

HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY

Founded 1972

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2022 Issue No. 134

The object of the society shall be to preserve and enhance the character of the Parish of Hurst as a living community.

www.hvs.org.uk



We are delighted to announce that it is our 50th anniversary this year. The Hurst Village Society was initially formed in 1972 as a way to voice the concerns of the residents about the impact of the gravel excavation for the building of the M4 and 329M motorways, both during the works and afterwards. Initial "after" proposals showed a highly commercialised water park, with hotel and funfair as well as other water-based activities— an outcome which would have changed the nature of Hurst irrevocably. The excavations took place over a period of 14 years and Dinton Pastures was opened in 1979. Today we have the enjoyment of this wonderful expanse of countryside and wildlife conservation that is on our doorstep. We have been working hard to preserve and enhance the nature of the village ever since.



** Save the Date **

4th May - Annual General Meeting



28th August - Village BBQ



Notice of the HVS Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 4th May 2022

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Hurst Village Society will be held on Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 7.30pm. The venue will be Stanlake Wine Shop RG10 OBN

All members are welcome to attend and will need to register their intent to attend at sec-retary@hvs.org.uk. Space at Stanlake is limited so to avoid crowding, attendance in person will be first come first serve on pre notification. All are welcome to attend by Zoom. Business of the meeting will be followed by a presentation from Natalia Pezzone, General Manager of Stanlake Park.

Nominations to the Committee can be made and seconded by any paid-up member of the

Hurst Village Society and must be counter-signed by the nominee using the Nomination Form below. Nomination forms must be returned to: secretary@hvs.org.uk not later than noon on 27th April 2022. All paid up members attending the Annual General Meeting are eligible to vote on relevant matters.

Nominations for the election of the Committee of Hurst Village Society

I nominate (please print):

Proposed by (please print):

Signature of nominee:

Seconded by (please print):

Current Committee Members:

Member's Signature:

Member's Signature:

Robin West <u>treasurer@hvs.org.uk</u>
Laura Godsal <u>website@hvs.org.uk</u>
John Osborne planning@hvs.org.uk

Suzy Watt <u>secretary@hvs.org.uk</u>, <u>skills@hvs.org.uk</u>

Roland Thomas <u>membership@hvs.org.uk</u>
Jane Disney communications@hvs.org.uk

Veronika Koekemoer Events

Andrew Wilson Events / Traffic

** SAVE THE DATE **

** HVS Annual General Meeting—Wednesday 4th May



Join us at Stanlake Park for an update on HVS activities during 2021/2022. As well as the business of the AGM, we will have a presentation from Natalia Pezzone, General Manager. Natalia will tell us all about Stanlake Park, the growing and bottling processes and the various wines that are produced at Stanlake Park.

The Wine Shop and Bar at Stanlake Park has a maximum capacity of 50 people, so we will be offering places on a first come, first served basis. Please email sec-retary@hvs.org.uk to book your place. Once we have 50 confirmed attendees we will send out a zoom link to anyone else wanting to join us online.



** Hurst Village BBQ - Sunday 28th August **



Hurst Cricket Club 11am-6pm

SAVE THE DATE

After the huge success of the HVS vs PTA Cricket Match and BBQ in September last year, we are planning a repeat match and village family event for everyone on Sunday 28th August. Come along and join in the fun – bring your deck chairs and join us for the cricket match, the BBQ and games in the sun. Our BBQ will again be provided by our local firm Flame BBQ. Wagu beef burgers with delicious creamy coleslaw were hugely popular last year.

Last year's event was attended by over 200 people, resulting in a surplus of £500 which was shared between HVS and the St Nicholas PTA.

There is something for everyone. More information on the event and how to book your tickets to be published soon , or email us for more information at communica-tions@hvs.org.uk.

Sign up to receive the newsletter by email on our website www.hvs.org.uk

Other Dates for your Diary

Queen's 75th Jubilee Celebrations: Thursday 2nd June Jubilee Beacon Procession

(See back page for more details) Friday 3rd June Jubilee Sports Day

Saturday 4th June Family Festival, Martineau Lane Sunday 5th June Village Street Party, School Road

Start St Nicholas Church Service 11am Visits to Stanlkae Park in the afternoon

Hurst Bowls Club Jubilee Event Friday 3rd June

'The Walnuts with Bells On" Saturday 18th June Starting at Castle Inn

Then on to St Nicholas Church

Hurst Show and County Fayre: Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th June

Multiple locations in village

Party in the Park: Saturday 2nd July

Hurst Football Club field 6pm-midnight

Marvellous Festival Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th July, Dinton Pastures

Hurst Horticultural Society Show Saturday 20th August, Hurst Village Hall

Hurst Bowls Club Annual Quiz Saturday 1st October, Hurst Village Hall

HVS / PTA Christmas Dinner Dance: Saturday 10th December, Hurst Village Hall

Hurst Show and Village BBQ Volunteers Needed!

Many hands make light work! If you'd like to get involved in either event and are able to lend a hand over the weekend of the 25th/26th June and on 28th August, then please let the Show and or HVS know.

The Hurst Show would also love some additional help with car parking, manning the bar and barbecue over the weekend, keeping the village clean and tidy and helping visitors.

Please get in touch by emailing <u>info@hurstshow.uk</u> for the Hurst Show and <u>secretary@hvs.org.uk</u> for the Village BBQ if you'd like to get involved.

Hurst Almshouses

75th Anniversary of the Almshouse Association

In 2021, the Almshouse Association celebrated 75 years of supporting the almshouse movement and their member charities. This milestone gave all almshouses a great excuse for a party and, in Hurst, a garden tea party on the August bank holiday weekend was attended

and enjoyed by trustees and resident from all four sites.

The Hurst Consolidated Charity is

responsible for the four almshouse properties and grounds, with 20 apartments across three locations: two sites in Hurst and one in Twyford. Two of the buildings are Grade II listed C17 brick buildings, one is a 1960s terrace of bungalows



and the fourth is a purpose-designed terrace completed in 2019.

