



HURST GREEN NEWS

July 2026

The ups and downs of football and life

There are moments in every World Cup that stop you in your tracks. It might be a goal scored in the final minute, a goalkeeper's save that seems to defy the laws of physics, or simply the sight of a crowd of strangers dissolving into each other's arms in a stadium on the other side of the world.

This summer, billions of people throughout the world are gathering around screens in living rooms, pubs and public squares, to watch the FIFA World Cup. Say what you like about FIFA as an organisation, but more nations belong to FIFA than to the United Nations, and this year more countries than ever before are participating in the Football World Cup. For a few weeks, the whole human family is watching the same thing, breathing the same collective breath.

As a Christian, I cannot help but see this as an icon of the Kingdom of God: that great vision of every tribe and tongue gathered together. We are sometimes tempted to draw a firm line between the sacred and the secular, to imagine that God is found in church, in prayer, in the formal moments of worship, and nowhere else. But the Christian tradition, at its deepest, has always resisted that temptation. God is not confined to our sanctuaries. Jesus took on flesh, walked dusty roads, attended weddings, wept at graves, and shared meals with anyone who would have him.

There are many moments of joy to be found when we enjoy a game together. But there is also the anguish of a player who misses the decisive penalty, crumbling to the turf while his teammates look away. There is the quiet dignity of a team that has played beautifully and lost, leaving the tournament with their heads held high. There is the face of a fan, tears streaming, who travelled thousands of miles for this. Football, like life, does not deal only in triumph. It deals in failure and resilience, in heartbreak and grace.

This year I, like millions of others, wept when I read the letter penned by 19-year-old Yan Diomande to his sister Roxanne. Diomande is representing Ivory Coast in the World Cup, an unparalleled honour and realisation of a dream. But his sister died last year aged 15, after her drink was spiked. One of Diomande's primary emotions, sitting alongside the joy of representing his country on the world stage, is his immense grief. Joy and sadness can coexist alongside one another, sometimes intensely. This is language the Christian faith knows well. We follow a Lord who was himself acquainted with grief, and who we trust to sit with us in ours.

Perhaps most of all, the World Cup reminds us that human beings are made for togetherness. We come alive in community. We need one another. We have the capacity to share in each other's joy and pain. So as summer opens up before us, with open doors and perhaps a little more time and space, may I encourage you to look for that togetherness close to home too. Chat to a neighbour, enjoy time together, linger over coffee instead of rushing away. Perhaps visit the Community Fridge one Wednesday morning and see who you might encounter. God is found on the terraces of the World Cup; He is also found here, among us, in Hurst Green.

Che Ramsden, Local resident and worshipper at St John's Church



The Bishop of Southwark is coming to St John's Church

On Sunday the 5 July The Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark, will lead a special Parish Eucharist at 9.45am, with a presentation of the Lancelot Andrewes Medal to The Reverend Professor Mary Seller. This is given in recognition of 'godly service and zeal for the gospel'. Mary was nominated for the award by Revd Lotwina Farodoye, previously curate at St John's.

All are welcome to attend.

BUBBLE CHURCH

Ideal for young families

A fun 30 minutes of puppets, a bible story, action songs, craft and prayers

Every third Sunday of the month

Coffee at 8.30am ready for a 9am start

St John's Church, Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

Family friendly All Age Service Sunday 12th July, 9.45am - 10.30am

Includes craft workshop, bible story, songs and prayers.

Everyone is welcome!

Church Way, Hurst Green RH8 9EA

YoYo's Playgroup

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.

Sunshine & Smiles

Fun in the sun at St John's

Picnic, Play & Craft Day at St John's Church.

Join us for a summer afternoon of creativity, community and family fun.

Wednesday 29 July 2026
2-4pm
St John's Church, Hurst Green

NB: Please bring a blanket with you. Snacks and crafts will be provided by St John's Church.

www.stjohnshurstgreen.org.uk
Email: office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk

Titsey Rotary Club launches Reduce, Reuse, Repair drive

Looking for simple ways to reduce waste? Join Titsey Rotary Club's "Reduce, Reuse, Repair" day for a lively and inspiring community event dedicated to cutting down what we send to landfill.

The event takes place at **The Woodhouse Centre, Oxted** on **Sunday 26 July, 2-4pm.**

Meet local changemakers working to reduce waste in our community. Find new homes for your unwanted items through organisations including: Bags of Hope, Sal's Shoes, The Hygiene Bank, Their Voice, The Woodhouse Centre, St. John's Community Fridge, The Bike Hub and more. Learn how to repair and reuse your belongings with help from Titsey Rotary Club, Hurst Green Repair Shop & Café, Men in Sheds, and others. Connect with like-minded people who care about the planet. Relax in our café area and enjoy the friendly atmosphere. Whether you want to declutter responsibly, learn new skills or simply be inspired, there's something here for everyone. Why not pop the date in your calendar and be part of the movement towards a more sustainable future?

The August issue of Hurst Green News will be published on 01 August 2026.

