Before it’s too late

Last week a package arrived in the post. It was very exciting to open! Biodegradable cotton buds made of recycled card rather than plastic that will compost after use. (Well OK they were delivered to our door which involved transportation and associated emissions but so would conventional ear plugs be transported to the shop then transported home!) The point is we are trying harder than ever before in our household to reduce our impact on the environment. For many years we’ve had milk delivered in glass bottles that are washed and re-used; we are growing more and more home grown veg; we are trying not to buy products with plastic that can’t be recycled (such as going back to good old fashioned blocks of soap rather than liquid soap in plastic bottles and saying no to baby wipes); we are remembering our re-use coffee cups wherever we go etc etc etc.

The current climate and environmental crisis is deeply alarming. At every turn human beings, in the name of unfettered economic growth are raiding our beautiful earth of its natural abundant gifts to us in many forms, and damaging the existence of natural life on this earth. We have known for some time about the damage of plastics floating around in our oceans and the over-use of fossil fuels which emit CO2 causing global warming which changes our climate drastically. Rising sea levels threaten our own human habitat here in the UK and we see the extreme weather events and dramatic changes in weather patterns that impact the homes and livelihoods of the poorest communities in our world.

The very recent UN report predicts 1 million of the world’s 8 million animal species are in serious threat of extinction and the pace of species loss is ‘tens to hundreds of times higher than it has been, on average, over the last 10 million years.’ This means that the potential loss of all insects in the next 50-100 years, 75% of which we rely on to pollinate OUR food, will have an unimaginable impact. We human beings are a species at risk of extinction too.

The Bible’s message, particularly the Old Testament, urges us to care for creation: to work with it, to harmonise with it and not to abuse it. God's command in the creation story of Genesis was that we are to till and ‘keep’ the earth. Farming instructions included for example giving space to nature to restore and recover with a year of sabbath rest for the land every few years. I respect and am deeply thankful to the prophetic voices of our time: David Attenborough, the UN, Scientists, Swedish school girl Greta Thunberg, campaigners such as Extinction Rebellion and all who are doing what they can to get the message out there, put the brakes on and radically change our behaviour.

Governments must act. But every person and every household can do something. As someone once said we must ‘be the change we want to see’. What will you do?

With my love and prayers for our beautiful world,
our home and all who live here.

Revd Anna Eltringham, Team Vicar,
St John’s Hurst Green and St George’s Crowhurst

Hurst Green Community Centre Association

Fancy a sociable cup of tea or glass of wine with nibbles on Tuesday 4 June at 7.30pm?
Come and see what your local hall and the volunteers can offer you at the Annual General Meeting at The Hurst Green Community Centre just behind the parade of shops. Doors open at 7.15pm

Our guest speaker this year will be Christine Harwood from Creative Community to update us all on the amazing progress they’ve made locally to our wonderful village. See you there!

For Information

The Anglican Churches of St John’s, Hurst Green and St George’s, Crowhurst are part of a team of churches called the Oxted Team Ministry which also includes St Peter’s, Tandridge and St Mary’s, Oxted. It has recently been announced that Anna’s role will change from ‘Team Vicar’ to ‘Team Rector’ of the Oxted Team at the end of June. She will continue to be based in Hurst Green with primary care of St John’s and St George’s but have oversight of all four churches, working with a new Team Vicar to be based in Oxted, responsible for St Mary’s and St Peter’s. Anyone is welcome to Anna’s ‘Collation and Induction’ as Team Rector to be held as part of Evensong at 6.30pm on 30 June at St Peter’s Church, Tandridge.

St John’s Youth Choir Summer Concert!

Sunday 9 June 11am, St John’s, Hurst Green

A delightful half hour of music from the new St John’s Youth Choir. No tickets required.. just turn up to this free event. Refreshments available beforehand (donations welcome).
The St John’s Youth Choir meets on alternate Tuesdays in term time, from 4-5pm, and new members are always welcome.
The next session will be on Tuesday 18 June.

Organ Recital by Jeremy Lloyd

Saturday 1 June 2019 at 7.30pm
St Peter’s Church, Tandridge

Jeremy is an amazing organist, who first played at St Peter’s at the age of eight. Now Assistant Director of Music at Rochester Cathedral, he will perform a varied programme of popular organ music.

Proceeds will be distributed between St Peter’s Church Fabric Fund and Parkinson’s UK.
Tickets, adults £15, children £9, are available at www.wegotickets.com/Jeremylloyd.

