



HURST GREEN NEWS

September 2023



Don't be blue this September

September has arrived! Holidays are over, children return to school for a new year, and we begin the run down to Christmas! But don't let that make you get the blues! Although that could be appropriate for September is regarded as 'the blue month'. This is because its gemstone is the sapphire, treasured for its rich blue colour. This precious stone is considered to symbolise fidelity and loyalty, and is a favourite for royal engagement rings. The September birth flowers are asters and morning glory – that also mainly appear in hues of blue.

Blue is often regarded as a spiritual colour because it is the colour of the sky, a part of God's creation. Sky blue projects calmness and serenity. In the Bible, the sky is where Heaven is thought to be – not an exact location, but it is somewhere 'up there'. In the book of Exodus, Heaven is described as having a pavement of sapphire stones. In the Middle Ages, clergy liked to adorn themselves with blue sapphires to suggest they were surrounded by Heaven, believing it would help them resist sin and all temptations. Present day clergy like me cannot afford such a luxury, so I shall simply continue to be tempted and to sin!!

In classical works of art, Mary, the mother of Jesus, is traditionally always depicted dressed in blue. Her birthday is September 8th, celebrated by some as a feast day. At St John's we do not mark this occasion, but we do have services every Sunday at 8.30am and 9.45am, which are always celebrations in one sense, and there is also our informal Café Church on 17th of this month at 11.30am, preceded by a 'Community Brunch', to all of which everyone is very welcome. Why not come along too, to the Mother and Toddler Group on Wednesday mornings, the Coffee mornings on alternate Thursdays, and to Aggies to the church led Community Fridge on Wednesdays and the Hub on Thursdays. There are also many other things happening in the village this month, most notably, the Village Fair on Saturday, 16th.

So, there is much to do in Hurst Green in the coming weeks, and so much to enjoy, all of which should help you to ward off any blues that you may experience in this 'blue month'.

Every blessing.

Mary Seller, Assistant Priest, St John's



SAVE THE DATE! Hurst Green Village Fair Saturday 16 September from 1pm

The theme of the fair is magic this year and there will be a magician as entertainment - Edwin The Mesmerist. Edwin will do a short show and then walk around the fair doing close up magic tricks for visitors. There will be other entertainment from The Oxted Band, Kerry Payne Academy of Dance and Saxville Jazz band.

Food will be available from Kanaan's Wedding Services offering an Indian BBQ, Federicci Pizza and there will be sweet treats from Enti's ice-cream van and a donut stall. Katie's Fizz Shack will be serving prosecco and other alcoholic beverages.

There will be various stalls from our local schools and churches. St John's have arranged a bouncy castle as usual and there will be an array of craft stalls selling beauty products, pashminas, cupcakes, kitchenware, children's clothes, handmade candles, interesting models and ornaments and original art.

There will be lots of fun stalls for children with balloons, poppets, hoopla, roller ball and the unrideable horse from Titsey Rotary. Oxted and Limpsfield Cricket Club will be teaching some basic skills and we also have tombolas (not only for the children)... and lots more.

The fair promises to be a fun afternoon so make sure you come along to the green next to Aggies (who will also be serving tea and cakes) from 1pm to 4pm on Sunday 16th September.



Tandridge Club for Visually Impaired has moved to a new venue and will now be on the **2nd and 4th Mondays in the month at St Agatha's Hall from 2.30pm**. The group would love some new members to join – really bad eyesight is not a requirement, any age-related dimming is fine. They are a social, chatty group and host great speakers. Please find below their programme for the rest of 2023:

11 September – "Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers" - Colin Vane
25 September – "What Made the 1920's the Roaring 20's" - Katherine Collett
9 October – General Knowledge Quiz
23 October – A Good Meeting
13 November – Winter Fire Safety – Catherine Hayman
27 November – Alex Lewer & Include Choir
11 December – Christmas Poems and Readings

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS**

The Club is a cheerful group where members gain confidence and benefit mutually from being with people who face similar problems around sight loss and from being in a secure and non-threatening environment. If you would like more information, please contact diana.drysdale@godstone.net / 01883 742 708.

Traditional Village Flower Show Hurst Green Gardening Club

Presented by Hurst Green Gardening Club there will be flowers, produce, preserves, crafts, flower arranging and homemade teas!

