

Hurst Village Society

Founded 1972 - celebrating its 40th Anniversary

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Event Newsletter

June 2012

What a GREAT time we all had ! The celebrations in Hurst lasted four days from football training and a "Dads" **5-a-side** competition, events in Churches, pubs and the wine estate throughout the weekend, a very detailed **Treasure Hunt** around the village (which took some people 4 days!) and loads more activities on the Monday and Tuesday.

Monday (4th June) saw the Hurst Football Club field in Hinton Road transformed into the "**Jubilee Arena**" with stage, marquee, local interest and food and drink stalls surrounding a free area for families and friends to bring picnics, set up tables, chairs and tents in view of the stage and join in the "**Street Party**".

The **Opening Ceremony** was performed by Annette Drake, a founder member of the Hurst Village Society and former Councillor for Hurst. The Scouts from the 1st Hurst Group then broke the Jubilee flag. The National Anthem followed, after which we had "Three Cheers for Her Majesty". The local **wind band** entertained with a range of music to get the festivities off to a great start.

The stalls were kept busy, particularly the BBQ where succulent burgers and sausages were being cooked all day to be washed down with beer, wine, tea or coffee.



The afternoon activities continued with the **Hurst's Got Talent** contest which unearthed some great talent in people of all ages - singers, dancers and a magician. This was very entertaining and well received by the attentive (and sometimes vocal) audience.

Meanwhile at the **Cricket** Club round the corner there was an opportunity to try your hand at the game, or just to watch.

Younger people were busy designing and making their own **Crowns** which proved great fun. There were some super Crowns paraded on the stage by their creators, giving the judges a hard job to decide on the winners.



*Marianna
the winning Crown in the older age group*



Cllr. Wayne Smith was called upon to ensure fairness in the traditional **Tug of War** pitting the finest of Hurst (self selected) against the best of the rest. This hard fought battle finally resulted in a win for Hurst (winning 2 out of the 3 pulls)

*Tug of war – long line of Hurst's opponents
stretches into the distance*

The **community stalls** were kept busy and the bouncy castle, the slide and the Sumo wrestling were a highlight for the younger ones.

Live music was provided by the Woodley Brass band and local rock groups who took to the stage at various times during the evening until the disco commenced.

The **Grand raffle** was very popular with excellent sales of tickets on the day. £500 of prizes, including Dinners for two, a picnic hamper and wine, had been donated by local business and individuals and the draw was made by an eager line of children who queued on stage to each draw a winning ticket.



The weather was kind all day and we were able to watch the **bonfire Beacon** lit at exactly 10.15pm as one of the national chain of beacons. The flames took a moment to take hold after so much rain the previous day, and then roared into life to the delight of the crowds who could feel the heat despite being kept well back behind the safety cordon.



On Tuesday the weather was not as kind for the Festivities which moved to Church Hill, where Lady Elizabeth Godsall unveiled a plaque marking the planting of an English **Jubilee Oak** tree in the grounds of the Almshouses. Excellent tea and cakes were served in the Almshouse gardens. St Nicholas Church was open for visitors and bell-ringing. Next door to the Almshouses the **Bowling Club** invited all to try their hand at bowls on their historic green.



The weekend was rounded off with a Service in **St Nicholas Church** led by the Rev. Simon Howard.

Clr Wayne Smith said how pleased he was that the event was financed so that it was free entry to the grounds and delighted it had been so well received by the villagers. He thanked the many village groups who had worked so hard together for months to ensure the event was a success.

Forthcoming event

James Bond Themed

Christmas Dinner Dance

In the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Band, Disco, Grand Raffle and Bar



Saturday, 15th December

The Village Halls, Hurst

7.30pm – midnight

**Tickets: £30members
(£35 non members)**

Dress code: Black tie

NOTE THE DATE NOW !

More details nearer the date