



HURST GREEN NEWS

January 2014

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

Published on 4 January

Have you made any New Year resolutions for 2014? Apparently, these were the five most common New Year resolutions for 2013:

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

1. Eat healthily and exercise regularly.
2. Drink less.
3. Learn something new.
4. Stop smoking.
5. Develop a better work/life balance.

There's something about a new year that brings us renewed energy to make changes for the better. We dream dreams and dare to hope that

this year will be better than the last. There is nothing wrong in dreaming for a better future and having new aspirations but statistics suggest that only 8% of the population actually achieve their New Year resolutions.

I wonder why that is? Hope is found throughout the Bible. God had promised his people that he would send a Messiah or Saviour into the world to save us from our weakness. So God's people waited and waited. They waited for centuries and with each new year they had renewed hope that this would be the year that the new King would rise up.

But when Jesus was born, in a small town stable, no one paid any attention to this insignificant birth. Their eyes were focused elsewhere; their hopes pinned on a far different dream of power and status. Instead God revealed his hope to ordinary shepherds and strangers from the East. God had come in the form of a baby to save us. Jesus was not the leader people expected, but on the cross Jesus died for our sin so that we can be forgiven, and rose again, thereby defeating death so that we can have hope.

Jesus will one day come again to this earth and finish the work that he started. Then there will be no more pain, or tears, or suffering of any kind. The creation will be restored to the way it should have been. The hope that we have is in Jesus Christ.

Maybe we don't always achieve our New Year's resolutions because our eyes are focused on the wrong ambitions and dreams. Maybe this year we should keep our hopes simple – to love more, to try to forgive, to be content with what we have and to have hope that the world can be a place of peace.

I came across this prayer on the internet and pray that it might speak to us all this year:

A RESOLVE

For Every Morning of the New Year

I will this day try to live a simple, sincere and serene life, repelling promptly every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement, impurity and self-seeking, cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity, and the habit of holy silence, exercising economy in expenditure; carefulness in conversation; diligence in appointed service, fidelity to every trust and a child-like trust in God.

From a Calendar by Bishop John H Vincent

Happy and hopeful New Year everyone! Revd Karen Bell

IMMINENT ARRIVAL OF OUR NEW PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

We are pleased to report that Revd Anna Eltringham and her family will have moved into our vicarage by early in the New Year. As with any house move (they are coming from Croydon), they will need a bit of time to unpack everything and get settled in so there will be a couple of weeks before Anna formally starts work in our Parish.

This will be after the service at which she will be licensed by the Bishop of Croydon as Priest-in-Charge of Hurst Green. The service will be held in St John's Church at 4.30pm on Saturday 25 January. Anna will introduce herself to readers of Hurst Green News in the February edition.

Barbara Richards, Churchwarden

AGGIES ON THE GREEN COFFEE SHOP



Re-opens Wednesday 8 January
for morning coffee from 10am
and light lunches from 12 - 2pm

All welcome!

Hurst Green Clothing Store - use it or lose it

The Clothing Store has been open for several years now running weekly drop in sessions for parents and carers with children under 5. It is open on Thursdays in term time from 9.30 - 11am in the Methodist Church Hall. We have clothing for children under 5 available, toys for children to play with while their parents or carers have a hot drink and a chat, and can provide emergency food parcels for families with young children.

Recently the number of people using the Store has fallen and we have made the decision to close in February unless more people come to our sessions. We re-open after Christmas on 9 January and will be open every Thursday until 13 February. If you have children under 5, please do call in and support this venture.

Rachel Lickiss



The next issue of Hurst Green News will be published on 1 February 2014. Please send material for that issue, including items for the diary, no later than **FRIDAY, 17 JANUARY 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
12 noon Weekday Eucharist
Wednesday
Assistant Priest: Mary Seller - 715675, 11 Home Park
Assistant Curate: Wendy Harvey - 01959 562340
Churchwardens: Frank Hutchings - 713293
 Barbara Richards - 715636
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)

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.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH ON HURST GREEN

10.45am Family Worship
Pastors: Steven & 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

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

OUR LOCAL MUSEUMS

As the cold gloom of January settles and the bills keep thudding on the doormat some cheap local days out may appeal. Both our local museums are easily reached by train from Hurst Green. For the East Surrey Museum change at Upper Warlingham, walk down the hill to Whyteleafe Station and go the couple of stops to Caterham.

East Surrey Museum - Chris Taylor writes:

We are the local museum for East Surrey with much of interest including displays and archive collections on local history, geology and archaeology. We have a large collection of maps, postcards, photos, books and other material on nearly all the villages and towns in the Tandridge district. A small shop, run by volunteers, sells books, gifts and pocket money size toys. We do talks for local schools and also for groups who come to learn about local archaeology, geology and history. During school holidays children's activities (with an accompanying adult) range from making Christmas cards to casts of fossils, or using potters clay to make Stone Age pots!