Sir Richard Harrison of Hurst House, had the almshouse in Twyford built in 1640 with six apartments and William Barker commissioned the Hurst almshouses in 1664 for eight poor persons. In 1985 Miss Effie Barker, a descendant of William Barker, and her team of trustees oversaw the creation of 4 new almshouses on site and the refurbishment of the original 8 two-story one up one down units, that were transformed into 4 single story units. The properties are all maintained to a comfortable living standard for their residents.

In 1999 Anne Peck of Hurst Lodge donated a terrace of four apartments (Lodge Close), Hinton Road, that her mother, Lady Ingram originally built for retired nurses. Anne Peck also gave a plot of land adjacent to this terrace in 2005, on which the Richard Bigg almshouses were built in 2019.

The Charity's origins began with the two C17 almshouses and over the centuries a multitude of smaller charities have been incorporated many of which had provided cash, bread, coal, blankets and bibles for the inhabitants. Of these, the more significant are the Richard Bigg bread charity of 1677 and the Lady Harrison charity of 1690. Richard Bigg of Haines Hill, left the rent and profits of the George Inn in Broad Street (now New Oxford Street) to provide bread for the poor of Hurst. Loaves were to be placed on his tomb in St Nicholas Church and be distributed to parishioners on Sundays.

Patrons Award

The Almshouse Association is a membership charity that represents a network of over 1,600 independent almshouse charities across the UK. The charities, including supporting approximately 30,000 almshouses, support approximately 36,000 residents, providing affordable, 'micro-community' homes for local people in housing need.

Each year the association runs a competition for newly built or significantly updated almshouses. The Almshouses Charity entered the newly constructed Richard Bigg Almshouse for the 2020 Award. Although short-listed and complimented on by the judging panel the new development did not win the overall award. For more information contact:

lorraine.gladdish@btinternet.com

HVS Membership Benefits

There are many advantages to be gained from becoming a member of HVS - not least to add your contribution to the many HVS funded projects that benefit the whole of Hurst. It is also an opportunity to join a group of like-minded people committed to maintain and enhance the character of Hurst.

To celebrate 50 years of HVS we are launching a new HVS Members Benefit Scheme. Under this scheme members will be able to take advantage of discounts offered by local businesses. Two local businesses have joined the scheme so far:

Sheeplands Garden Centre: 10% off all purchases in the café, garden shop and farm shop (does not include the deli or the butchers)

Stanlake Park Wine Estate: 10% discount in the wine bar and shop (excludes online orders)

We will be recruiting more companies to the Members Benefits Scheme and will update you on these in our regular newsletters.

Members will need a membership number and a card to access these benefits. To get your new HVS Members Benefit Card please email: secre-tary@hvs.org.uk. If you are not already a member, you can join using the membership form provided on the next page.



Hurst Village Society Membership Application/Renewal

NAME:							
ADDRESS:							
TEL:	E-N	MAIL:					
l would like to	receive periodic local info	ormation by e-mail from the HVS:	YES / NO				
your personal		rotection Act May 2018) require you iil address being held by the HVS. De					
Signature		Date	Date				
Standing Orde	er Instruction to:						
Name of your	Bank:	Branch:	Branch:				
Your Account	Name:	Sort Code:	Sort Code:				
Your Account	Number:						
Payee Details:							
Payee:	Hurst Village Society	Bank: Lloyds Bank plc	Bank: Lloyds Bank plc				
Sort Code:	30-91-11	Account Number: 01349706					
Payment Refe	rence: Your surname follo	owed by first initial					
•	•	I thereafter on 2nd January until fur					
Airiourit.	£5.00 (Please amend thi	is amount if you wish to add a donat	.1011)				

We now have more members paying on-line or by Standing Order. Standing Orders are particularly helpful as they save considerable time in administration and identifying members' payments at the bank. Please ensure any Standing Order or on-line payment is clearly marked in the reference section with your surname followed by your initial.

However, we appreciate that not all members have access to the internet, so we are still happy to receive a cheque and the above form.

We strive to keep the subscription to a low figure of just £5, but many members also add a donation to their subscription payments for which we are most grateful. These sums contribute to the provision of the monthly Newsletters and other projects HVS embarks on throughout the year.

Please contact <u>membership@hvs.org.uk</u> if you'd like to discuss joining the HVS and want to know more about membership.

Please return this form to <u>membership@hvs.org.uk</u> or post to R Thomas, Membership Secretary, Woodside Cottage, Maidenhead Rd, Hurst, Wokingham. RG40 5RH

HVS Activities and Funded Projects

HVS/PTA Village BBQ and Cricket Match: Event Packed All Day Long

The HVS vs PTA Cricket Match and BBQ on Saturday 18th September 2021 was a huge success with over two hundred people coming to join in the fun.

From the moments the gates opened at 11am there was a steady stream of villagers arriving with their deck chairs to enjoy the cricket, BBQ and games in the sun. Tickets sold well in advance with over 50 more people turning up on the day. The last beers were downed at 6.45pm....





Village Family Event for Everyone

The day was the idea of HVS's then Chairman, Jo Newbold, to have an event to bring the village together following 18 months of Covid. Working very closely with St Nicholas School PTA, the event committee masterminded an event that had something for everybody; old fashion children's games (the bouncy castle and archery were particularly popular), a fabulous BBQ by Flame BBQ and 'English Tea' in a box, a jazz trio, as well as an all day bar run by Hurst Cricket Club.

Sponsored by Local Companies

The event was generously sponsored by a number of local companies; **Hiip Organic, Davis Tate Estate Agents in Twyford, and also Waitrose**. All the printing of material was done by **RGB UK** and the HVS players shirts and advertising banners were sponsored and provided by **CGI**. Also a huge thanks to **Hurst Cricket Club** who were central to the day.

