



HURST GREEN NEWS

December 2014

Published on
6 December



It's beginning to look a lot like Advent

At half term I went away for a few days to my home town of Weymouth. On my way to the station to return here on the 1st November the big hotel on the seafront, 'The Royal', had all its Christmas decorations up! Halloween was over, Christmas is here! The sun was shining, the temperature balmy, the decorations just seemed wrong. And who bought mince pies in October?

Throughout December we have a special time of year that can get squeezed out and forgotten if we start Christmas too early. Advent is a long standing tradition, historically part of the church's year, which gives us a wonderful time of waiting and anticipation for the glorious arrival of Christmas and the celebration of God entering into our world as a tiny, fragile, miraculous baby, just like we all once were.

I'm so glad no one can yet speed up the process of growing a baby through pregnancy. Anyone who has had a baby will say they were really grateful for the nine months of 'waiting'. Emotionally we journey through all sorts of ups and downs. First getting used to the idea, then connecting with the unborn child in some small but significant way, then getting ready emotionally and practically for the baby to be born. Strangely having to wait for something demands that we give it fuller attention than if we get what we want now. It helps us to truly appreciate the event or moment when it comes, to live in the present moment now and to learn patience and joy in all its fullness when the moment eventually arrives.

I'm trying an experiment here in Hurst Green. Each Monday of Advent (we started on 1st December, but will continue on the 8th, 15th and 22nd) I shall be holding a short candlelit meditation in Aggies Hall. This will be at **6.30am** (yes you read correctly, 6.30am). It is for anyone who wants to hold onto or rediscover something of Advent as a time of spiritual preparation and waiting for Christmas, or find a moment of peace and prayerfulness in the midst of the busyness. And it is for anyone, whether they would say they were Christian or not, who feels they have any amount of spiritual awareness within them, however tiny.

So please think about joining me and some faithful others on this very special journey. And also consider other ways you can enjoy Advent fully and then Christmas when it comes. Perhaps you could read a special Advent book, come to an event or service at a local church or journey around Oxted's giant Advent Calendar in garages and venues around Oxted called the 'Oxted Advent Adventure' see: oxtedadvent.weebly.com.

In this age of instant everything let us rediscover what it means to wait. For as R.S. Thomas wrote, "the *meaning* is in the waiting". Hope to see you at St John's some time over the Advent or Christmas period too. With prayers and all good wishes for an expectant Advent and a joyful Christmas!

Revd Anna Eltringham, Vicar of St John's Hurst Green and St George's Crowhurst

Carol Singing, Hurst Green Station Friday 19 December, 7.30 - 8pm



Join Mighty Oaks Youth Club and members of Oxted Band for community carol singing. Refreshments available. Bring a torch or lantern if you can. **Everyone welcome!**

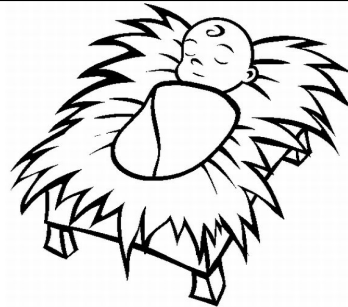
A 'Creative Community' event organised by Mighty Oaks Youth Club in partnership with Oxted Band



Midnight Mass at St John's

Details of all the Christmas Services in Hurst Green are in the enclosed Christmas card.

Please note that 'Midnight Mass' at St John's will start at the slightly earlier time of 11pm this year.



Christmas In The Netherlands

Sinterklaas (St Nicholas), wearing red robes, arrives from Spain by boat with his helpers Zwarte Pieten (Black Peters) and brings all the good children presents! Naughty children were given nothing or had to go back to Spain! Thankfully this never happened.

I remember putting my best shoe by the fireplace on December the 5th with a carrot for Sinterklaas's horse. This is how he travelled to all the houses. His helpers would go down every chimney with the presents and sweets, but only if you had been good!! We were always reminded that Sinterklaas knows everything, so we had to be good to get presents. We opened our presents early evening, listening to Sinterklaas songs and had treats while doing so.

There are special treats that are given and eaten when it is Sinterklaas as well; like pepernoten (cinnamon, spiced biscuit), different types of sweets and chocolate letters (usually your initial).



Christmas Day itself is a much quieter day. Nowadays there often is a present under the Christmas tree as well. However, most children will have received their main presents on St Nicholas Day. Dutch Children also believe that Santa Claus, (called Christmas man/Kerstman (called Christmas man/Sinterklaas!) comes from Lapland in Finland to deliver more presents if you are lucky and been very good indeed! *Monique Graham*

**Merry Christmas =
Prettige Kerstfeest**

Nine Lessons & Carols St John's Hurst Green Sunday 21 December, 5.30pm followed by mince pies and mulled wine



Collection for Shooting Star Chase
Children's Hospice

The next issue of Hurst Green News will be published on 3 January 2015. Please send material for that issue, including items for the diary, no later than **FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER 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.