Please send material for that issue by FRIDAY 17 JULY 2026 to The Editor: hgncompiler@gmail.com. The Editor reserves the right to edit copy. The Hurst Green News is published by St John's Parochial Church Council (Registered Charity 1133107) as a church and community newsletter. It is financed by advertisements and St John's Parochial Church Council.

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

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF OXTED & WARLINGHAM

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

HURST GREEN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Pastor: Keith Dickson, 07392 796852
www.hurstgreenfellowship.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



KING'S CHURCH

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

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH
OPEN DAY
5TH SEPTEMBER 2026
11am - 3pm**

LOTS TO SEE AND DO FOR EVERYONE

TOWER TOURS, BELLRINGING,
TREASURE HUNT, PARISH REGISTERS AND PHOTOS,
FLOWER ARRANGING,
UNVEILING OF THE CROSS ARTWORK AT 2PM
TEAS AND CAKES.....AND MORE

St John's Church,
Church Way, Hurst Green
RH8 9EA
office@stjohnshurstgreen.co.uk

Free employment support for

18-24 year olds



A new support hub has launched for 18-24 year olds who are currently not in work, education or training. Weekly outreach sessions are held across the district with one in Oxted.

When: Every Thursday

Where: The Woodhouse Centre, Oxted

Attendees can benefit from free, one to one employment support, skills workshops, CV writing, mentoring and help with building confidence and mental resilience.

To find out more and access support, please go to:

www.tandridge.gov.uk/Your-council/Job-support-for-18-24-year-olds

Want to get something repaired for just a donation?

Bring it along and get it repaired by our volunteers

REPAIR SHED & CAFE



Sunday 5th July 2026
Hurst Green Community Centre
4 Oak Close, Hurst Green RH8 0BA
Open: 12pm to 3pm (last repair 2.30pm)



Scan for more info

Get involved and make a difference to your local community
repairedshedandcafe@gmail.com



Holland Sports Football Club Champions

Two of Holland Sports FC junior teams finished top of their league this season and both celebrated in style. Many congratulations to the Holland Sports Ravens U14's on becoming the Epsom & Ewell Girls U14 Champions and to Holland Sports Leopards U12's for winning the Crowborough and District Junior League.

A parent from the Leopards organised a surprise victory parade through Hurst Green on a trailer pulled by a tractor!



Friends of the River Eden Ecosystem (FREE)

Get To Know Your River Walk - Sunday 12 July 9:30am for 10am start. Meet 1, Woodhurst Lane, for an approximately 5km linear walk, finishing at the Diamond Inn. Book at www.riveredensoutheast.org/events.

Himalayan Balsam Bashing event - Help us control this very pretty, but invasive & damaging, non-native species. For a couple of hours of fun, family-friendly outdoors activity, meet on Sunday 19th July at 9:30am at Holland Sports & Social Club car park for a 10:00am start. Sign up at www.riveredensoutheast.org/events.

Bats and swifts - The swifts have arrived! Find out more about these and other wonderful aerial acrobats in your area at www.RiverEdenSoutheast.org/bats-and-swifts
Looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our events!

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday 19th September, 12.30-4pm

HURST GREEN VILLAGE FAIR

**DOG SHOW
CRAFTS*GAMES
CAKES*FOOD*BAR**

How to dispose of bulky waste?

Don't get caught out by criminals who charge to take waste away and then dump it in your neighbourhood.

If you have large items to dispose of, you can book a bulky waste collection with the Council.

They collect sofas, mattresses, washing machines and more – visit our website for the full list.

There's no need to be at home. Just leave items at the edge of your property by 7am on the day of collection.



Prices start from £50, with subsidised rates available from £25.

www.tandridge.gov.uk/Recycling-and-rubbish/Bulky-waste-collections



At the cultural heart of the community for 80 years, the **OLMS** brings the finest music to Oxted and Limpsfield.

The Society is excited to be presenting a performance of the Schubert song cycle

Die Schone Mullerin together with Schubert's six Moments Musicaux by the marvellous HELEN CHARLSTON (mezzo-soprano) and SHOLTO KYNOCH (piano) at **The Bawtree Hall, Wolfs Hill, Oxted RH8 0QU on Saturday 11 July 2026 at 19.30.**

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



**Come and join us for
COFFEE and a CHAT**



**St John's Room, St John's Church
Fortnightly on Thursdays
9th and 23rd July 2026
10.30am-12 noon**

Need a lift?

Ring Barbara on 01883 715636

Dates for your Diary July 2026

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

8 July: Hurst Green Gardening Club, St Agatha's Hall, 7.45pm. 2nd Wednesday of the month. Summer supper/social at St. Agatha's Hall. Contact: hggardeningclub@gmail.com or go to hggardeningclub.blogspot.com.

9 July: Pollards Oak WI, York Rooms, St John's Church, 7.45pm. Service on HM Royal Yacht Britannia. Speaker: John Lane. Call: Jan Ward, 07776 310093.

13/27 July: 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.

16 July: David Gresham House Open Morning, 3rd Thursday of the month, 10am-12pm.

21 July: Meno meet up, 3rd Tuesday of the month, Tandridge Heights, 6.30-8pm

27 July: Tandridge Handicraft Society. Weekly meetings on Monday. Woodhouse Centre. www.tandridgehandicraftsociety.org.uk. End of term and displays of work.

