



HURST GREEN NEWS

March 2015

Published on
7 March



Keep going!

Have you given something up for Lent this year? How are you doing with it? Have you given in to temptation or are you still going strong?

One year I gave up alcohol for Lent. Since I am not a big drinker this wasn't too hard to achieve and I felt better for it. The following year (based on my success the previous year) I decided I would challenge myself a little more by giving up chocolate! This was much harder, especially as I couldn't decide if chocolate cake really was chocolate - I failed the challenge within two weeks of Lent!

Another year, I gave up Facebook for Lent. This was a particularly interesting experiment. About half way through Lent I began to feel really lonely, isolated and I noticed that my prayers to God had become shallow and superficial. At first I didn't understand why I was feeling like this but gradually I realised that I keep in contact with my friends every day through social media. I look forward to their comments, photos and updates on their lives. This in turn, helps to inform my prayers for my friends and family as I pray into their daily joys and struggles. I continued through Lent without Facebook but was glad to be back to connecting with my friends at Easter.

Traditionally, the 40 days before Easter are marked by fasting from something that we are going to miss as an act of self-discipline. Forty is a significant number in the Bible but in the time before Easter we often reflect on Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. Jesus went into the desert and fasted for 40 days as preparation for God's work and to deepen his relationship with his heavenly Father. Whilst in the wilderness Jesus was tempted by exactly the same things we are tempted with: food, unhealthy human relationships and power.

Jesus fasted as an act of obedience to his Father but he also gave himself to God for 40 days. Jesus sacrificed his own hopes and dreams to help others. The experience in the desert prepared him for what was to come. When Jesus left the desert he was a different person. His victory over temptation had made him stronger, given him greater courage and determination for the future.

So, we might choose to give something up as an act of self-discipline in Lent but we might also take something up - sacrificing our own time to help other people. By taking up this challenge we will all learn something about ourselves, we will grow as people and we might find God in the process, just like Jesus in the wilderness. So, whatever you are doing this Lent, keep going, keep strong and may God bless you on your journey towards Easter.



Creative Community



'Creative Community' is a new idea in Hurst Green and it's all about people doing creative things together. Let me tell you what's been going on over the first few months of this initiative.

Have you noticed the new community art gallery at Hurst Green Station ticket office? Ok, it is small, but it is a great opportunity to showcase and celebrate the creativity of local people. Since early last year artworks by Holland Junior School, St John's Art Group and Moor House School have been displayed. Currently mixed media work by Oxted Art Group is on show. The idea is that every four months or so, a new exhibition of artwork by local people will be shown for the enjoyment of everyone.

Last autumn spring bulbs were planted in one of the grassy banks at the station. Thirty two people, including members of Hurst Green Gardening Club and Mighty Oaks Youth Club, spent a sociable Sunday morning planting daffodils, crocus, snake head fritillary, narcissi and grape hyacinths. Keep a look out to see what is coming up this month. More flowers and plants will be added this year. Thanks go to the Parish Council for funding this.

On a chilly December evening members of Oxted band joined with Mighty Oaks Youth Club, local churches and others to sing carols at the station. Mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies kept everyone warm.

So as you can see, this initiative is all about bringing local groups and individuals together to do creative and enjoyable things in Hurst Green. Watch out for more stuff happening this coming year. *Christine Harwood*

Rev'd Karen, Hurst Green Methodist Church

St John's, Hurst Green
Mothering Sunday
15 March at 9.30am



All age service with posies
Simnel Cake and sherry to share afterwards

OCEAN ADVENTURE

Come and hear a fascinating illustrated talk about his experiences by Nick Bush, a crew member between London and Western Australia on one of the yachts in the Clipper Round the World Race in 2012.

The talk will be given in
The York Rooms, St John's Church
Church Way, Hurst Green
at 7.30pm on Friday 17 April.

Tickets, £10, to include a finger buffet and coffee or tea, are available from Marina Blanchard 714777 or mama.bla@virgin.net.
Bring your own alcoholic beverage if you wish

Come and join us for
COFFEE and a CHAT

Where?

St John's Room
St John's Church
Hurst Green

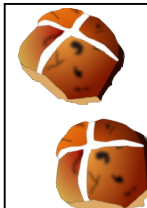


When?

Fortnightly on Thursdays
(12 and 26 March)
10.30am - 12 midday

Need a lift?

Ring Barbara, 715636



To celebrate Easter 2015

On 2 April, Maundy Thursday, the Hurst Green churches will be giving away hot cross buns to early morning commuters.

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

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
Minister: David Skitt - 01342 837449

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.