The Cricket Match and BBQ were also featured in Wokingham Today, you can see the article on the HVS press page: www.hvs.org.uk/hvs-in-the-press

St Nicholas Parish Room

In May 2021 HVS made a considerable donation of £3,000 to the restoration of the St Nicholas Church Parish Room restoration fund. Over the years it has



fallen into a significant state of disrepair so it will be fabulous to have the room brought back to life and available for all to use .

Village Shop

In July 2021 HVS donated a new noticeboard (made by Hurst Resident, James Girdler), to go outside the Village Shop, to replace the old, rather sad looking one.



This is the start of the shop front refurbishment that the shop owners are undertaking.

HVS Traffic Calming Strategy:

Consistent with the primary concern of HVS: to protect the physical environment and maintain the rural aspect of the area

One of the main concerns that HVS members raise is speeding in Hurst. Our September Magazine (Issue 133) highlighted the problem which members and other residents have been complaining about for years. A lot of work has been done by the Parish Council to reduce speeding, but the problem persists. Following that issue, a discussion about traffic started, including in the local press.

HVS has devised a Traffic Calming Strategy which was presented to Hurst Parish Council at the December Council Meeting. You can view the presentation by visiting www.hvs.org.uk.



Feedback is very important if we are going to take our argument forward and change the situation in our village, especially given the new planning applications for new homes in the village. Contact us at communications@hvs.org.uk. We thank those who have already commented.

Excerpt from the Traffic calming Strategy presentation:

Problem: Difficult to recognise that the roads and the signage relate to a village. Proposed mitigation: • Identify the village area; • Harmonise the speed limits across the village area; • Use coherent and consistent signage in the village area; • Strategically place measures.

Say No to 200 Houses - Banners & Leaflets

Following the outline planning application for 200 houses on the field between Tape Lane and Lodge Road, a Joint Team was set up consisting of HVS, HPC, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and Protect Hurst Action Group to Campaign against the proposal.

HVS financed the £700 cost of 4 banners in the village, plus flyers to distributed to all households in the village to advertise Drop In Meetings on 11th and 12th March 2022, as well as the leaflets detailing the key objections that were distributed after the event.

More information can be found on the HVS website: https://www.hvs.org.uk/tape-lane-land-east-of-lodge-road



Hurst, A New Look At An Ancient Parish Book by Henry Farrar

In 1984, local historian Henry Farrar produced the definitive book on the history of the Vil-

lage. 37 years on he has created a new book of Hurst updating its history and the development of its societies, schools and community as well as the history of many of its houses.

Current owners of these houses will be able to look back and see something of the residents who preceded them on the 1840 Tithe Award. The Tithe Map encompassed the entire parish of Hurst and is huge. It was kept in St Nicholas Parish Church until the 1970s when it was transferred to the Berkshire records office.

Every piece of land and every house was drawn on the map and given numbers in the accompanying apportionment which lists names of property owners and tenants, and how the land was being used. A great reference book for future generations of Hurst Residents.

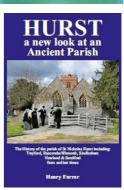
The HVS welcomed Theresa May and highly respected Royal Historian, writer and broadcaster, Hugo Vickers together with a number of local residents to Stanlake Park's Vineyard Shop on 15th Octo-

ber 2021 to celebrate the launch of the book and the opening of the 'Hurst Village Archives'.

The HVS and many local residents have long wanted to create a permanent home for documents and photo-

graphs relating to the history of the village, so that they are accessible to everyone. Huge thanks to Daniel Goss Custard, owner of Stanlake Park for making this possible. To view the archives please email natalia@stanlakepark.com and perhaps indulge yourself in a glass of locally produced wine at the same time.







Priced at £23, you can order copies by emailing secretary@hvs.org.uk

Payment details: Hurst Village Society Bank: Lloyds Bank plc
Sort Code: 30-91-11 A/c No.: 01349706 Ref: Your name/book
Collection is from Village Shop, direct delivery if in central village or by post with
£3.30 postage fee

Also on sale in Stanlake Wine and Gift Shop

The Hurst Village Archives were contacted by a past resident of Hurst:

She writes: "Many thanks for your reply and interest shown. You are more than welcome to have the original photos as I have no one to leave them to. Please let me know and I will send them. Also in due course I will let you know more about the family, have found out a lot of interest. I believe there are descendants of John Chalker in the area now. "



She then sent "The man outside his shop is John Wythe Salter Chalker who was married to an aunt of my father's: Emma Jane Harrison. John W S Chalker born 1862, marries in 1889 and in the 1911 census, is listed as Hurst Supply Stores, mixed grocer baker and farmer. He dies in 1930 at Keysersbridge Farm House, Hurst."

According to the book Hurst: a new look at an Ancient Parish, his son another - JWS

Chalker - was also a baker and grocer in Hurst and became one of the more notable and respected residents. He bred prize cattle and won numerous cups and medals which filled several rooms of his house. He did a great deal of research on cattle diseases and made journeys abroad at the request of foreign governments to advise them on animal husbandry. He was very proud of the MBE which he received for his services to farming.

"Salter died in 1980 at Bridge Farm Twyford, and had lived at Hinton Farm 1939. Their children are in the area apart from Ann who married an American and lived in New York.

The old cottage was where another Harrison sister Rachel, Dad's aunt Ray lived in later life. I remember going in there after she died in 1959, Swan Cottage Hurst. She never married and helped her sister with the children."



These pictures and her letters and family research will now be stored in the Hurst Village Archives.

For access to the Hurst Village Archives, which are stored at Stanlake Park, please email natalia@stanlakepark.com

Hurst Community Updates

Hurst Cricket Club

Hurst Cricket Club 1st XI will be competing in Division 2b of the Thames Valley Cricket League under the leadership of Lewis Smith (07746 487301) with the 2nd XI competing in Division 7a under the leadership of Sam Hawkes (07757 114686).