Every Wednesday in termtime: YoYo's playgroup, St John's Church, 9.15-11.15am.

Every Tuesday in termtime: Little Fishes playgroup, Hurst Green Evangelical Church, 9.30-11.15am.

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.



PARTIES • WEDDING RECEPTIONS • MEETINGS • CLUBS
DANCE CLASSES • COFFEE MORNINGS • AND MORE

LOOKING FOR A VENUE FOR A FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY?

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The St Peter's Summer Fete is back!

Join us on Saturday 4th July 12-4pm at St Peter's CofE Infant School, Tandridge.

Enjoy a fun-filled family day out, with everything you would expect from a school fete on offer. From traditional games stalls, pony rides and delicious food and drink, to face painting and vintage tractors.

And of course, the not to be missed, legendary St Peter's Maypole dance will be performed by the Dragonflies (year2) class in the school playground. Other highlights include tug of war, space hopper races and live performances in the main arena.

All proceeds will go towards providing additional learning resources and opportunities for children at the school



Neighbour of the month for July

This month the neighbour of the month goes to all the unpaid carers in Hurst Green. It was Carers Week last month which is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK.

If you know someone who is a carer please give them a huge thank you!

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.



PILGRIM PLACES, Holy Lives

*Journey through history. Discover faith.
Find encouragement for today*

A summer series of Sunday services
26th July - 30th August 2026
at St John's Church

Hear the inspiring stories of the people who brought Christianity to ancient Britain.

Discover how their faith still speaks to us today.

Come as you are, everyone is welcome.

Services are at 8.30am and 9.45am
and include Holy Communion.



Holland Sports Get Fit Club need Personal Trainers!

Please help us keep our free fitness sessions going for senior members of our community, we really need your help. Can you give one hour on a Monday afternoon once or twice per month? Preferably at 2pm or a time that suits you.

Please contact:

GetFit@HollandSportsClub.co.uk

Find us at Mill Lane Recreation Ground, Hurst Green every Monday.



Mighty Oaks Youth Club - Year groups 5-8

Hurst Green Community Centre

Every fortnight on Fridays from 7.30-9.30pm.

Entry is £2 to cover venue hire and there is a small tuck shop.

The club and venue are fully insured, all policies are up to date and all volunteers are DBS checked.

For more info or to volunteer please view the group on Facebook.



Another County Champion for Holland Sports Athletics Club

Eight Holland Sports Athletics Club senior athletes competed in the Surrey County 10-Mile Road Championships, racing around country lanes near Dorking.

The Club returned home with overall race winner and a new Surrey County Champion in Kieran Barnes. Kieran is enjoying an outstanding road racing season. Recent achievements include a new Half Marathon personal best, victory at the Brighton 10km, a new 10km personal best in Manchester, and now the title of 2026 Surrey 10-Mile Road Champion.

This latest success marks Holland Sports AC's third senior men's county championship title in the last 12 months, highlighting the continued strength and progression of the Club's endurance programme.

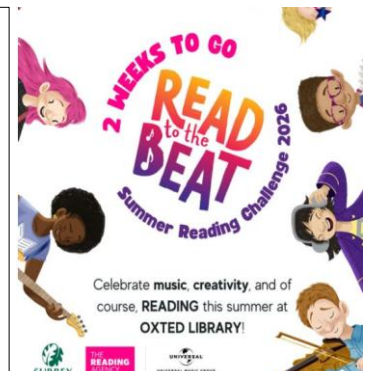
This success has followed on from other great news that Holland Sports athlete, Jack Kavanagh, was selected to compete for Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Italy at The European 10k Cup and more recently at the British Championships in Birmingham finishing with a PB.

Holland Sports Athletics Club is a small and friendly club, and welcomes runners of all abilities, from beginners to competitive athletes. If you are looking to start running or improve your fitness, come along and give us a try - all you need is a pair of running shoes!



FREE dementia training for unpaid carers
Oxted Library 11-12noon
1 July:
Advanced dementia care
8 July:
Tech enabled care (TEC)
To book please email:
Communitiesandpreventionprojects@surreycc.gov.uk

PARISH REGISTERS
Holy Baptisms
We welcome into the family of God's Church
5 July: Dottie-May Patricia McClean Jones.
St John's Book of Remembrance
To enter a name email:
office@stjhurstgreen.co.uk



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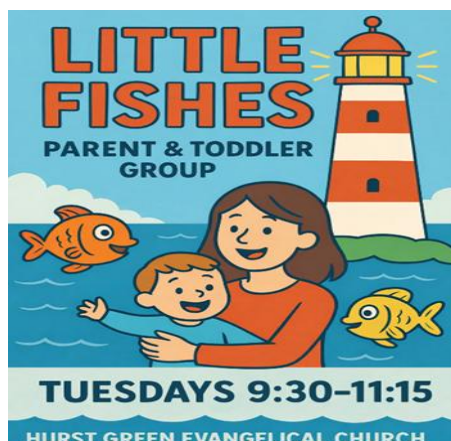
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