The museum is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am to 5pm. It is near the centre of Caterham, only 50 metres from the railway station and bus stops for the 400,407,409 & 509. Parking is in the town centre car parks.

Whether you are interested to come along to see the displays, or perhaps would like to volunteer to help, you can contact the curator (Chris Taylor) at the Museum on Wednesdays or Thursdays during opening hours on **01883 340275**, or email on **eastsurreymuseum@gmail.com**.

Eden Valley Museum

- Alex Paton writes:

The Eden Valley Museum, located in the centre of the historic market town of Edenbridge, is open February to December on Thursdays and Saturdays

10am - 4.30pm and Wednesday and Friday afternoons, 2 - 4.30pm. Additionally we are open on summer Sundays in the afternoon. Admission is free. There is free parking nearby in Church Street.

Our regular exhibitions include displays on big local industries such as tanning, brick making, cricket ball making and brewing. Our wonderful archaeology display tells the story of the Valley from ancient times and we have plenty of activities for children. Why not come and play our steel drum or get strong fingers using a typewriter that's over 80 years old! Later in the year there will be special events to mark the centenary of the First World War.

If you have any enquiries about history in the Eden Valley we are only too happy to help. Contact us by email at **curator@evmt.org.uk**, by phone: **01732 868102** or through our website **www.evmt.org.uk**.



Hurst Green Gardening Club

Now that winter is here, and growth in the garden seems to have stopped, it is tempting to stay inside and restrict our gardening to occasional guilty glances out of the window. However, life in the garden has not stopped completely, and there is still plenty of wildlife struggling to find food. Keep filling your bird feeders and make sure that bird baths are free of ice.

January is also a good time to look at the structure of your garden and plan for the summer, as the backbones of the garden can be seen properly now that the lushness of summer has died down. Many people own a digital camera or may have received one at Christmas; make a January resolution to keep a photographic diary of the garden, and use it as a reference all year. What has worked, and what has not? In spring, we can all see areas of the garden where bulbs need replenishing or planting, but you won't remember exactly where these were in autumn when the time for putting in those bulbs arrives. Look at those photographs again, and you will know. Next January, you will be able to plan even more effectively with a whole year's record in front of you.

Meanwhile, in the cold of this winter, sit comfortably in the warm and find more jobs that you can do, by looking at our new blog, **HGgardeningclub.blogspot.com**.

Jeremy Ball, Hurst Green Gardening Club



"Rebuild Malapascua" CHARITY BRIDGE TEA

York Rooms, St John's Church, Hurst Green
Wednesday 22 January 2014, 2pm

Former resident Matt Reed now lives on the tiny island of Malapascua, Philippines. On 8 November it was right in the path of Typhoon Haiyan and suffered severe damage, with most of the local people losing their homes. Matt and fellow resort owners are now pulling together to help the Malapascuans rebuild their homes.

You can find out more at **www.rebuildmalapascua.com**.

£10 per person - a little more than usual, but these people need your help.
To book a table, please call Linda Reed on 712184.

More Dates for your Diary 2014

- 6 Jan Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, Methodist Hall, 2.45-4.15pm - New Year Party & Present Exchange with entertainment
- 6 & 8 ...and every Monday and Wednesday, Harry's ACOL Rubber Bridge Club, Oxted Red Cross Centre, 1.15-4pm, 715900 or 713128
- 7 Jan Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 8 Jan Oxted & Limsfield Flower Society, 2pm, St Peter's Hall, Limsfield:
Demonstrator - Jim Butress, The Royal Parks; competition - Wood is beautiful
- 8 Jan Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall, 8pm: Mr Laurie Manser
'Growing and Showing Daffodils'
- 9 Jan ...and every Thursday, Oxted Country Market, 10-11.30am, Oxted Red Cross Centre
- 9 Jan Pollards Oak WI, Methodist Church Hall, 7.45pm - Magic Show, speaker Roy Plumridge
- 10-18 Oxted Players - Ali Baba, Barn Theatre, Oxted, see www.barntheatreoxted.co.uk for times
- 14 Jan Carers' Group, Community Room, Eastlands Close, Oxted, 10.30-12 noon B Harling 723034
- 14 Jan Oxted Parish Council, Oxted Community Hall, Church Lane, 7.35pm Clerk: 07510 226989
- 21 Jan Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 29 Jan Limsfield Decorative & Fine Arts Society, St Peter's Hall, Limsfield 2.30 and 8pm:
Memory, Sex and Violence: the Art of Salvador Dali: Lecturer Eric Shanes
Visitors, please contact Mrs Rosemary Buchan, 722294.
- 4 Feb Tandridge Access Group, Oxted Council Offices, 2 - 4pm, Barbara Harling, 723034

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

New Theatre Company Run Entirely By Teens!

