

HURST GREEN NEWS

January 2026

Did we miss something this Christmas?

There was a familiar pattern as Christmas approached. We became busy.

We organised.

We planned.

We poured time and energy into making sure that Christmas would be good — not just for ourselves, but for those we love. We wanted the meals to be right, the gifts to be thoughtful, the moments to be memorable.

And yet, now that Christmas has come and gone, as the house grows quieter and ordinary life begins to return,

there is a small and unsettling question that lingers. Despite all our effort, did we miss something important this Christmas? In all our determination to enjoy Christmas, it is possible to lose sight of why Christmas exists at all.

The gifts under the tree are never the point in themselves. They are signs. Reminders. Echoes of something far greater. At its heart, Christmas is about God's extraordinary gift to us - His very own Son, Jesus Christ. Christmas is, first and foremost, the story of God's love given freely, generously, and humbly. When that is forgotten, something essential is lost, and no amount of celebration can quite replace it.

And this matters not only for how we feel, but for how we live.

Five years ago, around 30 families in Hurst Green faced Christmas without the things many of us quietly assume will be there. No gifts. No decorations. No festive meal. This year, that number rose to around 90 families and probably more who were waiting for support so that they might have something of what we all take for granted.

In a place marked by relative prosperity and material abundance, we live very close to real need. Often unnoticed. Often unseen. We share streets and shops and schools with people carrying heavy burdens, struggling to provide what others take for granted. Christmas invites us to notice them. It invites us to allow the love we celebrate at Christmas to shape the way we respond. If we wish to avoid that empty feeling when Christmas fades, perhaps the answer is love expressed in action.

This New Year, consider contacting the Tandridge Family Centre on 01883 723496. Ask what you might be able to give from what you have. Food. Time. Resources. Compassion — all of it matters.

And we are left with words that speak quietly, but firmly, to people like us:

"If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." (1 John 3:17-18)

Christmas begins with God's gift to us. It is rediscovered when that gift is shared.

Happy New Year!

Keith Dickson, Pastor, Hurst Green Evangelical Church

The Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society celebrate its 80th Anniversary

Always at the cultural heart of the local community, the Oxted & Limpsfield Music Society's first concert was on St Valentine's Day 1946, making 2026 the 80th anniversary year. We hold true to the original aim of bringing the finest music to our local community.

For our first concert of 2026 we will host The Kleio String Quartet at The Bawtree Hall, Hazelwood School, Oxted RH8 OQU on Saturday, 14 February 2026 at 19.30. The Kleio String Quartet (winners of the 2023 Carl Neilsen International Chamber Music Competition) will perform a magical programme of music.

"A wonderfully dedicated group of musicians who bring assuredness and freshness to everything they play" Alina Ibragimova

Programme:

Ludwig van Beethoven: Quartet in D major Opus 18 No. 3

Edward Elgar: String Quartet in E minor

Felix Mendelssohn: String Quartet in E flat major, Opus 44 No. 3

Tickets are £30 (with free entry for those under 25). Either on the door or by way of our website at www.olms.org.uk.

What is Epiphany?

Epiphany plays a very important role in the Christmas story as the 6th January is the date when the star led the Three Kings or the Three Wise Men, as they are often called, to visit baby Jesus after he had been born. This special date is Epiphany. In Greek the word means 'to reveal' and this is when the baby Jesus was 'revealed' to the world. Sometimes people say 'I've had an epiphany' when they've had a good idea or a realisation and this is where this originates from.

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

Family friendly All Age Service

4th January 2026 - 9.45am -10.30am A service for Epiphany

The story of the wise men Including a star workshop, songs and prayers.

Refreshments afterwards. Everyone is

Welcome! Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

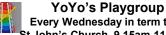




Church service for little ones - St John's Church. **Hurst Green**

Every third Sunday of the month: next one 18th January 2026 Bubble Church is perfect for young families. Action packed with puppets, a bible story and songs. Come for coffee and food at 8.45am.

Bubble Church starts at 9am.



Every Wednesday in term time St John's Church, 9.15am-11.15am

Stay and play session for babies and toddlers with crafts, snacks and songs.

How to recycle your Christmas tree

If you're a Green Waste Club Member with a real Christmas tree you need to throw away, you can cut up your tree (maximum tree trunk 10cm diameter) and put it in your brown wheeled bin. Please make sure the lid is closed. If you're not a Green Waste Club member, please take it to the community recycling centres at Bond Road, Warlingham or Chaldon Road, Caterham. You can also cut it up and put it in your home compost bin. Please don't attempt to recycle wreaths or trees that have been sprayed, painted, or cc, wire you can't remove.



