



HURST Villager

HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY

Founded 1972

Autumn/Winter Newsletter 2022
Issue No. 135

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



This year HVS is 50 years old!

1972 - 2022

**** HVS Is supporting the SAY NO! Campaign ****

Save the Date 31st January 2023 - 7th February 2023

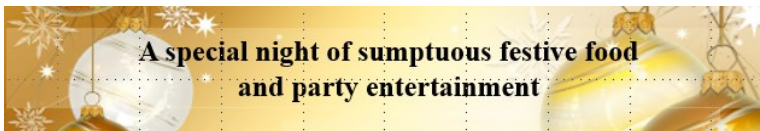
Following the refusal of outline planning permission for 200 homes in June, notification has been received by Wokingham Borough Council of an appeal which will be heard in public. It has been scheduled for 31st January 2023 for a period of 8 days.



If you have any additional comments or any new information that you think is relevant to this appeal, this must be submitted by **30th November 2022**.

See pages 12 & 13 for more information on this appeal and other planning matters.

HVS & St Nicholas PTA bring Christmas cheer and entertainment to Hurst



On Saturday 10th December, the HVS Dinner Dance will be held at the Village Hall.

Contact the HVS treasurer on: treasurer@hvs.org.uk if you would like to book tickets - but hurry as the evening is proving very popular and tickets are almost sold out.

HVS and the PTA would welcome contributions for this charity event which is raising money to enhance the village and school facilities. Please contact the HVS directly on: events@hvs.org.uk if you able to help with the **fund-raising raffle** prizes.



Christmas Dates for your Diary

Saturday 3rd December, 11:30am - 3:30pm	St Nicholas Church Xmas Fayre Hurst Village Hall
3rd, 10th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st December	Santa's Chocolate Grotto Experience Chocolate for Chocoholics
Sunday 4th December, 5pm	St Nicholas Night & Christmas Lights School Recreation Ground
Saturday 10th December, 7pm - 11:59pm	HVS Dinner Dance Hurst Village Hall
Sunday 11th December, 11am	Messy Christingle St Nicholas Church
Sunday 18th December, 5pm	Christmas Carols Hurst Gospel Hall
24th December – Christmas Eve	4pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion St Nicholas Church
25th December – Christmas Day, 11am	Christmas Day Service St Nicholas Church



2023 Dates for your Diary

Saturday 11th February, 7 for 7:30pm	Bowls Club Quiz Hurst Village Hall
Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th June	Hurst Show and Country Fayre
Saturday 19th August	Hurst Horticultural Show Village Halls and Scout Hut

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

Christmas in Hurst



St Nicholas Christmas Fayre

St Nicholas Hurst Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 3rd December from 11.30am - 3pm at the Large Village Hall in Hurst.

This year it will have a Christmas Market feel with stalls outside as well as inside the hall. Come along and join in with all of the fun during the fayre including a visit to Father Christmas, BBQ and Refreshments, Grand Raffle,

Christmas Gift Stalls, Kids Craft Activities and Games, Cakes and much more.

Entry: Donations.

For more information contact stuart_becky@btopenworld.com

St Nicholas Night

On Sunday 4th December, 5pm, the Hurst Parish Council will once again host St Nicholas Night. The Christmas lights will be switched on by the winner of the St Nicholas Primary School competition. There will be mulled wine, Christmas carols with the Hurst Singers and accompaniment from Waltham St Lawrence Band. This is a great way for the whole village to kick-off their Christmas celebrations and cheer - not to be missed!



Chocoholics Santa's Grotto



Santa is visiting Chocolates for Chocoholics this year! In a 45 min experience, children will make and decorate their own Christmas Chocolate lollies with Mrs Claus in the workshop before joining one of our jolly Elves preparing Reindeer food - vital to ensure Santa can find his way in the dark on Christmas Eve.

Once finished, children will be able to see Santa and receive their gift. Santa has also brought his magical post box so please bring any letters if you want them to be posted to the North Pole!