Interval refreshments. More information from the Oxted and Tandridge Parish Office, 01883 714263.
HURST GREEN CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

ST JOHN’S, CHURCH WAY
8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Eucharist
11.30am, 3rd Sunday Café Service, refreshments from 11am (not August)
12 noon Holy Communion, David Gresham House

Other services: details in church porch
Wednesday 12 noon Weekday Eucharist
Vicar: Anna Eltringham, 712674, 1 Oast Road (day off - Friday)
Assistant Priest: Mary Seller - 715675, 11 Home Park
Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary: Monica Fenton - 715769

METHODIST CHURCH, HURSTLANDS
10.30am Morning Worship, Café Church 1st Sunday
3 - 4.30pm Families at 3, monthly - see box on next page
Minister: Stephen Mares - 020 3719 4644

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
5.30pm Saturday First Mass of Sunday, All Saints’ Oxted
9am Sunday St Ambrose, Warlingham
11am Sunday All Saints’ Oxted
Parish Priest Fr Stephen - 713776

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
The Church of the Peace of God
21 Bluehouse Lane, Oxted - 730406
oxtedurc@gmail.com
10am Sunday Service includes story-time for children, Junior Church, and communion monthly
Minister: Graham Dadd

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.

LITTER ANGEL by Sue Fox

Wrappers, bottles, packets and tins could all be found tossed to the ground. All on the grass but not in the bins. Was a tidy-up task too much to ask?

So I joined the Litter Angel scheme which is council run and can be quite fun. You can band together and work as a team or work alone on a route that you ‘own’.

With hi-viz vest and my grabber and bags I can now be seen as I keep the streets clean clearing the cans and the packets of fags. I once found a wok and a single black sock.

Used nappies, straws and a broken phone plastic and Big Mac all fill my sack.

With vinyl records and what I think was a bone, Cans still with beer - they’re not wanted here.

There are places we Angels can’t tread: We cannot breach - where grabbers can’t reach through the British Rail fence, but instead look with despair at the rubbish piled there.

Perhaps the message begins to sink in: there are fewer gleanings on my daily cleanings so on my patch IT GOES IN THE BIN!

Love Hurst Green? Then keep it clean!

Would you like to be a LITTER ANGEL?
You or your group can be provided with up to six high visibility vests and litter picks and also a regular supply of litter bags which can be picked up when full from an agreed location.
Call 01883 722000 or e-mail customerservices@tandridge.gov.uk

Hurst Green News Needs YOU!

It takes a large number of volunteers to ensure that every household in Hurst Green receives a free copy of Hurst Green News each month, delivered to the door. We currently need a bit more help in the following areas:

Folding
On the last Saturday of each month, a small group of people meets at 9am in the York Rooms at St John’s Church to help with the folding of Hurst Green News. Our numbers have been dwindling in recent months and the job is taking longer than it should. It would be great if a few more people could join us and then we’ll be able to finish just after 10am. Please join us if you can.

The next date for folding is Saturday 29 June.

Delivery
We need three more people to deliver Hurst Green News once a month to Barnfield Way. If you can help or would like more information, please contact June Thompson: 716335 or gthompson51@msn.com.

Please consider whether you could respond to our plea for help with either (or both) of the above! Thank you.

Oxted Team Ministry Rogationtide Walk, Sunday 23 June

‘Beating the parish bounds’ is one of the most ancient customs of the Church’s year. Long before maps and satnavs, people learned about their place from this annual walk, which has been highly significant in the formation of English local community. It has become a tradition for the Oxted Team of churches to join together for a walk spanning its four parishes: Oxted, Hurst Green, Crowhurst and Tandridge. We’ll be walking for most of the day, with worship, refreshment and enjoyable company along the way.

The journey begins at 8.40am at St Mary’s, Oxted, continuing to St John’s, Hurst Green. After the morning service followed by refreshments we leave at 11am for St George’s, Crowhurst for blessing the fields and a picnic lunch (bring your own). At 2.30pm we continue to St Peter’s, Tandridge for a reviving cup of tea and cake. Join us for one leg of the journey, or the whole 9 miles!

For more details, please contact: office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk.

Flower Festival at St John’s Church 11-14 July 2019

We would like to invite you to participate in a Flower Festival in the church over the weekend of 11-14 July, with the theme of ‘Let there be light!’ We are raising funds for the Church Lighting Project, hence the theme for the festival, and would love as many local people and community groups to be involved as possible.

We need a new LED lighting system in the church because our current system uses halogen bulbs which are no longer available, and we need enhanced lighting in the chancel and sanctuary for when we hosts events, many of which involve local community groups, such as Hurst Green Singers, Oxted Band and schools, or provide entertainment for those living in Hurst Green, such as the community cinema.

There will be space for large arrangements, such as pedestals, and smaller arrangements on a table or the floor, so you can decide what you’d like to contribute. We will also leave it up to you to decide how you interpret the theme!

The festival will be set up during Thursday 11 July and the official opening will be at 6pm. The festival will close at 4pm on Sunday 14 July and the clearing up will take place during that evening.

If you, or your community group, would like to take part, please could you let me know by Friday 31 May and I will then send you more details.

Also, please contact me if you would like to know more.