This season Hurst have entered the inaugural Berkshire Sunday Blast League and will be captained by Steve Morris (07794 662165). Adult nets will be every Tuesday and Thursday commencing on Tuesday 5th April from 6.00pm. Please contact one of the above players if you require more information.

Hurst Colts boys will be competing at U9, U11, U13 and U15 age groups and the girls will be U9 and U11. Also there will be a women's team entering the softball competition. For more information please contact Greg Smith (07716 402434). Hurst will also be running our All Stars for 5-8 years old on a Friday at 5 -5.45pm. The 8 week program will start on Friday 20th May. To book please go to ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/BookCourse/ac0a45cf-637c-455a-8d14-7bd5a82aedb2.

Friday night social gathering will commence on Friday 5th May at the Club for all parents and friends so let's hope the weather is kind to us.

Hurst Football Club



Hurst Football Club is looking for new players across all youth teams. Please contact hurstfc2@gmail.com for more details.

And a date for your diary: PARTY IN THE PARK, Saturday 2nd July—tickets on sale soon!

Any More for Tennis?



Through the generosity of the Dolphin School, residents of Hurst are invited to use the School's excellent tennis courts on Monday evenings throughout the summer.

There are no club or court fees – simply come along at 6.30 on Monday evenings and join in. Players of all standards are welcome.

The first 2022 session will be on Monday 4 April, and we will play through until around mid-August.

Or for more information please contact John Vimpany on 07796 170486 or irvimpa-ny@gmail.com

Hurst Bowling Club circa 1747

Celebrating 275 Years

This year our club celebrates 275 years of bowling on our green. Club members are proud to salute this historic occasion. We are also proud to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Acknowledging such landmark anniversaries is what gives us a sense of belonging and stability. This summer, we hope, will bring our communities back together after our pandemic restrictions.

Trials and tribulations still abound. Storm Eunice was unkind to us. The storm felled the Castle's magnificent chestnut tree and heavy branches destroyed our Victorian outhouse toilets. This presents us with a predicament. We are optimistic though, that a solution can be found. We have several events planned to mark our celebrations, including:

- <u>Saturday</u>, <u>April 23rd</u>. Open day, 12 noon—6pm. Come and try your hand at bowls and to consider this splendid sport as part of their activities. Please wear heel-less "flat soled" shoes. This prevents damage to our ancient bowling green.
- <u>Friday June 3'd</u> we join with the village for a day of sport; another opportunity to mark the Platinum Jubilee. Further notice will be posted on HVS "What's on in Hurst".
- Saturday <u>August 13th</u> Club Fun Day event.

We do, however, need to continue to fundraise. Our ancient clubhouse is at the end of its life. Anyone wishing to help us fundraise or to donate, please contact Ronnie Ashley. 07751653613. v.m.ashley@btinternet.com

Hurst Morris People





Morris dancing in the lovely village of Hurst is about as traditional and summery as you can get. Hurst Morris People (HuMP) are ready to entertain you with their new programme of dance dates. Enjoy a drink as you watch us dance at a local pub. Or travel further to see us at one of the south's great folk festivals. Here are some of our outings:

- May 18 at 8pm at The Jolly Farmer, Hurst RG10 0TH, dancing with Theale Tattoo.
- May 21 at Winchester Mayfest with many other teams.
- May 25 at 8pm at The Bell and Bottle, Shinfield RG2 9EE with Borderline morris.
- June 9 at 8pm, with Old Speckled Hen venue to be confirmed.
- June 14 at 8pm, The Bull, Sonning RG4 6UP, with Taeppa's Tump.
- July 14 at 8pm, The Stag and Hounds, Binfield RG42 4HA, with Customs and Exiles.

Planning Update

Planning is currently a massive issue for the community of Hurst and Hurst
Village Society is always aware that ill-conceived development proposals, both in terms
of size and position, can have long lasting negative impacts on the community as a
whole and on residents.

We all value the unique qualities that Hurst offers but there is a growing recognition that, to ensure the longevity of a strong thriving community such as ours, we are both vigilant, yet mindful, of enhancements that might be acceptable.

Planning, despite successive Government's commitments to make it a more transparent and consistent process, remains a seemingly complex and often controversial process. Yet at the very core of the decision process is a simple rule that must be adhered to and that is "Every individual planning application must be considered on its own merits", albeit in relation to several relevant national and local planning policies and other material planning considerations.

Over the past year HVS has sought to make sure that all planning activities undertaken by the Committee on behalf of the membership are reported on the Planning Letters page on the HVS website which is regularly updated.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to the increasing number of members and other Hurst residents who now regularly browse our planning letter and, in respect of some of the larger planning applications, have made use of the information on what the key relevant planning issues are when submitting their individual comments to Wokingham Borough Council (WBC).

As we go to press, uppermost in everybody's mind is the **Outline Planning Application that has been received for approximately 200 houses on Land East of Lodge Road**. The impact of such a development is shown here:

200 more homes in the centre of the village (34% increase)	Approx. 480 more residents	Over 140 metres loss of hedgerows
At least 400 more cars on our roads	Loss of a wildlife corridor and biodiversity	Risk of more Flooding/Sewerage problems

As we have always committed to, HVS has submitted its strong objection to this application. The response to the "call to action" by individual members and residents was fantastic with numerous people attending two Drop-In events held by the **joint action group of HVS, Hurst Parish Council, Protect Hurst Action Group and the Neighbour-**

Planning Update

These events allowed individual residents to familiarise themselves with all aspects of the application and planning process to inform their individual objections. By the deadline, over 350 of you have taken time to submit your own letters of objection, including The Rt.Hon. Theresa May MP.



A decision is now awaited from WBC acting in its role as the Local Planning Authority.