Scaena Theatre Company, a brand new stage group plans its first show, Sweeney Todd (Demon Barber of Fleet Street) for The Barn Theatre in Oxted. Joe McNeice, Steph Lindo and Will Paxton who founded the company all attend Caterham School.

The company is led by a talented young production team who maintain a high standard of dedication and professionalism. Every member of the company plays an integral role, from Treasurer to Music Director and everyone plays to their strengths.

The company is extremely pleased with all the action going on, especially with rehearsals for the infamous Stephen Sondheim musical thriller which is due to take place in Oxted this month. Not only has the company caught the eye of local teens, but several famous faces such as Theatreland's very own Michael Ball and Imelda Staunton (who starred in the recent West End production of Sweeney) have expressed their approval!

Tickets for the production, of which profits go to charity, are available now from www.scaena.org.uk or the Box Office **01883 331400**. Performance dates: Friday 31 January at 7.30pm, Saturday 1 February at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.



Edenbridge University of the Third Age (U3A) is a friendly learning co-operative that encourages older people to share and develop expertise and interests in an enjoyable and sociable environment.

Meetings are on the last Tuesday each month in Rickards Hall, Edenbridge from 2 - 4pm. There is a speaker and refreshments to get to know each other, with trips and small study groups on a variety of topics, from Gardening and Family History to Mahjong, Science and Local Studies. Speakers for spring 2014 are:

- 28 January** - VSO Experiences in Rwanda and Guyana: Stephen and Mary Harding
25 February - For What it's Worth, talk about antiques: Janey Ramsay
25 March - Japan and Japanese Gardens: Jack Wheeler

The other U3As near Hurst Green are Westerham, Caterham and Sevenoaks, but as an ex Hurst Green resident I think Edenbridge is probably the most local. More info: www.edenbridgeu3a.co.uk or the Membership Secretary: **01732 866186**. Sue Bell

PARISH REGISTERS

Holy Baptism

We welcome into the family of God's Church:

- 14 December Samuel Gauntlett
 22 December Benjamin Rice

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends:

- 6 December James Newman

St John's Book of Remembrance

To have a name entered, phone **712845**.

PILATES CLASSES FOR ALL LEVELS

Keep in shape, tone up, improve balance, posture, flexibility, circulation and aid relaxation. Pilates focuses on strengthening the core abdominal and back muscles which helps to keep the body balanced and alleviate back pain. No experience is required; all classes beneficial for beginner or experienced participant. All classes only £8 per session (discounts available)

- Mondays 8pm at Hazelwood School
 Tuesdays 6pm at Hazelwood School
 Friday 9.30am at St Agatha's Hall

For more details contact Emese on **07719 917460** or emese.pomezanski@gmail.com
 Visit www.exerciseinexcellence.co.uk.

Children's Church

For toddlers and children who have just started school



Monday, 27 January
3.30pm at St John's Church
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Anyone looking after your children is welcome to bring them.
 Future dates: 24 February, 24 March
 Further information - 715769

Keeping your Mobile Phone Safe

Jacqueline Hill from Mill Lane Neighbourhood Watch writes:



I picked up a police leaflet the other day, which had advice about mobile 'phones. People are naturally distracted in busy environments, making it easier for thieves to target their victims.

Many of the thefts take place during the day in cafés and shops, but at night the problem moves to bars and nightclubs.

- Be discreet when using your phone, don't leave it on the table in bars and restaurants and don't leave your bag unattended.
- If your phone is stolen, call your service provider and quote your 15 digit IMEI number (or in some cases the last 9 digits of your SIM card number). You can find your IMEI number by dialing *#06# from your phone. Using this information your service provider will be able to isolate your phone so it cannot be used.
- Register your phone and other property at www.immobilise.com - it can help police return your property to you and catch thieves.
- Use the keypad lock facility on your phone when you are not using it. If it is stolen, at least the thief cannot immediately access your network.
- If your phone has just been stolen and the suspect is still in the area, call the police on 999. If your phone has been stolen and the suspect is no longer in the area, report it by calling 101, the non-emergency police number.

Hurst Green Busy Bees Playgroup

A pre-school for children aged 2 to 5 years in term time

The Evangelical Church Hall,
Hurst Green Road, Oxted RH8 9AJ
 Ofsted no. EY288334

Exciting opportunities at this friendly Pre-school

- New** Forest School sessions now available; learn in nature's playground
New Early morning drop offs from 8.15am
New Extended sessions to 3pm

For more information ring **722796**.