**Sunday 3rd
September 2023
at St Agatha's Hall
2-4pm**

For further information or to enter any of the classes, please visit the Gardening Club's website: www.hggardeningclub.blogspot.com or contact the show's secretary, Jilly Ball, on 01883 715896.



HURST GREEN & OXTED CHURCHES WELCOME YOU

At St John's Church there are services of Holy Communion on Sundays at 8.30am (said) at 9.45am (sung) and at 12.30pm on the 4th Wednesday each month, followed by lunch. The 9.45am service is available via Live Stream. The church is open every day from 10am to 4pm. For updates and the latest information, please check websites below.

ST JOHN'S, HURST GREEN

Vicar: Vacancy at present
Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

Assistant Priest: Mary Seller, 01883 715675

Curate: Lotwina Farodoye, 07553 305087

Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary:
Monica Fenton, 01883 715769

Reader: Wendy Hewitt, 07789 680653
www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 01883 712 017,
www.hgec.org.uk

KING'S CHURCH

Contact: King's Centre, 33 Amy Road, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0PW
Simon Quincey, 01883 734 805,
www.kingschurchforyou.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

All Saints' Church Chichele Road, Oxted, 01883 627 762
St Ambrose Church Warren Park, Warlingham
Parish Priest Fr Stephen, 01883 713776
www.oxtedandwarlinghamparish.org

OXTED UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The Church of the Peace of God
21 Bluehouse Lane, Oxted, 01883 730 406
oxtedurc@gmail.com

Church Administrator:

Claire Harris, 01883 730 406
www.oxtedurc.org.uk



Lotwina Farodoye, the Oxted Team Curate is leaving us to take up appointment as Vicar of Christ Church, West Wimbledon. Her last service will be at St John's Church on Sunday 3 September at 09.45.

We are arranging a leaving party for her which will take place on **Saturday 9 September from 15.00 - 17.00 in the York Rooms, St John's Church**. Cake, tea and prosecco will be served! Please put the date in your diary and come along to wish Lotwina and her family well.

We are arranging a collection for her and there are various ways in which you can contribute:

- Pay by card online at https://bit.ly/StJohnsHG_Lotwina
- Pay by bank transfer to Sort Code: 40-52-40 Account: 00033188 Name: The PCC of the Ecc Parish of St Johns Hurst Green, and please use reference "Farodoye collection"
- Write a cheque made payable to "The PCC of the Ecc Parish of St John's Hurst Green", place in an envelope marked "Farodoye collection" and place in the lower wall safe (marked 'Donations') in the church porch
- Place cash in an envelope marked "Farodoye collection" and place in the lower wall safe (marked 'Donations') in the church porch
- Alternatively, cheques can be posted to 26 Orchard Way, Oxted RH8 9DJ

There will be a book at the back of St John's church (the church is open every day from 10.00 - 16.00) in which you can write messages for Lotwina and her family. The book will also be available at the leaving party if you don't manage to write in it before then.

Lotwina has been with us for three years and has contributed significantly to our parish life. In particular, Lotwina was the person behind the idea of a Community Fridge and was instrumental in setting it up and it has been so successful that it has recently celebrated its first birthday. Lotwina, we're going to miss you, your boundless enthusiasm and cheerful spirit - we wish you and your family every happiness in your new parish.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK



Crochet refresher and next steps workshop

This workshop will be perfect for those who have just learnt to crochet as well as those who want to refresh their skills. There will be a reminder of the basic crochet stitches such as double crochet, chain and slip stitch, and then you will learn how to read crochet patterns, both diagram and word formats, while making some small pieces.



Saturday 30 September
10am to 3pm
£38 per person



Includes all materials. Light refreshments will be available but please bring your own lunch.

The workshop will be held at The Woodhouse Craft Centre, Hoskins Road, Oxted RH8 9HT (opposite the Leisure Centre).

To book your place contact the Woodhouse Craft Centre on 01883 715189 or thewoodhousecentre@gmail.com.

It's time to grow
It's time to enable
CHANGE!
JOIN THE BOARD!

Do you want to do more? Why not help build accessible, inclusive, healthy communities to enable everybody to have a positive quality of life? Join a global award-winning social enterprise as it starts its new venture as a CIC. We need you!