This intense local involvement followed an earlier example where many members and residents objected to an outline planning application for the development of up to 33 custom and self-build homes on Broadcommon Road which was subsequently refused by WBC.

Whilst these two major development proposals have been very much in every-body's minds, HVS has also been busy submitting comments on numerous other planning applications ranging from 4 Houses on the junction of Sawpit Road and School Road 5G Communications Mast, the installation of a private sewage treatment works, the temporary siting and occupation of caravans outside the Development Limit, to other small or individual developments. The Society's detailed comments and any responses from WBC and The Planning Inspector can be found at: www.hvs.org.uk/hvs-planning-letters

Looking to the immediate future another critical planning matter is The Local Plan Update – Right Homes, Right Places, Revised Growth Strategy being prepared by WBC. The Local Plan is a key document which sets out the strategy and associated policies for managing development. A new Local Plan should provide greater certainty as to where future development will occur (with the accompanying infrastructure) and where it won't. HVS, and again many individual members and residents, submitted their views and concerns as part of a public consultation. As this is a detailed process it is unlikely that WBC will submit an updated plan to Government until the latter part of 2022 after which any plan will be subject to a public examination by the Planning Inspectorate and therefore is unlikely to be adopted until the end of 2023.

Planning is a matter for all of us, so please do continue to visit the HVS website for any updates and sign up to the HVS Monthly email newsletter which provides regular planning updates. Please contact **planning@hvs.org.uk** if you need any further information on any matter or wish to make your comments known. Thank you for your support.

To have a go at morris dancing or music come to our taster sessions at Hurst Village Hall, School Road, RG10 0DR on Thursdays September 22nd and 29th at 8pm. Men and women are both very welcome. Squire (leader) Karen Ricketts said: "We're a friendly crowd with super dance teachers who will show you how to do easy to learn dances. They're fun evenings and great exercise. We'll ply everyone with homemade cake at the half time break."

Musicians able to play either fiddle, melodeon, concertina, accordion or recorder are also welcome to come and join the merry band for the taster sessions. Tunes are usually in the keys of G and D and our musicians aim to play from memory by the end of the practice season.

Let us know if you'd like to come to our taster sessions: please email: Contact@hump.org.uk or phone Sue at 0776 1222 390. or visit www.hump.org.uk

Liz Chaderton - Professional Artist living in Hurst









Liz has lived in Hurst for 22 years and has been a full time professional artist for 5 years. Having taken every opportunity as a child to draw and paint, Liz didn't pursue her aspirations to become an artist until after her family was born. Rather than go back into her PR & Marketing job in the corporate world, Liz started evening classes in watercolour painting and fell in love with the medium. The classes provided tuition on basic techniques, but Liz wanted to experiment and steer away from wishy-washy watercolours and create something more vibrant and is largely self-taught.

Once she sold her first picture, she started to exhibit and sell her work at local venues and found her niche in painting birds and animals, often capturing an intelligence and wisdom in her subjects. Today Liz sells her work across at art exhibitions, art galleries, and on-line. She also runs workshops and painting classes, passing on her skills and experience.

During the pandemic Liz expanded the accessibility to her workshops through online courses which have proved popular with students from as far afield as the US, Australia and across Europe.

You would have thought this would all keep Liz busy enough, but no - since 2019 she has put her freelance writing skills to use and published 3 books outlining in details the techniques of painting animals and birds in watercolour, painting on canvas and line and wash painting and has a fourth book due to be released in July.

Today, Liz is very happy with her successes, but also yearns to have the time to get back to doing more painting herself!

If you'd like to see Liz and her work, she will be participating in the Henley Arts Trail from 30th April—2nd May and she will also have paintings in the school hall during the Hurst Show. You can find more information about Liz here: www.lizchaderton.co.uk.

Dinton Pastures Country Park



Boat Hire

Hire a range of pedalos, paddleboards, canoes, single and double kayaks starting from £8 for half an hour. With 94 acres of lake there's plenty of space to enjoy the sunshine at a safe distance from others. Weekends April - Oct. Every Day During school holidays. 11am-5pm. Ages 2+. For Under 8's supervision is required. For more information visit www.dinton-pastures.co.uk/activities/boat-hire

Outdoor Cinema

- <u>21st May Indie Party & Outdoor Cinema</u>. Featuring The Stone Roses Made of Stone, Street Food & Bar, DJ set from Indie Legend Darren Thomas.
 - Tickets Gocinemas.co.uk/events
- 30th July The Greatest Showman 18:00
- 13th August Bridget Jones's Diary, 18:00
- 20th August Steven Spielberg's West Side Story (2021), 18:00
- 27th August Clueless / Legally blonde (Double Bill), 18:00
 Tickets Gocinemas.co.uk/events

Marvellous Festival

23rd and 24th July. 10% Earlybird Discount running through to March 31st.

Get your family and friends together and book now! www.marvellousfestivals.com/

New Caterers at Dinton Pastures

Cleverchefs took over all three food and drink facilities at Dinton Pastures from 1 April.

The Dragonfly Café, operating under the new name 'The Coffee House' sells Cleverchef's own blend of coffee, and will give a percentage of its profits to a children's charity. The site also offers a range of breakfasts to eat in or takeaway, alongside a lunch menu filled with dishes such as cajun chicken shawarma and woodfired pizzas.

The café at Dinton Activity Centre, now has the new name 'Coffee Deck' and features a selection of gourmet toasties, sharing plates and smoothies. This is a great venue to take a break whilst wandering around the park and admire beautiful views across the lake.

The Riverside Kiosk near the children's play area has been renamed the **'Coffee Pod'** and will provide visitors with express coffees, ice creams and a range of snacks. This will be a great spot to grab something to eat or drink on the go whilst walking around the park or visiting the play area.