Holy Week and Easter Services, 29 March - 5 April

St John's Church

Palm Sunday, 8am: Holy Eucharist
 9.30am Parish Eucharist with palm crosses and reading of the Passion.
 Holy Monday, 8pm: An Imagined Conversation between God the Father and Jesus based on Neville Boundy's play 'Father and Son'- short Eucharist to close
 Holy Tuesday, 8pm: Reflective worship, music and Eucharist
 Holy Wednesday, noon: Eucharist and Reflection
 Maundy Thursday, 8pm: Eucharist and foot washing
 Good Friday, 9.30am: Liturgy of Good Friday
 Holy Saturday, 7pm: Night Prayer
 Easter Sunday, 6.30am: Dawn Eucharist on the Green near St Agatha's Hall
 8am Holy Eucharist and 9.30am Eucharist for all ages, lighting of Easter Candle and renewal of Baptism vows



Hurst Green Methodist Church

Maundy Thursday, 8pm Joint service at Warlingham Methodist Church
 Easter Sunday, 10.30am All-age service with Holy Communion

Hurst Green Evangelical Church

Easter Sunday, 10.45am Easter celebration

Tandridge Access Group (TAG)

www.websfor.com/tandridge/home/home.asp

The group is to help people with a disability or mobility problem to have better access to buildings and footways, for example by having dropped flush kerbs. People with a sight impairment have difficulty in coping with uneven pavements, and displays placed on pavements can be extremely hazardous.

Tandridge Access group campaigns to remove these problems and make life easier for those with disabilities, throughout the Tandridge area. We work with Tandridge District Council and Surrey County Council. We have also obtained parking bays in many places for the disabled. We monitor planning applications submitted by Tandridge District Council to ensure that suitable access and facilities are provided.

We are always looking for new members to join our group to help carry on our work. Do come along to one of our meetings shown under Dates for your Diary or contact **Barbara Harling 723034** for more details.

Farewell to Mrs Dobbie, Principal of Moor House School & College

Hilary Dobbie joined Moor House School in 2006, having worked in specialist schools in the maintained sector and with students with special educational needs since 1988.

During her time as Principal, Hilary has helped the school go from strength to strength. The school has been rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in the last six inspections, both in terms of the education and the residential care arrangements. Hilary has also widened the school's ability to reach students with SLI (specific language impairment) and ensured that it continues to grow by opening the school up to day students as well as boarders; by forging links in the local educational community within the Tandridge Education Partnership; and by overseeing the opening of the school's sixth form, called Moor House College. As a consequence, for the first time in its history the school now has over 100 students on roll.

Throughout her time at Moor House Hilary has always worked with her staff to ensure Moor House has been a very positive environment for students, where they can develop self-belief and reach their learning potential. Now in her tenth year, Hilary has made public her intention to retire from her post in April 2015.

Her successor Helen Middleton is currently Assistant Head teacher, Head of Moor House College and has worked closely with Hilary for much of her time at Moor House, so the school is in very safe hands.

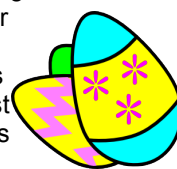
All the students and staff at Moor House wish Hilary every happiness as she begins her well-deserved retirement at the end of the spring term, and of course we also wish Helen all the best as she takes on her new position.

Nick Hart, Assistant Headteacher, Moor House School and College

Holland Junior School presents their Eggsellent Easter Eggstravaganza, Saturday 21 March from 1pm

Come along for a "cracking" time at the school's biggest fundraising event.

The children will be running their own stalls with games which they have designed themselves - there will be a prize for the best designed and the one that raises the most money for the school.



This year there will be an Eggstastic treasure hunt, a pampering beauty room for all the little bunnies, guess the name of the Build a Bear, biscuit decorating, bottle and chocolate tombola, Easter treats as well the usual hot dog stall, fully licensed bar, teas and cakes and our ever popular raffle and silent auction.

Moor House School & College

Mill Lane, Hurst Green, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9AQ

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Please come and see what we can offer your child on

Thursday 26 March 2015 at 9.45am

Please call: 01883 712271 or Email: admissions@moorhouseschool.co.uk

Dates for your Diary 2015

- 2 & 4 ...and every Monday and Wednesday, Harry's ACOL Rubber Bridge Club, Oxted Red Cross Centre, 1.15-4pm, 715900 or 713128
- 5 Mar ...and every Thursday, Oxted Country Market, 10-11.30am, Oxted Red Cross Centre
- 7 Mar Hurst Green Country Music Club Dance, 8-11.15pm Hurst Green Community Centre - first Saturday of every month. New members welcome: phone 714916
- 9 Mar Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.45-4.15pm Methodist Hall, Talk 'Air Ambulance Service' Contact: Carol Leach, 01883 382031
- 10 Mar Carers' Group, Community Room, Eastlands Close, Oxted, 10.30-12, B Harling 723034
- 11 Mar Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall, 8pm: Bonsai - Tony McKenzie
- 12 Mar Pollards Oak WI, Methodist Church Hall, 7.45pm: Members' Social - details tba
- 17 Mar Hurst Green Quilters Group, 10.30-12.30pm, 72 Chestnut Copse, Hilary Moore, 723207
- 20 Mar The New Foxtrot Serenaders - Bless 'em All, 7.45pm, Barn Theatre, Oxted
- 23 Mar Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.45-4.15pm Methodist Hall, 'Saddle Sore in Montana' - Anne Chance. Contact: Carol Leach, 01883 382031
- 7 Apr Tandridge Access Group, Oxted Council Offices, 2.30-4pm, Barbara Harling, 723034