Sue Farrell, Flower Festival Organiser, susan.farrell@zen.co.uk

Weekday Eucharist
10.45am All Saints’ Oxted
5.30pm Saturday All Saints’ Warlingham
9am Sunday St Ambrose, Warlingham
11am Sunday All Saints’ Oxted
Parish Priest Fr Stephen - 713776

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
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Sue Farrell, Flower Festival Organiser, susan.farrell@zen.co.uk
Hurst Green News can also be read on www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

These boots are made for walking… and working up an appetite!
A wonderful walk in the Surrey countryside, followed by an indulgent English cream tea - I can’t think of a better way to spend a summer’s day in June (23rd). This is just one of the many social events organised by East Surrey Walkers and it is very much enjoyed by around 60 members. The only decision to be made is… cream or jam first on your scone! What are you waiting for? Join us, a friendly group that enjoys talking whilst walking in the countryside, making new friends and having pub lunches. We also enjoy various social events throughout the year and organise holidays together, both in the UK and abroad. Each week we offer a selection of walks for different abilities, ranging from 3 to 12 miles. There’s bound to be one that suits you! You are welcome to walk with us on one or two occasions before you decide whether to join East Surrey Walkers. We’d love to have your company…

Some of our walks coming up in June:

Sunday 9 June 1.30pm Tatsfield 4½ miles (refreshment at end in Tatsfield Church) LEISURELY
Tuesday 11 June 10am Godstone 3½ miles - Fast Fitness STRENUOUS
Saturday 15 June 2pm Limpfield Chart 4 miles (20 only, pre-book) LEISURELY
Monday 17 June 10am Bletchingley 3 miles - Amble EASY
Saturday 22 June 2pm Woldingham 3 miles - Amble EASY
Sunday 23 June 1.30pm Lingfield 4 miles - CREAM TEA LEISURELY
Wednesday 26 June 10am Ide Hill, Kent 6 miles LEISURELY

For details of where to meet and full programme, go to: www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

Foodbank Collection
There is a permanent donation box at St John’s Church which is taken each week to the East Grinstead Foodbank. Please bring any food or toiletry items which are brand new, non-perishable and in date. The church is always open in daylight hours so you can leave your donations in the porch.

Priorities often change, but the items currently needed are: toilet paper (small packs), washing powder/liquid (small packs), surface cleaner and favourite hymns - an afternoon of joyful song!
We hope that this service will be accessible to the elderly and infirm with their carers.

PARISH REGISTERS
Funerals
Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends:
5 April James (‘Jock’) Grant
1 May Hazel Whyte
20 May Annie Huffey
St John’s Book of Remembrance
To have a name entered, please phone Diana on 712845.

Oxted Charity Boot Fair, Sunday 9 June
Master Park, Oxted from 10.30am
Pitch set up from 9am
Pre-book a pitch at www.titsey.org.uk
£10 for cars, £20 for vans

Organised by Titsey Rotary Club, the Boot Fair has been a regular event on Master Park since 2010. It is hoped to raise up to £4,000, with profits going to charities, mostly local ones, including Master Park itself. Master Park is NOT council-owned and its trustees must raise over £20,000 annually for maintenance, planting, bin emptying etc. The Boot Fair has been a major contributor.

Have a good clear out at home and make some cash or come along and pick up some fantastic bargains: books, plants, clothes, toys, games, DIY gear, pictures, bric-a-brac… you name it, there’ll be somebody selling it!

Also on site: Oxted Guides selling high quality burgers, hot dogs, hot and cold drinks, an ice cream van and fruit & veg seller.
We look forward to seeing you on Sunday 9 June!

St Agatha’s Hall
Booking Administrator
Lee Pegrum, 07586 863079,
aggieshall@gmail.com or stagathashall.weebly.com/contact.html

Join us for CAFÉ CHURCH
A more informal way to worship God
11.30am, refreshments from 11am
St John’s, Hurst Green
Sunday 16 June
Café Church band - crafts for children ~ creative ways of praying

For more info, call 01883 712674 or e-mail office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk
Please note: Café Church will take a break in July and August.

Come and join us for COFFEE and a CHAT
Where? St John’s Room
St John’s Church
When? Fortnightly on Thursdays 6 and 20 June
10.30am - 12 midday
Need a lift? Ring Barbara, 715636

Families at Three
Join us for games, music, crafts and more! Drinks and snacks are also provided.
(Please note all children need to be accompanied by an adult).
We are meeting next on Sunday 23 June at 3pm to 4.30pm at Hurst Green Methodist Church
This is a free event and we hope to see you there!

Hurst Green Busy Bees Pre-School and Forest School
For children aged 2 to 5 years at the Evangelical Church Hall, Hurst Green Road, RH6 9AJ
8am to 4pm Monday - Friday in term time

OPEN MORNING
Tuesday 11 June
10am to 12 noon
Prospective parents are invited to view the Preschool in session
For more information contact Marian:
01883 722796, atkn848@aol.com
www.hurstgreenbusybees.com

Hurst Green Village Fair
Planning is now well underway for the village fair on the green on Saturday 21 September 2019

Letters have gone out to previous stallholders but there are still some spaces available. If you are a local charity or community organisation and would like a pitch, please contact hgvfair@hotmail.co.uk