For more information visit www.dintoncafes.com/about-1

Lavell's Wetland Trust (LWT)

Lavell's Wetland Trust (www.http://lavells.org.uk) has been able to submit it's planning application for a second hide at Lea Farm Lake, all going to plan we will commence construction early August this year and complete it before the end of September. This is a very exciting story for LWT as the new hide will be on tall stilt legs overlooking much of the marshes we created with the Network Rail grant, plus it is over 10 feet longer than our existing Ron's hide, so will accommodate even more nature loving locals.

It's already been an exciting winter, Bitterns, Great White Egret, Goosander, but the highlight was our first ever flock of 18 White-fronted Geese that decided to drop in and stay from 13th January to 4th February.

Now spring is upon us, the Chiffchaffs are already here in numbers, the Sand Martins will appear any day, the bulk of the warblers from early April, the first Cuckoo expected about the 10th to 12th and our Common Terns within days of that. There will be so much to see and it's always recommended to get out early.

There has been a great start with mammals this year, Stoat, Weasel and in the last week an Otter has been seen around various parts of Lavell's.

Hurst Panto Gives Community Plenty to Smile About



Hurst Pantomime Group performed their 10th production to sell-out audiences in January, gaining glowing praise all round. "A Lad in the Wild West" told the classic Aladdin story but set in Nevada for a cowboythemed twist! Featuring not one, but two pantomime horses, and a large cast of adults and children, it proved to be a very entertaining outing for young and old alike.

Hannah Guile, Director commented "We are so proud that we achieved our objective of giving the people of Hurst and the wider community something to look forward to and enjoy, and a way out of the really difficult past two years.

"It's not been an easy road to get here, with the challenges of rehearsing and performing under Covid restrictions, but everyone involved has been incredibly supportive of the additional measures we've had to take.

"It truly 'took a village' to put on the show, and we are extremely grateful to our huge team of local talented volunteers who worked so hard both on and off the stage, generously giving up their free time and skills."

Hurst Pantomime Group perform every two years, with planning for the next production (due January 2024) starting early next year. If you'd like to be involved, please see the Hurst Pantomime Group website (www.hurstpanto.org.uk) for further details.

photo credit: Michael Gribble

Hurst Show and Country Fayre

Help Hurst Become A Record-Breaking Village!

Hurst Show and Country Fayre returns to the village on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June, and this year will include a Guinness World Record breaking attempt!

The Show will follow a similar format to last year, with events and attractions organised across Martineau Green, St Nicholas Primary school and Hurst Village Halls and Scout Hut. Road closures around the village as per 2021 have been requested.

The show is being scaled back up this year with attractions including hobbyhorse jumping, fun dog show, animal petting, craft stalls, classic vehicle and vintage bicycle show, live music, arena events, bar, and BBQ.

Do you want to be a Hobby Horse record breaker?!

The hobby horses are now such a well-loved and integral part of the show that on Sunday 26th June, and the show organisaers will be attempting to break the Guin-

ness World Record for "Largest Stick Horse Parade" with a 1km route around the village setting off at 2pm.

The current record stands at 250 participants and the show thinks that, with the support of the fabulous Hurst community, that number can be increased to make Hurst record-breaking village!

To get involved, simply register your interest either when buying tickets online or on the website and come along to Martineau Green from 1.15pm with your trusty hobby horse steed.



Please encourage friends, family and neigh-bours to join in and help us break the record in style! Fancy dress for participants is actively encouraged! https://www.hurstshow.uk/

Tickets Now On Sale

Hurst Show is a non-commercial event, with all funds raised going to local causes including Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service, Just Around the Corner (JAC), Red Diamonds Association for the Disabled, and Berkshire Search & Rescue Dogs, as well as Hurst organisations such as St Nicholas Primary School, Pre-School, Church, Scouts and Guides.

Ticket sales are a major contributor to our fund raising and new for 2022, we'd like to encourage visitors to purchase their tickets in advance wherever possible via our website – hurstshow.uk

Online ticket prices for adults are £5 for one day entry or £7.50 for entry across the whole weekend. Under 16s and carers accompanying the person they care for are free. Ticket pricing also includes free parking.

Tickets will also be available to purchase on the day, at £6 and £9 for adult day and weekend access respectively, and under 16s £1 per day.



St Nicholas CofE Church

New monthly service pattern for St Nicholas Hurst

There is a new service pattern for St Nicholas, including a service every Sunday and a new All Age Service and Messy Church on fourth Sunday of the month:

• 1st Sunday: 11am Holy Communion

• 2nd Sunday: 11am All age service (refreshments will be served from 10.30)

3rd Sunday: 11am Holy Communion 4th Sunday: 11am Messy Church

Youth Club - Scout Hut, Fridays 7pm - 8:30pm. £2 per session

St Nicholas Youth Club takes place once a month, run by Connor Heath, and is open to any children in school years 7-9. Activities include table tennis, table football, musical chairs and general catch-up with friends. There is also and a very well-priced Tuck Shop!. All are welcome to come along. The next Youth Club dates are: **22nd April, 27th May and 24th June**

A Date for your Diary—"The Walnuts with Bells on", Saturday 18th June, 6pm
Probably starting at the Castle Inn and moving to St Nicholas for an hour's music and then returning to the Castle Inn. Music will involve pipes and bells. The Walnuts are a band that play a variety of music including Celtic, folk and Americana. We will be raising funds for Launchpad. Ukraine and St Nicholas Church. Tickets will be available soon.

St Nicholas Church Parish Room

We were very fortunate to receive donations from several sources in Hurst including the Hurst Village Society last year to upgrade what was primarily the Sunday School room. Previously, it was a single brick building without any insulation and just two ceiling lights and one socket. It is now fully re-roofed, insulated, brightly lit, heated, and has new windows.