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



ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

Are you inspired by nature? The local group of the RSPB meets monthly with varied and interesting speakers on the second Wednesday of each month (except August) at the White Hart Barn in Godstone at 8pm. On 11 March Brian Pettit will speak about The Wildlife of Hants and Dorset and Steve Gilbert's subject in April will be The Greater Thames 'Futurescape' Vision. There are also monthly field trips to places such as Dungeness and Rye Harbour with knowledgeable guides, and in April and May some local half-day field trips are planned.

In the recent RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch I counted 16 different bird species in my garden in Church Way, Hurst Green, including a Nuthatch, Pheasant, Great Spotted Woodpecker and Thrush. I would be interested to hear if anyone has had any unusual visitors.

Pat Conquest, East Surrey Group of the RSPB, p.conquest@btinternet.com

St Agatha's Hall
Booking Secretary
Marjorie Walker, 714492

Children's Church

For toddlers and children who have just started school



Monday, 23 March
3.30pm
St John's Church

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Anyone looking after your children is welcome to bring them.

Further information - 715769

The Diamond, Hurst Green

The Home of Hospitality

Friday 13 March: Join us for Cheltenham Gold Cup - fantastic live racing, running buffet all day and entry to Tom's leader board, £15 per person

Sunday 15 March: Book now for Mothers' Day delicious set menu
 £15.95 - 2 courses
 £19.95 - 3 courses

Tom, Jacqui & Team look forward to seeing you: 716040



BETTER OUT THAN IN - EAST SURREY WALKERS

With spring just around the corner, why not join East Surrey Walkers for a free walk. Newcomers are welcome. The group is about 300 strong and embraces both young and old. They would love to see you.

Friday 13 March: 3-mile amble around Bletchingley
 Contact Di: 717800

Saturday 21 March: 10-mile walk from Reigate Hill
 Phone Sue: 743807

East Surrey Walkers have three walks most weeks. To learn more, go to: www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk

THE WOODHOUSE CENTRE SPRING SALE

Thursday, 19 March, 10am to 12 noon

(opposite Tandridge Leisure Pool)

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The Centre is open Monday to Thursday 9.30am - 12.30pm.

Visitors are welcome and there are many handmade goods for sale: baby clothes, aprons, oven gloves, cushions, bags, scarves.

New members are always sought, young and old. Come and see what we have to offer. Call our Manager for transport: **Mrs Dee Graham: 715189**

Limpsfield Decorative and Fine Arts Society - LDFAS

Wednesday 25 March, 2.30 & 8pm, St Peter's Hall, Limpsfield

Appearing to Advantage - The Art of Dining in Georgian England, Dr Annie Gray

Lecture about what was eaten, by whom, how it was cooked and how consumed, exploring beliefs and behaviours, shedding light on malnutrition amongst the poor, and the innermost workings of the country house. Dr Annie Gray is a food historian and TV presenter. Her PhD thesis looked at the interplay of class and gender in influencing dining change in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Visitors are welcome to come with members, at a charge of £5, but please contact Wendy Myers: hall@limpsfieldarts.org to confirm there is space. Membership enquiries to Derek Clark: membership@limpsfieldarts.org.

Tandridge Photographic Society

www.tandridgephotographicsociety.org.uk

Thursdays in March at 8pm
White Hart Barn, Godstone

- 12th** Illustrated talk by Nik Szymanek on Photographing the Night Sky
- 19th** Round 3 of Projected Digital Competitions
- 26th** Royal Photographic Society's DVD of International Images for Screen Exhibition 2014

Visitors are most welcome

PARISH REGISTERS

Funerals

Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends:

- Derek Richardson
 26 February Graham Heasman
 2 March Peter Jackson
 6 March Iris Woodjetts

St John's Book of Remembrance

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



HURST GREEN CHURCHES PEWSHEET
 St John's and the Methodist Church and other members of
CHURCHES TOGETHER IN OXTED & DISTRICT
WELCOME!



Each Sunday St John's gives out a pewsheet at the morning service which includes information about local events and activities, especially those related to St John's and other local churches. Even if you do not regularly attend a local church, you may like to receive this pewsheet each week by email. To sign up, please email office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk or pop into St John's to pick up the copy for the week from the tables just inside the glass doors.

HANDICRAFT TALK

hosted by

Tandridge Handicraft Society
www.tandridgehandicraftsociety.org.uk

Monday 23 March, 2pm
Woodhouse Centre
Hoskins Road car park, Oxted

'Anyone Can Learn to Paint' - talk by Sharon Wolf

Visitors welcome, £5 entry including tea & biscuits.
 Jenny Beal, 01883 620730

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