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HURST GREEN CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

ST JOHN'S, CHURCH WAY

8am Holy Communion
 9.30am 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
Vicar: 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
Priest: Fr Anthony Hale

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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

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.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The great thing about Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is that once your area is registered, everyone in that area is automatically a member! That means that if your road is included in an existing NHW area, you can get in touch with your insurance providers and ask if they will discount your premiums. Mill Lane NHW covers Mill Lane, Coltsfoot Lane and Warren Lane. An active and friendly group of members meets every three months to discuss and take action on a range of issues of concern to residents, not just police matters. So if you are a resident in our area, come along and find out what other benefits Mill Lane NHW can offer. If not, there are other Neighbourhood Watches in Hurst Green, so you might want to find out if your area is covered.

Mill Lane NHW's next meeting is on **Tuesday 13 January 2015 at 7.30pm in the Holland Sports and Social Club**, where the club has kindly given us use of their meeting room. Subsequent meetings are the second Tuesday in April, July and October. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Jacqueline Hill, on behalf of Mill Lane Neighbourhood Watch

Christmas Crib Services St John's, Hurst Green Christmas Eve, 3.30 and 5pm

You are invited to bring a present with you, wrapped and labelled, saying for what age (0 - 16 years) and sex the gift would be appropriate. No soft toys please. Thank you.



This year gifts will be shared between Welcare (Strengthening Families) and East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services. Please could children come dressed as **shepherds, angels or kings** so that they can take part in the service.

OXTED ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Christmas and New Year Entertainment

Saturday 13 December:
COMEDY NIGHT 8pm £10 per person, tickets available on the door

Friday 19 December:
CHRISTMAS BINGO from 7pm with entertainment from New Legacy

CHRISTMAS EVE DISCO: 8pm to late
NEW YEAR'S EVE: Danny Barrett as Neil Diamond and Friends.
 Entry by ticket only (members free, non members £5) available from the Club or call 07810 125135.

Non members are more than welcome to all the above events.

Inner Wheel Club Gardeners' Question Time

The White Hart Barn at Godstone was full for the Gardeners' Question Time organised by Oxted and District Inner Wheel to raise funds for the Guide Hut at Uvedale Road. The Expert Panel of TV's Jim Buttress, author and Journalist Lizzie Dobbs, Keith Lewis and Cory Furness, Head Gardener at Penshurst Place, dealt with a range of questions. A buffet supper and raffle completed the evening which raised £450 to assist in the repair of the Oxted District Guide Hut.

The Inner Wheel Club warmly welcomes active new members

Monthly meetings with speakers followed by lunch are held at the Limpsfield British Legion Club. Social events and close links with the Oxted and Limpsfield Rotary Club are very enjoyable. Ladies interested in becoming members or just supporting the club please telephone 713184 for more information.

Doreen Kaufman

Aggies-on-the-Green will close after the

**Christmas Buffet Lunch on
 Wednesday 10 December**
(tickets still available)

and re-open on

Wednesday 12 January 2015

A Happy Christmas to all our Clients!
Shirley Dare

Limpsfield Decorative & Fine Arts Society

Tuesday 16 December: Art Deco and All that Jazz, with Eric Knowles
 Sessions at 2.30pm followed by refreshments and 8pm, refreshments from 7.15pm

The Art Deco style permeated the whole spectrum of applied and decorative arts during the inter-war years. This lecture will examine the chronology that gave us skyscrapers, speakeasies, Hollywood glamour, not forgetting the explosion of jazz.

Visitors are always welcome to come with members, at £5 per person for each visit. Please contact **Wendy Myers: hall@limpsfieldarts.org** in advance to confirm there is space available. For membership enquiries please contact **Derek Clark: membership@limpsfieldarts.org**.

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Dates for your Diary 2014

- 1 & 3 ...and every Monday and Wednesday, Harry's ACOL Rubber Bridge Club, Oxted Red Cross Centre, 1.15-4pm, 715900 or 713128
- 4 Dec ...and every Thursday, Oxted Country Market, 10-11.30am, Oxted Red Cross Centre
- 6 Dec Hurst Green Country Music Club Dance, 8-11.15pm Hurst Green Community Centre - first Saturday of every month. New members welcome: phone 714916
- 9 Dec Carers' Group, Community Room, Eastlands Close, Oxted, 10.30-12, B Harling 723034
- 10 Dec Oxted & Limpsfield Flower Society, 2pm, St Peter's Hall, Limpsfield: Christmas Lunch and AGM. Demonstrator - Margaret McSheehy; competition - Ice Cool
- 11 Dec Pollards Oak WI, Methodist Church Hall, 7.45pm: Members' Christmas Party
- 13 Dec Jingle Bell Barn - pupils of St Mary's School and the Barn Singers bring Christmas Cheer with mulled wine and mince pies. Barn Theatre, 2.30 & 7.30pm. Tickets £12
- 15 Dec Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, Methodist Hall (early start) - Christmas entertainment from Hurst Green Infant School. Contact: Carol Leach, 01883 382031
- 16 Dec Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 5 Jan Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.45-4.15pm Methodist Hall, New Year Party and Present Exchange. Alan Hinton entertains. Contact: Carol Leach, 01883 382031
- 6 Jan Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207