To book visit: <https://www.chocolate-parties.com/santas-chocolate-grotto/>

Community Updates

New Community Hub for Hurst

Plans are being made by Hurst Parish Council for a new community hub for club and other gatherings in Hurst.

Hurst Parish Council chairman Wayne Smith said:
"The parish council are working with the village halls committee to develop a plan to build a community hub in the village hall grounds."



"It would replace the current Scout hut and be for mixed community use including the Scouts and Guides and other people. It could be for an over 60s afternoon club."

"It will be a substantial cost because we want it larger than the current Scouts' building. The village hall is fully booked. Quite a few groups want a room during the day."

He added: *"The new hub would be run by the village hall committee."*
"The scheme will need planning permission." (Source Wokingham Today).

New Chocoholics Shop has Opened



Hurst family business Chocolates for Chocoholics at Lea Farm has just started a shop for the first time in its 36-year history. The shop was opened on 22nd October by MP Theresa May, a long-term customer of the company.

Mrs May cut the opening ribbon and said: *"I've known Chocoholics for a lot of the 25 years I have been an MP."*

"It's a great business, I always put a Christmas order in to them. It's lovely to see this new venture opening up."

For years the company sold their goods via 'parties' in people's homes. These stopped when covid arrived, said company director Roger Cossey. But in the meantime sales had been growing online, where they continue. For more information visit www.chocolate-parties.com (Source Wokingham Today).

HVS Membership Benefits

There are many advantages to be gained from becoming a member of HVS. 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.

If you are not already a member, please join us. The cost to each household is only £5/year. If you are already member don't forget to renew in January. Membership numbers help back up our influence on planning matters especially with the current large application (200 houses) and the possible Ashridge area (1000's houses).



Hurst Village Society

Membership Benefits Scheme



To celebrate 50 years of HVS we have launched an **HVS Members Benefit Scheme** where members will be able to take advantage of discounts offered by local businesses. Three 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)

Richard of Hurst: Local window cleaner offers a 10% discount on his services.

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:

secretary@hvs.org.uk. If you are not already a member, you can join using the membership form provided on the back page.

Hurst Almshouses Excellence and Inspiration Award



John Edwards, as Chairman of Hurst Consolidated Charities, attended an Almshouse Association conference in Wolverhampton and was presented with the 'Excellence and Inspiration Award' for the new Richard Bigg Almshouses in Hinton Road.

Judging for the award took place in 2019 but the process was much delayed by the Covid 19 restrictions. The accommodation comprises two single and one double occupancy units where residents are selected from needy persons living in Hurst or adjacent parishes.

The units are built to the latest environmental building standards with all-electric heating supplemented with PV solar panels.



Changes in Hurst: From house to block of flats

The old *Dorndon* building on School Road in Hurst, was occupied in 1840 by Edward Sarney. It later became a brewery, run by Samuel Nicholls, described as a "*very prominent man... brewer, farmer, rod merchant, churchwarden, Trustee to Charities..*" He had been born at Hinton House.

Until the 1970s *Dorndon* did not have a mains supply of water. It was sold and converted into an old people's home. When the home closed in 1999, it was purchased by a developer who received permission to replace the house with ten luxury apartments using the same footprint.

Then



Now



Transportation History - Hurst and Area

Isambard Kingdom Brunel & The Great Western Railway

A boost to Twyford's prosperity came when Kingdom Isambard Brunel built the Great Western Railway. The track had reached there in 1839. The railway meant that it was possible to travel to London in an hour, instead of the four hours by coach. People could move about much more easily and go further afield and this gave rise to travel guides, giving information about places to visit. John Snare published one of the first directories for Berkshire in 1842 and in it he gives a poetical review description of Hurst Parish in relation to how it is seen from the "huge train as it rushes with lightning-like speed":

"None, in our opinion, offer the casual tourist a more perfect panorama of rural beauty than the romantic neighbourhood of Hurst. We remember to have somewhere met with the old rhyme - 'Were'er the Loddon's water flow, Shall verdure and beauty blow'".