Since the room has been completed it has been used for children's work and meetings and it is hoped that once the kitchen and toilet have been refurbished we can use it a lot more. Once again, many thanks to everyone that has contributed to this building work as without these donations we would not have been able to go ahead with this work. For more information email office@thru-christ.org.uk

Hurst Gospel Hall

We are very pleased to be able to hold all meetings in the Gospel Hall once again. It is great to be back together, and we have been extremely pleased to welcome new people from the village

Please do take a look at our website to see what is going on. Hopefully some of you will have visited our Easter Exhibition and been able to enjoy that, as well as seeing the inside of our "lockdown extension".

We enjoy a very good atmosphere, and good numbers of parents/children on Monday mornings at Coffee and Toddlers. The older ones often do a craft upstairs in our lovely new room. Children aged 5 to 11 continue to really enjoy JAM on Mondays at 6.15pm

Perhaps you would like to join us on a Sunday morning for coffee at 11.30am and then for the Family Service where there will be singing and a message from the Bible? Younger children are offered the opportunity for Sunday School for part of this time.

On third Sundays the programme changes and there is CAMEO which begins at 5.00pm. Again, a message for today from the Bible, a chance to chat and sing, and share some tea.

The Ladies Light Lunch, on the first Wednesday of each month at 11.00am, has proved very popular. We have had craft sessions, talks from missionaries and other interesting speakers, followed by lunch. On 4th May we plan to have a "Magazine Hour". As you might imagine, the ladies always find plenty to chat about and the time includes some Bible content.

As always, please feel free to get in touch, via the website: <u>www.hurstgospelhall.org/about</u> if you would like to talk to someone, or have someone pray with you, or have a free Bible

We believe that, in such an uncertain world, the Word of God is the one thing we can always rely upon.

St Nicholas CE Primary School





Each term Foundation Stage pupils visit the village allotments to map the changes across the seasons and learn more about growth and decay. This term they were looking for the early signs of Spring with a scavenger hunt for various fruits and vegetables.

They planted a variety of beans and helped Mr Paul Martin to dig up some parsnips. They also found toads, ladybirds and even a few butterflies.



The children are enjoying being part of local sporting tournaments against other schools including hockey, football and multi-skills. We wish our Girls football team luck in the Berkshire Primary Schools semifinals!

Between 'Red Nose Day' and 'A Day for Ukraine', we have raised over £300! Our School Council is now in the process of selecting a local link charity to support over the coming year.

We have a packed diary ahead of us in the Summer term for children to enjoy following two years of disruption to their learning and wellbeing due to the pandemic, including the return of whole school assemblies, Sports Day, various educational trips and events, including exciting residential trips for our Year 4 and Year 6 children.

We are fortunate to have a very active and supportive PTA. Fundraising events on the calendar include the PTA Quiz Night in early May. We are also looking forward to getting involved in local community events such as the Platinum Jubilee, Hurst Show & Country Fayre and the village Cricket match.

We are keen to hear from any local residents who are able to listen to the children read or lend a hand at our gardening sessions for our Year 3 pupils, who are preparing to grow a range of vegetables in our raised beds. If you would like to be involved, please contact ad-min@stnicholas.wokingham.sch.uk. Mrs Sarah Hilling, Acting Headteacher

Dolphin School



It has been a busy few weeks at Dolphin School! We enjoyed our first ever STEM Week, and it was a huge success! We kicked off with an interactive assembly with our special guest, "Boffin John". John continued the fun theme by conducting Polymerisation Workshops (a great excuse to make some slime!) and the energy balls certainly gave us a fright and showed just how much our bodies rely on electricity. The day ended with an impressive rocket launch, the parachute landing in a nearby field!

We went online with Geobus from UCL, who showed us images of meteors which we viewed with 3D glasses; we participated in an Engineering Day where students were tasked with building structures that would withstand a natural disaster and there were Escape Rooms set -up.

We set-up our very own 'Science Fair'. Students from Years 1 – 8 produced a display board showing an investigation or information project on the topics "Whose mouth is cleaner, a human or an animal?" and "How can you calculate the number of atoms in your body?"

These Fragments, produced by years7 &8vwas an ambitious original piece written by two



students and our esteemed Drama teacher, Judy Seall. The production was dedicated to all those who have been displaced and dislocated by conflict, wherever they are in the world. At the end of each performance we collected donations for The International Rescue Committee, and were delighted to raise £500. One parent said: "The maturity that all performers showed always astounds me and each time I see a Dolphin production, I reach the same quick conclusion: The magic of this

school is never more visible than in its drama productions."

We will open our new Heather Brough Pavilion at the front of school next term. Visible from the road and an outstanding piece of modern architecture (designed by Trace Architects), the four new classrooms - Music, Art, English and Maths, and a gorgeous new Library – are beautiful, light and airy, and environmentally friendly. They will provide enhanced teaching and learning spaces for many years to come.

If you wish you see how Dolphin School "inspires a love of learning that lasts a lifetime ..." contact Kate Spooner at admissions@dolphinschool.com to arrange a personal tour and to meet our Headmaster.

Neighbourhood Policing Update

We have seen an increase in thefts and attempted thefts of keyless cars across the area. Offenders often use a device and a laptop to intercept the signal from the remote sensor on keyless fobs. and can then start the vehicle without the key and drive away within a minute. To ensure your car is not an appealing target for a thief, please consider these actions:

- Keep key fobs away from windows and doors when at home.
- Turn off the key fob's wireless signal (check your vehicle manual to see if this is possible
 or contact your vehicle manufacturer.)
- Place key fobs in a metal tin or signal blocking RFID (radio-frequency identification) pouch and away from the front door (also your spare key).
- Always manually check your vehicle has locked. Electronic devices can be used to jam the
 electronic signal from your key fob to lock your vehicle. Scan the immediate area for
 anyone hanging around.
- Consider the use of an on-board diagnostic port protective cover or lock.
- If you have a driveway, park the car as close to the house as possible.