REMEMBER to send your 2015 programme to the Compiler (see bottom of front page) by **12 December 2014** for dates of activities to be included in the Diary.

Santa and Rudolph coming to Hurst Green



In the week before Christmas Santa Claus will be touring Hurst Green in his sleigh.

He'll be visiting as many children (and parents) as he can, helped by his elves - members of Titsey & District Rotary Club. Santa will be giving sweets to the children and the elves will be collecting loose change for charities supported by the Rotary Club. Santa hopes to visit the following streets:

Monday, 15 December

- 6pm:** Mill Lane/Warren Lane
7pm: Roseacre/Holland Lane/Barnfied Way

Tuesday, 16 December

- 6pm:** Pollards Oak Road/Pollards Oak Crescent/
The Greenway
7pm: Chestnut Copse/Pollards Oak Road
7.30pm: The Hollies/Juniper Close

Keep an eye on Oxted Facebook in case the weather forces changes, and listen out for Santa's bell on the evenings! Fingers crossed that there's not TOO much snow! Ho Ho Ho!

Titsey & District Rotary Club: www.titsey.org.uk

HURST GREEN SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sunday 14 December, 7pm St John's, Hurst Green



Come and enjoy a miscellany of choral music remembering World War I with pieces by Elgar, Ireland, Parry and Butterworth and celebrate Christmas with Vaughan Williams, Holst and others. Tickets, £10, from members of the choir or on the door.

Children's Church

For toddlers and children who have just started school



Monday, 15 December, 3.30pm
St John's Church
 (usually on the 4th Monday of each month)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME



Anyone looking after your children is welcome to bring them.

Further information - 715769

TANDRIDGE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY PROGRAMME

December

- 11th Projected Digital competitions; external judge Mike Dales ARPS
 18th Christmas Quiz

January

- 8th Illustrated talk 'Creative Minds' by Mike Bromley DPAGB
 15th Colour Print Competitions; external judge Rachael Talibart LRPS
 22nd Robert Canis presents 'Flowers to Fungi', the art of wild flower photography
 29th Richard Walton FRPS presents an illustrated talk: 'Seeing'



If you have an interest in photography, you are most welcome to come along to our meetings. You will quickly find yourself talking to likeminded people in a friendly atmosphere. We normally meet on Thursdays at 8pm in the White Hart Barn, Godstone.

Please check the website to confirm the venue for a particular meeting:
www.tandridgephotographicsociety.org.uk

St Agatha's Hall
Booking Secretary
Marjorie Walker, 714492

MIGHTY OAKS YOUTH CLUB

The Mighty Oaks Youth Club is three years old in January; the last three years have been full of fun and laughter with children joining in with all the activities that the club provides.

Over 100 children between the ages of 10 and 13 are members of the youth club which meets on Friday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30pm at Hurst Green Community Centre. The volunteers who help run the club provide plenty of activities for the children to get involved with. There are arts and crafts, football, board games, table tennis, badminton, basketball, computer games and at the end of the evening we run a team game of either dodge ball or kick rounders where all the children get involved. We also run trips to an outdoor pursuits centre and theme parks, and get involved in fetes and other events around the community.

To keep the Youth club running smoothly and to try to keep the children off the streets we would like more volunteers to help on Friday evenings. If you can spare a couple of hours on a weekly, monthly or even every 6 weekly basis, the children and the committee would be grateful and happy to see you!

If you're interested please contact
Tara Thomas: 01883 372610 or
trashkey@ntlworld.com.

PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends:

- 11 November Anita La Belle
 18 November Daphne Neville
 21 November Betty Allington

St John's Book of Remembrance

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

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE DIAMOND (Tel: 716040)

**Join us for a delicious Tapas and Spanish Themed
 3 course set menu: £50 per couple**

(£25 per head) and a complimentary glass of bubbles on arrival
 Bookings available from 7pm (places limited so please reserve early)
and dance the night away with our

New Year's Eve Disco Party in the Bar

(If you don't wish to dine with us, you can still come along and join the party in the bar)

Tom Jacqui & Team wish you a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year



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