

NEWSLETTER-APRIL 2026

St John the Evangelist, Hurst Green

Welcome All | Deepen Faith | Inspire Action

Welcome to St John's!

As we move into the heart of spring, the arrival of April brings with it a time of renewal and reflection.

This is a special season in the life of the Church as we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter. It is a time when we remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and give thanks for the good news of God's love, redemption, and new beginnings.

The Easter season invites us all to reflect on the themes of hope and transformation that are at the heart of this celebration. Whether through moments of quiet reflection, acts of kindness, or coming together with family and friends, may we all renew our sense of community and shared purpose. With every blessing, Sue

Services at St John's this month

Maundy Thursday 2 April, 7.30: Sung Eucharist

Good Friday 3 April, 9.30am: with dramatic reading of the Gospel, John 18 and 19. *See below for other events today: Stainer's Crucifixion and Walk of Witness*

Sunday 5 April Easter Day 8.30am: Said Eucharist
9.45am: Easter Day Eucharist - *more details on poster*

Sunday 12 April: Easter 2

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

Sunday 19 April: Easter 3

8.30am: Said Eucharist (in the York Rooms)
9am: Bubble Church 10am: Parish Eucharist

Wednesday 22 April 12 noon

Mid week Communion in the Lady Chapel
All are welcome to stay for a homemade soup lunch in St John's Room afterwards. Every 4th Wednesday.

Sunday 26 April: Easter 4

8.30am: Said Eucharist 9.45am: Parish Eucharist

The Crucifixion by John Stainer

This year two local churches will perform this oratorio, composed in 1887. It follows the events of Christ's Passion from Gethsemane to his death on the cross, blending scripture, poetic reflection and congregational hymns.

Stainer's intention was to create a work of beauty which could be sung annually as a devotional act.

Palm Sunday (29 March) at 6pm

St Mary the Virgin, Church Road, Horne, RH6 9LA

Good Friday (3 April) at 7pm

St Peter & St Paul, Church Hill, Nutfield, RH1 4JA



St John's Church, Hurst Green

EASTER DAY

5TH APRIL 9.45AM

A joyful celebration with music, prayers and Holy Communion.

Including craft for children and an Easter bonnet parade.

Everyone is welcome.

st John's
HURST GREEN
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Good Friday, 3 April

Gather at Tandridge Council Offices from 12 noon, to begin the walk through Oxted at 12.15pm, ending at the war memorial.

You are invited to join us afterwards for a light lunch at Oxted URC, Bluehouse Lane, starting at 1.30pm.

The May Newsletter will be available on Sunday 26 April.

Please send anything to be included by Sunday 19 April 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

COFFEE and a CHAT

St John's Room, 10.30am - 12 noon
Thursdays 2, 16 and 30 April



If you need a lift, please ring Barbara: 715636.

ELIZABETH HERBERT: A former parishioner, Elizabeth Herbert, celebrated her 102nd birthday in March. Sprightly and alert as ever, she entertained me in her Sycamore Court home. Adept at most things when was a member of our church, Elizabeth was particularly a wonderful flower arranger, and she helped to re-tile the kitchen in St John's Room in memory of her husband Arthur. Her only comment about her birthday was that when she looks down at her hands, she can't believe they are 102 years old! *Mary*



CONGRATULATIONS to MARY SELLER who is to be presented with the Lancelot Andrewes Medal. Lotwina nominated Mary for the award, which is given by Bishop Christopher in recognition of 'godly service and zeal for the gospel'. Bishop Christopher will be coming to St John's on Sunday **5 July at the 9.45am** service to present the award to Mary. This Sunday will be a traditional Parish Eucharist in which the Bishop will also preach and preside. (The all age service will swap to 12 July). Everyone is welcome, please put the date in your diary for this special service.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: There will be another beer and chilli evening on Friday 16 October, 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

ALAN COOMBE RIP: It was with sadness that we learned that Mr Alan Coombe died, and his funeral took place on 23 March. Alan was a Methodist local preacher, respected and loved by all. He is remembered as a kindly, caring and godly person. Even though confined to his Home Park house in his final years, he continued to write and pray. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. His wife, June, predeceased him a number of years ago. We offer our condolences to his remaining family and friends. *Mary Seller*

CROSS ARTWORK:



The project to display the plaques which were on the old chairs is progressing steadily. Christine and Pauline from Creative Community have arranged the plaques on a 'mock up' of the cross. The carpenter will take the cross to the workshop and create the final piece of artwork using the limed oak table that used to be in St John's Room.

Other Notices

BARRY COMPTON RIP: We were sorry to hear of the death of the Revd Barry Compton, renowned locally as a Parish Councillor, accountant, squash player and much else. His funeral is on Thursday 9 April at 1pm, at St John the Baptist Sevenoaks, where he ministered and worshipped.

TOAD PATROL: A big Thank You to all who have helped with the Toad Patrol, and to everyone who has slowed down for us while driving near the junction of Church Way and Oast Road.

At the time of writing, there have been 65 'rescues' of frogs and toads, mainly making their way to the pond, although a few were returning to their home gardens. The numbers are slightly down on last year, but are above those for 2024. The early part of February was damp and mild this year, and it is possible that quite a few frogs and toads made their move in the depths of the night when there was no-one around. Certainly there was a fair amount of noise drifting over from the pond by the beginning of March.

We will leave the Toad road signs uncovered until early April, in case there are any stragglers. Meanwhile thanks again to everyone who contributed to the success of the rescue effort. *Adrian*

STEPHEN SILVERSON: Hurst Green welcomes Stephen Silverson as our new Surrey County Council Local Area Coordinator, successor to Cerys Williams. In March, he has met various local volunteers, been taken on an afternoon tour of the length and breadth of Hurst Green, and visited the Hub that meets in St Agatha's Hall on a Thursday lunchtime. He then had to complete further training and meetings before being present in the area every day. Steve looks forward to meeting, very soon, more individuals and community groups, and being able to offer help and advice to families, groups or anyone if the need arises. He can be contacted on 07929 670986 or stephen.silverson@surreycc.gov.uk

ANDREW RUMSEY became the first Team Rector of the newly formed Oxted Team Ministry in 2014, which combined the four parishes of St Mary's Oxted, St Peter's Tandridge, St George's Crowhurst and St John's Hurst Green. Anna Eltringham was subsequently appointed Team Vicar, then Team Rector when Andrew left in 2019 to become the Suffragan Bishop of Ramsbury in Salisbury Diocese. In 2023 Anna became the Bishop of Ripon.



On 19 March 2026 Andrew Rumsey's appointment as the next Bishop of St Albans was announced. Andrew was born, baptised and grew up in the Diocese of St Albans, where his father had served as a parish priest, and will move to St Albans with his wife, Rebecca, and their family later this year.

DAVID GRESHAM HOUSE MONTHLY OPEN MORNING: On the last Thursday of each month (30 April) you are invited to pop in for tea / coffee from 10am - 12 noon to meet the residents and staff.

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