Snare continues his description of Hurst after visiting the parish church:

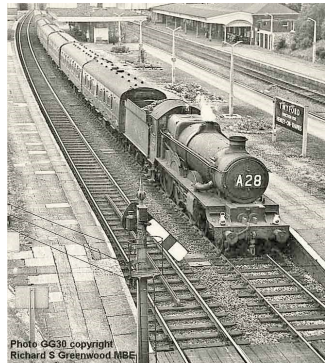
"Hurst is a concentration of all that is picturesque in nature, and magnificent in the ornaments which art has scattered through it".

Railway and Roads Development Around Hurst

In July 1849 the Southeastern and Chatham Railway Company opened its line from Tonbridge to Reading. They made a small station at Winnersh and called it "Sindlesham and Hurst Halt".



When Motor transport arrived, the traffic through Twyford reached such proportions that a by-pass had to be built. It was opened on 10th September 1922 and was not universally welcomed. Shop keepers in particular protested, knowing they would lose some of their customers. They even said that the High Street should be widened instead, regardless of the fact that many of their own shops, and some of the inns, would have to be pulled down. Another by-pass, linking Twyford and Whistley, was opened in 1931.



St Nicholas Church - Features and Bell-Ringing Champions

In 1538 all vicars were liable to keep Parish Registers by law. The first ones for Hurst date to 1583 when the Rev. Hugh Evans was the vicar. Another law, dated 1603, stated that "every church should have a decent pulpit", and Richard Dann who was vicar from 1590 - 1605 would have seen the present one installed, Attached to it is a wrought-iron hour glass stand, bearing the date 1636 and the initials E.A.



Thurston Riley was vicar from 1603 - 1633 and he would have seen the building of the brick church tower in 1612. Six of the bells still in the tower were cast by members of the Kinght Family of Reading between 1613 and 1642. The treble and second bells were added in 1911.

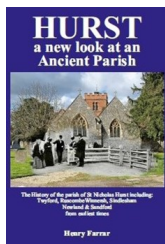


When the bells of Great Marlow were re-hung in 1640, the Hurst Ringers were employed to test them and the parishioners of Great Marlow paid their expenses. Over 100 years later Hurst Bell Ringers were still in good form as a report in the *Reading Mercury* of 15th August 1779 shows: "At the ringing match on Wokingham Church Bells the hats were worn by the Hurst Youths in their usual style."

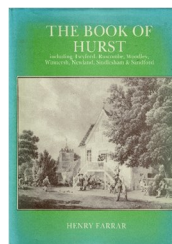
Hurst, A New Look At An Ancient Parish

The Book of Hurst - NOW ON SALE £23

***at Stanlake Wine Shop, Newberrys Twyford and direct from HVS
by contacting: secretary@hvs.org.uk***



***What a great
Christmas present!***



For more information see www.hvs.org.uk

Stop Press Twyford Historical Society Contribute to Hurst Archives!

Twyford Historical Society are moving to their new base at the new long awaited Twyford Library. In preparing for their move, they have discovered documents relating to Hurst and have asked if the Hurst Archives at Stanlake would be able to house them. This shows the importance of these archives as a point of focus to collect historical information about our area, which will eventually build up to a substantial collection.

Update on HVS Activities and Funded Projects

Say No to 200 Houses—Campaign Banners

HVS financed the £700 cost of 4 banners in the village, plus flyers 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 which were distributed after the event.



New Noticeboard at Village Shop

HVS has donated a new noticeboard (made by Hurst Resident, James Girdler, contactable at www.oldthingsnew.co.uk), to go outside the Village Shop, to replace the old, rather sad looking one.

The noticeboard is a huge success, is well used and looks so much better than the old one. We await the other improvements which we are assured are in the pipeline.