The Board

The Board works to keep the machine of **The Accessibility Project** running day to day. Our Chief Executive Officer, **Abi Chapman**, guides the way but we all have a voice and we are all heard. We are currently looking for:

- **Chief Operations Officer**
- **Chief Admin Officer: Secretary**
- **Chief Governance Officer**

Management Committee

We aspire to have a collaborative, diverse management committee of people from all walks of life. We are open to people of all levels and experiences and will help you to grow and develop personally and professionally.

- **People & Experience**
- **Policy & Governance**
- **Strategy & Impact**
- **Fundraising & Growth**
- **Community Projects**
- **Design & Communications**
- **Marketing & Campaigns**

If you are interested in any of these voluntary positions or believe you can bring something else to the project please email:
theaccessibilityprojectuk@gmail.com



Holy Baptisms

We welcome into the family of God's Church

24 September:

Henry Andrew John Cook
Caleb Geoffrey Wilson

St John's Book of Remembrance

To have a name entered,
Email: office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

Come and join us for
COFFEE and a CHAT



St John's Room
St John's Church

Fortnightly on Thursdays
7th and 21st September
10.30am-12 noon

Need a lift? **Ring Barbara**
on 01883 715636

Hazelwood School's Bawtree Concert Hall is set to play host to a thrilling line-up of singers, ensembles and instrumentalists more usually associated with London's finest classical music venues. **The Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society** has announced six concerts in its new season, starting October 2023 and running to June 2024. All concerts start at 7.30pm and tickets are £30 each, with free entry for under-25s. You can buy a season ticket (£125 for the six concerts, a 30% saving on the cost of individual tickets) which will shortly go on sale alongside individual concert tickets on the Society's website: www.olms.org.uk.



Dates for your Diary 2023

- 1 September:** Oxted Country Market, Friday mornings, 9.30-11.30am, Woodhouse Centre, Oxted.
3 September: Hurst Green Gardening Club, Annual Village Show, St Agatha's Hall, 2-4pm.
Contact: Show Secretary, Jilly Ball, 01883 715896.
4 September: Tandridge Handicraft Society, Woodhouse Centre, Oxted. Every Monday, 1.30-4.30pm.
Contact: Jenny Beal (Chairman) 01883 620730. Autumn term begins.
6 September: Yo Yo's playgroup, Wednesdays in term time, St John's Church, 9.15-11.15am.
6 September: Community Fridge, every Wednesday, St Agatha's Hall, 11.15am-12.30pm.
7 September: Hurst Green Community Hub, every Thursday, St Agatha's Hall, 1-3pm. Need a lift?
Call Cerys Williams, 07855 987077.
11/25 September: Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.30-4.30pm, St Agatha's Hall.
Call: Carol Leach 01883 382031.
14 September: Pollards Oak WI, York Rooms, St John's Church, 7.45pm. Bhutan – Land of Gross National Happiness. Speaker: Jenny Nockolds. Call: Jan Ward, 01883 712143.
27 September: Lecture in Limpsfield Church Hall, Jennie Churchill - Winston's American Mother: Style Icon and Seductress. Speaker: Anne Sebba. Welcome drinks from 1.30pm, lecture, 2.15pm.

St Agatha's Hall

To enquire about booking, contact the

Booking Administrator:
07769 001796 or
aggieshall@gmail.com

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

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Acts from both sides of the Atlantic come to Hurst Green to celebrate Americana

THE
OXTED
SESSIONS

On Sunday 1st October, **The Oxted Sessions** brings five internationally touring artists of the Americana genre (which takes in elements of folk, country and blues) to Hurst Green for 'Americana in the Fall', a one day festival celebrating the genre.

Opening proceedings will be Rod Picott, a stalwart of the Americana scene who has lived in Nashville for over twenty-five years, during which time he has released over a dozen albums, powerfully narrating the blue-collar world he grew up in. Next comes Dietrich Strause, a Boston-based songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, whose combination of gorgeous melody and poetic lyrics has made him a firm favourite on the circuit. The British Americana scene will then get representation from Hatful of Rain. Based in the south-east of England they play a variety of instruments, each taking turns on guitar, banjo, mandolin and double bass, while using a 'single mic' approach in order to capture an intimacy and unity in their songs. Heading into the evening, award winning US singer-songwriter Jesse Terry, whose rich storytelling in his music has earned numerous comparisons to the likes of Jackson Browne, James Taylor and Paul Simon, as well as leading to his music being featured in numerous TV shows, including the popular Netflix series 'Virgin River'. The festival will close with a full band set from Cardiff-based Zervas & Pepper, whose sound mirrors the classic harmony laden folk of the 1960/70s scene, gaining them comparisons to Joni Mitchell and the early stylings of Lindsay Buckingham and Stevie Nicks. They have been played on BBC Radio 2 and BBC 6 music; have supported Deacon Blue on a UK tour; and have been acclaimed by the likes of The Guardian and the prestigious Rolling Stone Magazine.