Please contact us if you have any information relating to crime, suspicious vehicles or activity in your neighbourhood. Report online at www.thamesvalley.police.uk, call 101 or in an emergency 999. Or, call Crimestoppers anonymously on free phone 0800 555 111.

Visit <u>www.ourwatch.org.uk</u> for Neighbourhood Watch. For non urgent matters, contact your local neighbourhood team via: <u>WokingamNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk</u> - Facebook: TVP Bracknell & Wokingham / Twitter: @TVP_Wokingham

Hurst Horticultural Annual Show 20th August



You're invited to a perfect English summer's day in the middle of Hurst this August. Continuing the tradition, and now in its 109th year, the Hurst Horticultural Show will be here again with its displays of locally grown vegetables, fruits and flowers together with home-baked breads and cakes, home-made preserves, handicrafts, photography and art as well as a scarecrow class.

This popular show attracts visitors from miles around who come to spend a couple of hours not only marvelling at the displays but also to relax in the friendly atmosphere of the show.

Live music from the EMC Jazz Band, cream teas, hot food, a wine and beer tent, local stallholders displaying their wares and the famous Hurst alpacas are all there to enhance your afternoon.

Get involved or just come along:

- Don't be afraid to enter, there are classes for everyone and also many children's classes.
- Get your children painting and cooking.
- The Great British Bake Off inspired confidence, there are many baking classes.
- You can make jams and marmalades well ahead of the show.
- Don't hide your art, craft and needlework talents.
- If you grow even just a little fruit, flowers or vegetables, have a go at entering.
- Try the photo class themed `A view from a window`

Full schedules will shortly appear on our website <u>www.hursthorticulturalshow.org</u> and printed copies will be delivered to houses in Hurst in due course and watch out for posters appearing around the village later this summer.

HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY

1992-2022

30 Years of the HVS Skills Register

For 30 years the HVS Skills Register has been promoting local Hurst trades and businesses to the residents of Hurst. The Register is on the HVS website www.hvs.org.uk/skills and receives a steady stream of hits. We also include a feature in our monthly newsletter sent by email to our members and other interested parties.

Our Hurst Villager Magazine is delivered to hopefully, every household in the Village and includes the full skills register.

If you live or work in Hurst and you would like to be included in the Skills Register, please fill in the form below or sign up online on the Skills page of the website www.hvs.org.uk/skills

We charge an annual fee per entry: £20 if you are a member of the Hurst Village Society, £25 if you are a non-member.

Payment can be made by Bank Transfer (Account Name: Hurst Village Society, Account Number: 01349706 Sort Code: 30-91-11), or by cheque made payable to Hurst Village Society.

For all enquiries, please E-mail: skills@hvs.org.uk

Business name:			
Your name:			
Phone number if want one included:			
Business address:			
Business email/website:			
Statement of what services you provide:			
Logo or brand picture or PDF you would like included (must be clear in small size)			

HVS SKILLS AND BUSINESS REGISTER

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07935 228 600 Muddy Ducks Nursery Dinton Pastures Day Nursery Country Park Info@muddyducksnursery.com

We are passignate about outdoor play and the importance of children learning about nature and the environment, 2-5's. (Funding available) Donna Overton & Laura Hawkins

www.muddyducksnursery.com

Burge Maintenance Andy Burge 07712 742 672 Maintenance Broadcommon Rd andy.burge@icloud.com

General garden maintenance, including jet washing, grass cutting, strimming, hedge trimming and small tree removal.

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Long term Hurst Business, <u>Giclee London</u> is printing the HVS BBQ posters and banner. They are experts in Fine Art printing, specialising in high quality and varied finishes, they also can print posters, photography and <u>just about apything</u> you can think off. Their sister company RGBuk (also based in Hurst) can supply you with any printing equipment your business may require, specialising in large format printers, they even have a fully operational demonstration suite for the latest in Canon image PROGRAF technology.

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HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We always appreciate volunteers who help us at our various events throughout the year and this year is no exception. If you would like to join us as a volunteer please let us know: communications@hvs.org.uk, we guarantee you will have some fun too!

Hurst Parish Council

Hurst Village Platinum Jubilee Celebrations



To celebrate The Queen's historic 70 years as our Monarch, Hurst Parish Council, sponsored by Stanlake Park Wine Estate, will be organising many events over the extended bank holiday from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June 2022:

Thursday 2nd June - Jubilee Beacon

To commence the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, we will be lighting a beacon at 9.45 pm. The beacon is being specially made for the village by Haines Hill Estate. St Nicholas Church will be open appropriately decorated, and it is planned to have the tower bells ringing that evening together with handbells ringing out the national anthem and a piper playing "Diu Regnare". A 100 strong rock choir will be singing on the hill with a traditional choir singing A SONG FOR THE COMMONWEALTH 'A Life Lived with Grace"

Friday 3rd June - Jubilee Sports Day

The village will be encouraged to take part in numerous sporting events being organised throughout the day. Football, cricket, bowling and tennis. To get the day started, we will have a HIIT exercise session for villagers to warm up.

Saturday 4th June - Jubilee Family Festival

We will hold a sizeable outdoor event that will take place on the green at Martineau Lane. This will include games, a picnic, cream tea & scones, a licenced bar and BBQ. Hurst's Got Talent and an open mic session will take place on the main stage. From late afternoon into the evening, we will enjoy the performances of multiple music acts.

Sunday 5th June - Street Party

A church service will start the day at 11.00 am, followed by a large village street party in School Road. Organised visits to Stanlake Park Wine Estate will also be available in the afternoon/evening.

This is a fantastic opportunity to engage our whole community, and if you have any comments or questions or would like to volunteer to help, please contact the Jubilee celebrations committee: www.hurstfc.org.uk/contact

A village treasure hunt will be run over the 4 days, everyone is invited to take part in this at their leisure.

This will be a free event over 4 days for residents of Hurst. Please do follow the progress on facebook: www.facebook.com/Hurstjubilee