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: Reverend Sue Bosley, 07553 305087

Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

Assistant Priest: Reverend Mary Seller, 01883 715675

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 07392 796852

www.hurstgreenfellowship.org

KING'S CHURCH

King's Centre, 33 Amy Road, Oxted, Surrey RH8 0PW

Simon Quincey, 01883 734 805, **Contact:**

www.kingschurchforyou.org

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

All Saints' Church Chichele Road, Oxted, 01883 627 762

St Ambrose Church Warren Park, Warlingham

Fr Stanislaw (Mycek), 01883 713776 **Parish Priest**

www.oxtedandwarlinghamparish.org

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oxtedurc@gmail.com

Church Administrator:

Claire Harris, 01883 730 406

www.oxtedurc.org.uk





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Walking is simple and free

Walking is sometimes overlooked as a form of exercise but walking has many health benefits such as lowering your risk of high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes, strengthening your bones and muscles, it helps you maintain a healthy weight, boosts your mood, improves cardiovascular fitness, reduces excess body fat and reduces your risk of developing conditions such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes and osteoporosis.

We are lucky to be surrounded by such lovely countryside and walking in a group is a great way to start walking, make new friends and stay motivated.

If you are interested in walking visit the East Surrey Walkers Group at

www.eastsurreywalkers.org.uk where you will find full details of their walking programme for 2026.



Come and join us for SJohn's COFFEE and a CHAT



St John's Room, St John's Church **Fortnightly on Thursdays** 8th and 22nd January 2026 10.30am-12 noon Need a lift? Ring Barbara on 01883 715636

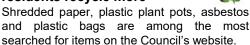
Kings Church for you LAUNCH NIGHT 7.30pm, Wednesday 28 January @ Gurkha Kitchen, Oxted. You're invited to join us for our Alpha Launch Night. Come and enjoy a free meal and hear more about the upcoming course. 8-9:45pm, Wednesday 4 February @ The King's Centre. The course runs over 7 evenings. It consists of talks that explore the Christian faith and encourage conversations in an informal and relaxed environment. No question is out of bounds, and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you like. Explore. WEEK/EVENT DATE DAY TOPIC Launch Night 28 Jan Is there more to life than this? Wed Week 1 4 Feb Wed Who is Jesus? (part 1) Week 2 11 Feb Wed Who is Jesus? (part 2)

Week 3 25 Feb Wed Why did Jesus die? (part 1) Why did Jesus die? (part 2) Week 4 4 Mar Week 5 11 Mar How can I have faith? HS Day The Holy Spirit (who, what, how) 14 Mar Sat Week 6 18 Mar Wed How does God quide us? Week 7 25 Mar Wed Does God heal today? To book your place please

No Alpha (half-term)

get in touch with Simon Quincey on 01883 734 805 or quincey@kingschurchforyou.org

Quick and simple tool that helps residents recycle more



The easy to use search, What do I do with? shows how to recycle or safely dispose of over 400 everyday items - from flip flops and walking aids to hangers and paint brushes.

It also includes information about kerbside collections for batteries, vapes, small electrical items and textiles, as well as local recycling centres and other disposal options.

Top searches in the district and what to do:

- Shredded paper: Home compost or put in your blue recycling bin.
- Plastic plant pots: Recycle at your local community recycling centre (CRC).
- Asbestos: Epsom CRC please call ahead
- Plastic bags: Supermarket soft plastic bins or in your blue recycling bin.

Find the tool under What do I do with? at www.tandridge.gov.uk/recycling.



Our mission is to encourage more adults in our community to be: MORE ACTIVE MORE OFTEN

FREE training sessions, stretching and health advice.

2pm Monday Session 2pm Friday Session

Join us at Mill Lane Recreation Ground, Hurst Green RH8 9DF



RECRUITING NOW! **Home Start** Surrey



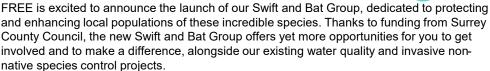
FULL TRAINING GIVEN - PREP COURSE STARTS WEDNESDAY 21ST JANUARY TO 25TH MARCH

Calling all parents and grandparents... Do you have a few hours a week to support vulnerable families in Redhill & Reigate? Come and join our friendly team.

Please call us for a chat on 01737 770220 or email info@home-starteastsurrey.org.uk.

Friends of the River Eden Ecosystem (FREE)

- dates for your diary and a new project!



Our seasonal walk along the River Eden takes place on Sunday 11th January, a celebratory event at The Diamond Pub on Tuesday 17th February, and opportunities to tour a Southern Water wastewater treatment works (TBA). FREE is free to join, as are all our events, and open to all.

For full details of events and volunteering opportunities, please email HelloFREESurrey@gmail.com.



Dates for your Diary January 2026

4 January: Tennis for all adults (members/non-members). 10am-12pm. Hurst Green Tennis Club.

5 January: Tandridge Handicraft Society. Weekly meetings on Monday. Woodhouse Centre.

Term starts. www.tandridgehandicraftsociety.org.uk.

