors having lost homes and loved ones, perhaps the most profound change any of us face, continued to trust in God's unchanging love for them. I felt both humbled and strengthened. Humbled because in comparison to the changes they faced, my changes seemed very insignificant. Strengthened in that these men and women found strength to face these changes in God's unchanging love for them.



The Psalmist wrote these words many years ago but they are still relevant today:

'Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever'.

Keith Dickson, Pastor, Hurst Green Evangelical Church

Harvest Thanksgiving at St John's Church on Sunday 3 October at 9.45am



A Communion Service for all ages

This year there will be five stations around the church giving information about things we might buy through Send A Cow, to help out third world people, three of which also deal with climate change. Those chosen are:

- · Super strong, climate smart seeds
- Top notch trees
- Super stoves
- Chickens
- Goats

People will be invited to give money to whichever one they like best.



Send a cow is a force for change in rural Africa, helping people grow their own futures: on their own land, on their own terms.

For more information, go to **sendacow.org** 

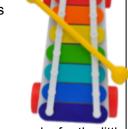
YO-YOS are back!

on Wednesdays 9.15 - 11.15am (term time only)



York Rooms, St John's Church Church Way, Hurst Green

York Rooms Youngsters is a friendly local playgroup for parents and carers with babies through to pre-school children.



Tea, coffee and cake plus snacks for the little ones. Discretionary donation of £1 per family.

Adults are encouraged to wear a face mask. For more information, call 01883 712674 or email office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

Find us on Facebook & Twitter:





## **HURST GREEN CHURCHES WELCOME YOU**

At St John's there are services of Holy Communion on Sundays at 8.30am (said) and 9.45am. The 9.45am service is sung (service also available via Live Stream) - congregation are requested to wear masks. There is also a communion service on Thursdays at 12 noon. The church is now open every day from 10am to 4pm.

For updates and the latest information, please check the church websites given below.

ST JOHN'S, CHURCH WAY

Rector: Anna Eltringham, 712674, 14 Oast Road

(day off - Monday)

Assistant Priest: Mary Seller, 715675, 11 Home Park

Curate: Lotwina Farodoye, lotwina@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

**Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary:** 

Monica Fenton, 715769

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

**HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH** 

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 71201, Pastor@hgec.org.uk

www.hgec.org.uk

#### **ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM**

All Saints' Church Chichele Road, Oxted - 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, 730406

oxtedurc@gmail.com

Minister: Graham Dadd, 07894 507467

www.oxtedurc.org.uk



#### **Pollards Oak WI**

After a very difficult and strange 18 months for all of us, Pollards Oak members met up again for our first monthly meeting in person in September.

Everyone was pleased to be able to get back to some normality. Mind you, we have still been as active as permissible over this time, keeping in touch with each other and taking part in a few community projects, such as making small hand held hearts for the patients and their families at East Surrey Hospital and also scrubs bags and lap blankets for Windmill Manor Care Home. Our 70th birthday was in June and a small gathering of socially distanced members met on the Green for a cuppa and a cake. We have all given each other lots of support to keep us all going and will continue to do this even now we are meeting in person.

We also have a new venue! We will now be meeting in the York Rooms at the rear of St John's Church in Hurst Green! We will still meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month, so our next meeting will be on Thursday 14 October at the York Rooms from 7.30pm. Our speaker will be Alison Hoyland who will be giving us a talk on image and styling and advising us not to 'Judge a Book by its Cover'. Intriguing!!

All visitors are welcome to come along and join us. Contact Carole Wade (01883 713867) or Jan Ward (01883 712143) for further information.

#### Further dates for the diary, both in the York Rooms at St John's:

- 11 November Annual Meeting of Pollards Oak, from 7.30 pm
- 9 December Members' Xmas Meeting, in the York Rooms at St John's

#### **Oxted & District History Society**

Oxted & District History will start its 2021-22 programme of lectures on Tuesday, 5 October with a talk by June Davey on 'West Horsley Place'. The second lecture, on Tuesday 19 October, will be given by Robert Young on 'Ivan the Terrible'.

It had been hoped that lectures would be able to return to the Oxted United Reformed Church for the 2021-22 Season but at present the Hall's permitted capacity is only just over 50 people, so the first two will have to be by Zoom, and hopefully the ensuing fortnightly lectures will be able to return to the Oxted URC Hall with audiences permitted of up to 100 guests.

People are invited to join the Oxted & District History Society. The annual subscription of £20 per head covers the whole 2021-22 Season of 12+ Lectures. There is a visitor's fee of £4 to pay for admission to individual lectures for nonmembers. Anyone wishing to join the Society and receive its lectures may send a £20 per head membership fee to its Treasurer, Anna Burrage, at 'Linden', Rockfield Road, Oxted, RH8 0EL. More about the History Society can be found at www.oxteddisthistorysociety.com

## East Surrey Walkers: www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

The full programme of walks is returning to pre Covid 19 status and walks for the final quarter of 2021 will soon be published on our website. The additional Covid 19 related regulations, such as the necessity to book and restricted.

regulations, such as the necessity to book and restricted numbers that were imposed, will now be discontinued. Therefore all you need to do is check the programme, choose your walk and turn up.

Please note that the committee has devolved to individual walk leaders an option to retain booking and restricted numbers if the leader so chooses. In any such cases this will be made clear in the walks information.

East Surrey Walkers volunteers are currently involved in a Ramblers project styled Don't Lose Your Way. The object is to identify lost Rights of Way which have fallen into disuse, but only to add paths which will improve the network for all. The first stage of the project commenced in 2020. Thousands of volunteers compared current maps with two historic maps dating back 120 years and 49,000 potentially lost Rights of Way were identified in England and Wales. East Surrey Walkers volunteers will follow up further stages as required.