'Americana in the Fall' is at the Hurst Green Community Centre on Sunday 1st October.

Doors open at 2pm, and the event finishes at 8.30pm. A bar will be available throughout the event, and a food van will be on site for some of the afternoon/evening (exact timings TBC).

Tickets are priced at £25, though there are discounts available for groups and under-26s. Full information and tickets are available at wegottickets.com/oxtedsessions.

An update from Ruben's Fund in his birthday month

Ruben was born on World Heart Day (29 September), but unfortunately died when he was just 3 ½ months old due to dilated cardiomyopathy. There is still a great deal of research to be done into the disease so his family, who live locally and whose grandfather prints the Hurst Green News, set up Ruben's Fund to raise awareness and £200,000 to allow the specialist research team at Royal Brompton to set up a focused and dedicated project to research genetic diagnosis. This will help predict disease course, open avenues for personalised treatment, and have implications for family screening. As most paediatric cardiomyopathy remains genetically unexplained, there is an urgent need to better understand genetic susceptibility and underlying disease mechanisms. Ruben's family said *'If we can help just one baby or child suffering the effects of Cardiomyopathy, by supporting the science to look into this, then this will be our privilege and honour - all in the name of our beautiful baby boy, who impacted so many people in his short life.'*

At the time of writing, Ruben's Fund has raised a magnificent £137,148, but if you feel you can help Ruben's family reach their goal of £200,000 please donate at www.rbhcharity.org/appeal/rubens-fund or visit Ruben's Fund on Facebook. Thanks for your support.



Open afternoons at Limpsfield air raid shelters

Friends of Limpsfield Common in association with the National Trust recently invited members of the public for a guided tour of the air raid shelters which were built in 1940 to protect children at Limpsfield School. Volunteers, dressed in military uniforms, took groups down into a shelter and talked about how it must have felt for young children. What did the local school children do when there was a bombing raid in World War 2? Try to imagine what it would have been like in an air raid shelter.

The next Open Afternoon will take place on Sunday 17 September, 2-4.30pm.

To book your place (visits on the hour and half hour) please email: lorna@chartcroft.com indicating name, number in party and preferred time. The visits are being organised by volunteers. Donations on the day to Friends of Limpsfield Common would be appreciated.



A solar panel buying scheme for residents re-launches

Investing in renewable energy generation cuts carbon emissions and can save you on your energy bills. Purchasing solar panels can be costly, but with a new community led initiative you can install solar panels for less. Solar Together is a group buying scheme where you can come together with others in your community to invest in solar panels with optional battery storage and EV charge points. You can be confident you are paying the right price for a high-quality installation from pre-approved installers.



Solar Together



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

If you already have solar panels, you can also get involved in the scheme to purchase retrofit battery storage to get more from the renewable energy your panels are already generating as well as increase your independence from the grid.

It is free to register and there is no obligation to go ahead with an installation. In 2021 around 1,400 Surrey residents benefitted from the installation of solar panels and battery storage. You can [find out more here: www.solartogether.co.uk/surrey/landing](http://www.solartogether.co.uk/surrey/landing)

Hurst Green Neighbour of the Month

for September is Bob Evans. Bob has been nominated not only by his neighbour, Laura, but also by people on neighbouring streets! Bob brings joy to many people. He puts the dustbins away each Friday for all his immediate neighbours, sits in his front garden on sunny days, always with a smile, a wave and a joke for passers by. Bob will be known to many children in Hurst Green as he creates, in his garage, with the help of his wife and daughter, a variety of "grottos" for Easter, Halloween and Christmas. He also came to the rescue as Santa at the Home Park Christmas light show when Santa was too busy on Christmas Eve. Thanks Bob for all that you do!

If you would like to nominate someone for being a great neighbour/friend or have witnessed an act of kindness, please email us at: hgncompiler@gmail.com.



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