12/26 January: Tandridge Club for the Visually Impaired, 2.30-4.30pm, 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, St Agatha's Hall. Call for info and transport: Chair, Diana Drysdale, 01883 742708. 14 January: Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall, 7.45pm. 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Contact: hggardeningclub@gmail.com or go to hggardeningclub.blogspot.com.

15 January: Pollards Oak WI, York Rooms, St John's Church, 7.45pm. Christmas party. Call: Jan Ward, 07776 310093.

20 January: David Gresham House Open Morning, 3rd Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm.

20 January: Meno meet up, 3rd Tuesday of the month, Tandridge Heights, 6.30-8pm.

Every Wednesday in termtime: YoYo's playgroup, St John's Church, 9.15-11.15am. Every Wednesday: Community Fridge, St Agatha's Hall, 11.15am-12.30pm.

Every Thursday: Hurst Green Community Hub, St Agatha's Hall, 1-3pm.

Every Friday: OXTED COUNTRY MARKET - 10am to 12 noon at the Woodhouse Centre - for artisan crafts, produce and a hot drink.



St Agatha's Hall

To enquire about booking, contact the

Booking Administrator: aggieshall@gmail.com 07769 001796

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

East Surrey Domestic Abuse Service

www.esdas.org.uk

Dial 999 and press 55 while on the line if you cannot speak or call ESDAS: 01737 771 350

Sunday 11th January 2026 4.30pm - 6.30pm

LIMPSFIELD COMMUNITY ORCHARD





From 4.30pm - Assemble inside Limpsfield British Legion.

5.30pm - Torchlit procession through the woods to the Orchard where we offer cider, toast and salt to the King Tree to ensure a good harvest.

- Rattles, drums, whistles, tins welcomed; anything to make a loud noise & ward off bad spirits! Bring your own torch and a mug.
- Wear footwear suitable for walking through muddy woods, and warm & waterproof clothing - the more colourful, the better!
- Enjoy mulled cider & apple juice around the bonfire & a singalong.

Everyone is welcome. This is a family-friendly event.

Limited parking. Please only bring a car if necessary. Donations very welcome to help us

cover our costs For more information visit our blog https://orchardlimpsfield.blogspot.com/



New **Mat Pilates class** opulace Pilates starting in Hurst Green

First class on Friday 23 January 2026 at 10.10am St Aggies Hall, Greenhurst Lane,

Hurst Green.

Beginners and other levels welcome. Other classes available.

Contact 07956507431 or email kylie@populacepilates.co.uk www.populacepilates@outlook.com



PARISH REGISTERS



Funerals

Our sympathy goes to all their relatives and friends.

9 December: Sheila Geal

St John's Book of Remembrance

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

Fresh Focus for the New Year - a great time for photography

January is often a time for resolutions — a chance to take up a new hobby or rekindle an old passion. If you've ever thought about exploring photography, winter is a surprisingly good place to start. While many put their cameras aside, the colder months offer a quiet beauty: low golden light, glistening frost, long shadows, and misty landscapes waiting to be captured.

At Tandridge Photographic Society, members find inspiration all year round. Whether you're discovering photography for the first time or looking to refine your skills, the club offers a welcoming space to learn, share ideas, and grow creatively. Meetings include talks by experienced photographers, practical workshops, image critique evenings, and friendly competitions. There are also regular outings — from local woodlands and wildlife reserves to street photography sessions and seaside visits.

Our members use everything from phones to professional cameras, proving that great photography isn't about expensive equipment — it's about seeing the world with curiosity and imagination. Start this winter.

To find out more visit www.tandridgeps.org.uk or email info@vtps.org.uk.





Therapeutic knitting is a powerful tool for managing stress, anxiety, and depression, offering both mental and physical health benefits through its rhythmic and repetitive nature. On 19th January 2026 the Tandridge Handicraft Society is hosting a talk presented by Dr Paula Redmond on Therapeutic Knitting. Dr Redmond will explore the many benefits knitting has to offer for our mental health. Doors open 1:30pm, talk starts at 2pm. Visitors are welcome, £7 entry including tea and biscuits.

The Society meet every Monday at the Woodhouse Centre, Hoskins Road car park, opposite Tandridge Leisure Centre, Oxted RH8 9HT. Further details are on our website www.tandridgehandicraftsociety.org.uk or contact Jenny Beal on 01883 620730.



Neighbour of the month for January

The neighbour of the month for January goes to Sam Britton. Sam is not only a Hurst Green resident, but she has worked tirelessly over the Christmas period as our local Evri delivery driver ensuring that we all received our presents and parcels for loved ones in time for Christmas.

We would also like to thank all the post office staff at Royal Mail and at the local shops in Hurst Green who delivered our cards and present orders near and far this Christmas.

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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