In the meantime we are fortunate that we have so many existing lovely routes to walk. Please do consider joining us to exploit this wonderful resource.

ESW wish you happy walking, Stephen Hanks, Publicity Officer

#### The Woodhouse Centre

The Woodhouse Centre is a cheerful and busy 'workshop' for retired and disabled people living in Oxted and surrounding areas. Members come and get involved in a whole range of crafts from caning, upholstery and seagrassing, to knitting, sewing and paper crafts, and the Men-in-Sheds Club make a whole host of wooden items from bird tables, to planters and other items for gardens.

## Ship.

#### **Autumn Fair**



cakes - collectables - gifts - raffle - books - fancy goods - tea and coffee - woodwork - and lots of new products

Free entry, open to all, at:

The Woodhouse Centre Hoskins Road, Oxted

(opposite Leisure Centre) Tel: 01883 715189

www.woodhousecentre.org.uk





### And Then There Were None, by Agatha Christie at The Barn Theatre, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted

Presented by The Oxted Players Tuesday 12 - Saturday 16 October at 7.30pm (also 2.30pm on the Saturday)

Ten Strangers are summoned to a remote island. All that the quests have in common is a wicked past they are unwilling to reveal and a secret that will seal their fate, for each has been marked for murder. As the weather turns and the group is cut off from the mainland, the bloodbath begins and one by one they are brutally murdered in Come and join us for accordance with the lines of a sinister nursery rhyme.

This most loved of all the stage adaptations of Agatha Christie's novel will hopefully see the relaunch of the main programme in the theatre. The original cast from prelockdown are all on board and ready to tackle the challenge of performing both the original play ending from 1943 and the ending drawn from the novel in 1939 using entirely Agatha Christie's own words on alternate performances.

Tickets, £13, are available from www.oxtedplayers.co.uk

#### St Agatha's Hall

To enquire about booking, contact the **Booking Administrator:** 07586 863079 or aggieshall@gmail.com

or complete the form on the website: stagathashall.weebly.com/ contact.html

## **COFFEE and a CHAT**

Where? St John's Room St John's Church

When? Fortnightly on Thursdays

14 and 28 October 10.30am - 12 noon

Need a lift? Ring Barbara, 715636

#### Hurst Green Gardening Club

Hurst Green Gardening Club has been in existence for over forty years and is still a thriving club offering monthly speakers giving helpful advice on useful tips and methods of



If you read this in time, do also make yourselves known to one of our members who will be manning our plant stall at the Hurst Green Fair on Saturday 25 September.

Enquiries to: janecfirmin@gmail.com or 01883 723872

#### Oxted Country Market - New Venue and New Day We are now holding the market every Friday at the Woodhouse Centre in Oxted (behind Morrisons) from 9.30 -11.30am. As always, our produce includes homemade cakes and savouries, jam, chutney, marmalades, honey, seasonal plants, vegetables, eggs and

traditional crafts. Tea and coffee is available. For further information contact oxtedcm@outlook.com or look at our Facebook page. Orders can be placed in advance, call 01883 623273 or 07554 023786.

#### Oxted and Limpsfield Music Society 2021/2022 Season

An exciting new season of high quality concerts kicks off at 7.30pm on Saturday 23 October 2021 with the distinguished clarinettist Michael Collins MBE at the excellent Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School, Wolfs Hill, Oxted. Michael Collins, who is also principal conductor of the London Sinfonia, is described as 'one of the most complete musicians of his generation' and again as 'one of the world's truly great clarinettists'. Professor Collins will be accompanied by one of Ireland's leading pianists Michael McHale.

More information is on the constantly refreshed website: www.oxtedandlimpsfieldmusicsociety.org.uk For this season there will also be an option to pay on the door.

#### The Oxted United Charities: Are you in financial need?

The Oxted United Charities receives money principally from the Henry Smith Charity (which dates from 1628) to be used to relieve the hardship and distress' of the 'the poor and needy' who live in the ancient civil parish of Oxted, that is, residents of Oxted and Hurst Green. We offer small grants to those in serious financial difficulty for essential items such as white goods, furniture, school uniforms, or help with utility, and other bills.

If you are experiencing financial problems and believe you fit our criteria, we might be able to help. Please contact: The Clerk to the Oxted United Charities, 9 Paddock Way, Oxted RH8 0LF, or by email: cjboxted@aol.com.

#### The Green

What a delight the extended tranche of wild flowers along the northern part of the Green has been this summer. It has been a mass of colour, provided by poppies, cornflowers, vetches sunflowers, daisies, yarrow, dandelions and many more. Congratulations and thanks to the Creative Community. a private donor and Tandridge District Council for this wonderful initiative. It has encouraged butterflies and other insects to visit, and has really enhanced our environment.

#### All Souls' Day Service at St John's Church on Sunday, 31 October 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 17 October until 11am on 31 October. The service will be followed by tea and biscuits in St John's Room.

#### Oxted Rotary Club **Quiz Night** Mary Seller

## **PARISH REGISTERS**

#### **Funerals**

Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends:

14 September Kenneth Bush 17 September Jean Henson

27 September James Stephens 28 September Elizabeth Spooner

St John's Book of Remembrance To have a name entered, please email office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

Friday 8 October 2021 at 7.30pm **Hurst Green Community Hall** (behind the Pollards Oak Shops)

You are welcome to bring your own food & drink Tickets £5 each, maximum of six in any team This Year's Beneficiary: Oxted Rotary Charities

For tickets contact: John on 07711 306543

Neil on 07808 078570

or online at

www.eventbrite.com/e/quiz-nighttickets-167771389743

St Agatha's Hall Saturday 16 October 11am - 6pm

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