Hurst Cricket Club

HVS worked with Hurst Cricket Club in attracting a donation of £1,000 from The Sandra Charitable Trust, and matched this with a further donation of £1,000. This has enabled much needed improvements to be made to the pavilion and facilities at this most picturesque of cricket grounds. HVS would like to thank the cricket club for enhancing this sporting hub in the village and attracting so many people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and play cricket, and as the results show, very successfully too!!!



St Nicholas Church Parish Room Donation

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 is fabulous to have the room brought back to life and available for all the village to use.



Traffic Calming Strategy

One of the main concerns that HVS members raise is speeding in Hurst. In response, HVS has devised a Traffic Calming Strategy. This can be viewed 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.



For more information on the many HVS projects and donations visit:
www.hvs.org.uk/projects

Hurst Community Updates

Hurst Cricket Club



2022 was one our better years. Covid-19 is largely under control but not gone away, and only to be replaced with inflationary costs, on-field rule changes and a shortage of TVCL panel umpires.



The 2022 (TVCL) season saw the 1st XI nearly get promoted to Division 1 and the 2nd XI held fast in Division 7. At full strength the 2nd XIs would compete in Division 4 but each club has a flagship and we have to get the best 1st XI out each week.

The Sunday XI finished 3rd in the inaugural Berkshire Blast and allowed us to bring on a number of Colts and introduce them to the senior game.

Well done to the Colts and Women's teams which have both had a lot of representation.



There have been a number of improvements to the club house and scoreboard, and a new draft beer tap, all of which have helped to give the club a more modern look and will help to attract more players in the future.

However, the most pressing need is for money - if you know of any one or a business remotely interested in sponsoring the club, contact: hurstccofficial@gmail.com.

Visit www.hurst.play-cricket.com for more information about the club.

Hurst Football Club

Hurst Football Club - fun and friendly local club currently has space for new players in the following age groups and would love to welcome new players.

U6's, U7's U8's - train Saturday mornings, first session free, £2.50 a week thereafter.

Other age groups train as follows:

- U9's and U12's - train Thursday evenings
- U16's – train Monday evenings
- U18s - train Tuesday evening.

Matches on Saturday mornings. For further information please contact hurstfc2@gmail.com



Hurst Club Updates

Hurst Walking Football Club



Hurst Walking Football Club is an FA-affiliated club for the over 50s. The rules of walking football are designed with player safety first and foremost in mind, and it's great for any players who miss playing from their youth.

Hurst Walking Football Club won division one of the Thames Valley Walking Football League in May at Bisham Abbey, and the Thames Valley Walking Football league cup at South Reading Leisure Centre in July.

We train weekly (Wednesdays at 7pm) at the Floreat Montague Park Primary School in Wokingham. First two sessions are free, and then it's just £5 a session. Training is fun and informal, and tends to be a game for all abilities.

We are expanding and this year plan to run an A team, a B team and also an over 60s team, all with league entry. The league is run at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre on the second Sunday of each month with five matches per team either in the morning or the afternoon (it alternates). We are also looking to start a ladies team (over 40s) in the near future.

For further info or to just arrange a free tester session, contact the club secretary at

Chriswarren5678@gmail.com, or **hurstwfc@gmail.com**

or B team manager **Bob** on **07770-416469** or check out our Facebook page **Hurst WF Club**.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts



Scouts
1st Hurst Air Scouts

During the summer term, the Beavers (6-8yo) enjoyed a visit to the Wokingham Fire station where they learned some fire safety along with having fun exploring the fire truck. We also took them katanuung on the River Thames on a hot day and they also played crazy golf at Dinton. This term, we have been learning road safety and also have completed the Cycling badge. With Autumn drawing in we also enjoyed toasting marshmallows over a camp fire.

The new Cubs Leaders have been busy getting up to speed with the Cub Pack (8-10yo), celebrating Nasa's Moon Mission with rocketry and astronomy as well as celebrating Diwali with lights and cooking.

