# **NEWSLETTER-SEPTEMBER 2025**

## St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

## Welcome to St John's!

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven Ecclesiastes 3:1

I noticed how early the leaves have begun to fall from some of the trees in the garden. It has looked quite autumnal since the middle of August. I heard that this is how the trees have responded to the lack of water in the soil due to the long hot summer.

I think we have a lot to learn from this deep and gentle wisdom.

To grow and flourish as a church we need to allow God to guide us in letting go and embracing the new.

I am really encouraged by how well Bubble Church has been going and pray that we can further develop our relationships with young families. We also have some great opportunities to connect with the wider community in special services and fundraising events during autumn.

My hope for St John's is that we would be excited about creating a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone who comes through the door.

Every blessing, Sue

### Services at St John's this month

Friday 5 September, 2.30pm:

Funeral of Mary Saunders - more info overleaf

Sunday 7 September: Trinity 12 (Proper 18)

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: All Age Eucharist Theme: stepping out in faith. Everyone is welcome to stay for bacon rolls and pastries after the service!

**Sunday 14 September: Trinity 13 (Proper 19)** 8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

**Wednesday 17 September, 12 noon:** Eucharist, followed by homemade soup lunch (usually every 4th Wednesday but please note change this month.)

Saturday 20 September 12 noon:

Wedding of Harry Dalton and Georgina Muscio

**Sunday 21 September: Trinity 14 (Proper 20)** 8.30am: Said Eucharist (**in the York Rooms**) 9am: Bubble Church **10am**: Parish Eucharist

(In future, the Parish Eucharist on 3rd Sundays will start at 10am to allow more time after Bubble Church)

**Sunday 28 September: Trinity 15 (Proper 21)** 8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist



PIMM'S AND STRAWBERRIES St George's Church, Crowhurst Sunday 31 August 3.30 - 5.30pm Please join us!

#### **Monica Fenton**

It was Monica's 90th birthday on 12 August.

We offer her our congratulations,
and send her all our love.

She was delighted to receive the birthday card on
THE day, signed by so many of us. This picture
shows her with her husband, Victor, at her party.



continued over the page....

The October Newsletter will be available on Sunday 28 September.

Please send anything to be included by Sunday 21 September to Janet Harman at office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk, or phone 715301 (and leave a message if I'm out!) Thank you.

## St John's Notices

#### facebook.com/stjohnshurstgreen

**MONICA continued:** Monica is not too well now, but was a Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary for many years, and served as a hospital chaplain, as well as doing pastoral work in the parish, using her many talents for our benefit, and to keep the wheels of the parish turning.

#### **COFFEE and a CHAT**

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon
Thursday 4 September. On Wednesday
17 September there will be afternoon tea at
Titsey Place (instead of meeting on Thursday 18th)
If you need a lift, please ring Barbara: 715636.

**REST IN PEACE:** Sadly, there have been a number of deaths over the last few weeks that we should note:

**Mary Saunders**, formerly of Nunappleton Way, wife of the late Tony, died on 27 July. Tony and Mary were great contributors to the Hurst Green community over the years. Her funeral will be at St John's on Friday, 5 September at 2.30pm.

Brian Brackpool, for so many years a supporter and faithful worshipper with us, died on 14 August. His funeral is at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, St Richards Chapel, at 3pm on Friday, 10 October. The family invites anyone who would wish to attend, to do so - they will be most welcome. A Memorial Service for Brian will be held at St John's on Sunday, 12 October at 3pm, when Joan will also be remembered as Joan and Brian were a unique partnership. The service will be followed by refreshments in the York Rooms. We hope that as many as possible will be able to join us in this celebration.

**Sue Olver** died recently. Sue was an active member of our church many years ago, and then she and John moved to spend their retirement in Suffolk.

**Derek Say** passed away peacefully on 28 August. He died in the East Surrey Hospital having been there, or in Caterham Dene, for very many weeks. Derek and Susanna joined our congregation when the Methodist Church closed, and have been a wonderful example to us by their regular worship and obvious love of the Lord. They always enjoyed attending the coffee mornings and other functions. Derek continued to attend these and the services even when his back was so painful and his legs had almost ceased to function.

We give thanks to God for the lives of these dear people, and for all that they meant to us. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We send our love and condolences to their families.

THIS YEAR'S 'RIDE & STRIDE' is on Saturday 13 September, raising money for church restoration and repair. Cyclists and walkers are given a list of churches in our area that will be open and that they can visit, mapping out their own route. Get sponsored by family and friends for a fixed sum or a donation per church visited. So, a chance to see some of the fascinating churches in our area, and to raise funds! The money that is collected is divided in two: half comes to St John's, the other half is used by the Surrey Churches Preservation Trust for distribution to churches in need. Speak to Chris Johns for further details; sponsorship forms are on the table at the back of church - more are available from Janet Harman or Chris.

**THE FONT:** In the summer we received news that the Chancellor of the Diocese has granted our application to create a new space for the font. Please take a copy of his judgement from the table in church. The application was part of a wider vision for the mission of St John's. During the autumn we will make space to pray about our mission, working towards a vision day in January.

**THE PIANO CONCERT ON 5 JULY** was well attended by many members of the local community. We are pleased to have received £276 from the proceeds, which were shared between St John's and the Community Centre.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our thoughts are now turning to autumn as we start planning for this year's Autumn Fair! This will be on <u>Saturday 15 November 11am - 3pm</u>. If you're a local craftsperson and would like to book a table to sell your products, please let us know. Previously we've had a great variety of stalls selling lovely things such as pottery, jewellery, fabric art, toys for children, cards, decoupage, and knitted and sewn items, all of which made great Christmas presents. If you're interested, please e-mail office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk or contact Sue Fox 07968 128105.

**ANNIVERSARY OF VJ DAY:** At 12 noon on 15 August, the 80th Anniversary of VJ Day was marked in Hurst Green at the War Memorial by representatives of the British Legion and Oxted Parish Council. Mary led prayers remembering those who lost their lives in the Far East campaign, and wreaths were laid.



HURST GREEN VILLAGE FAIR: Saturday 20 September 12.30 - 4pm. This year St John's will provide a bigger and better bouncy castle, serve teas and cakes in Aggies, and there will also be an appearance from the Bubble Church puppets. We would love your help: can you bake a cake, help to serve teas or supervise the bouncy castle? Please sign up on the sheets in church.

FUNDRAISING BEER TASTING AND CHILLI EVENING: Friday 10 October at St John's Church. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Ever wondered why beer tastes like beer? Or what the difference is between a stout and a porter? Even if you do not think you like beer, we promise to find a beer you like! Enjoy an expert talk on the brewing process and taste a variety of beer styles, followed by a delicious home cooked chilli and dessert. Tickets, £15, must be purchased in advance. To book your place or a table for up to 6 people, contact Debbi Harris, Harris540@btinternet.com or phone / message 07760 183456. Please advise of any dietary requirements. Pick up a flyer from the table in church.

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk Revd Sue Bosley 01883 712674 / 07553 305087