The Scouts (10-14yo) joined 150 other young people from across Loddon District for the Great Breakfast Chase in October. This overnight incident hike saw Scout and Explorer teams compete by plotting their route around Burnham Beeches, setting out at intervals to navigate and complete challenges at bases. The organising was impressive with each team's progress monitored by radio calls and tabbing in at bases, with a minibus on call if required. Our scout teams Papa & Whisky both arrived back at camp by 2am, tired and happy after their adventures.

If you would like to get involved helping out at any of these fun, once-weekly term-time adventures then do get in touch with **James Madden** on **07909 913 614** to find out more.

Planning Update



Land East of Lodge Road, Hurst (Tape Lane)

Application 220458: Notification of Appeal - 26 October 2022

There can be no doubt that as we go to press the most important planning matter facing the whole village community is The Planning Appeal Inquiry into the refusal of Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) to grant outline planning permission for 200 houses on Land East of Lodge Road, Hurst (Tape Lane).



The Inquiry will open at 10.00am on the 31st January 2023 (at a location to be confirmed) and is scheduled to last for 8 days. Any comments that were made by groups, or you as an individual, objecting to the original application and submitted to WBC will be automatically forwarded to the Planning Inspector for his consideration. If you have any additional comments or any new information that you think is relevant this must be submitted to him by **30th November 2022, at robert.wordsworth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk - quoting the reference APP/X0360/W/22/3309202** .

The "Say No to 200 Houses in Hurst Group" on which HVS is represented (together with Hurst Parish Council, The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, and Protect Hurst Action Group) has already reconvened and is deciding how best we can use our resources and skills to add substantially to the case being made by WBC as the Planning Authority, and use all the means at our disposal to ensure the refusal of planning permission for this unwelcome potential development is upheld by The Planning Inspector and the Appeal dismissed.

This is a job for all of us and as many people as possible should aim to attend the Appeal Inquiry, even if only for a few hours. Please look out for the dates of any Village Drop-In sessions, which have proved to be so successful in sharing information and raising matters which can be actioned by the project group. All up to date information on the progress of the village's campaign will regularly available on the Society's web-site: **www.hvs.org.uk**

Planning Update



Other Planning Matters in Hurst

Also looking to the future, another important 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 a large number of individual members and local residents, submitted their views and concerns as part of a public consultation. "**The Revised Growth Strategy - Report on Initial Consultation Outcomes**" can be found on Wokingham Borough Council's Planning Portal: www.wokingham.gov.uk/planning-policy/

While this is a detailed process, of particular interest to Hurst residents will be Wokingham Council's selection of their final preferred choice for the most sustainable location for a new Strategic Development Location (SDL) in the Borough.

Following the withdrawal of the Grazeley Garden Town proposal three other possible SDL's have or are under consideration by The Planning Authority: Ashridge, Land to the East of Twyford (known as Twyford Gardens), and Land South of the M4 between Shinfield, Arborfield and Sindlesham known as Hall Farm.

HVS continues to monitor all the planning applications submitted to Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) on a weekly basis and, where appropriate, make comments. In addition an increasing number of individuals are contacting HVS to ask our opinion in relation to specific applications, either that they have submitted, or are directly relevant to them. In all cases we look to visit the Application Site in order to fully understand the details of the application. So please don't hesitate to contact us at: planning@hvs.org.uk if you think we might be able to help in any way.

HVS has recently objected to a second application for a telecommunications mast which has been refused by WBC, and supported an application for a new dwelling in the garden of an existing property in Whistley Green. The Society also supported an application for the creation of a new dwelling in Dunt Lane, which was subsequently refused by WBC, and some agricultural developments which the Society supported but on which a decision is still awaited.

Planning is a matter for all of us, so please do continue to visit the HVS web-site: www.hvs.org.uk - 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!

Hurst Bowling Club circa 1747

Celebrating 275 Years



On February 14th, Storm Eunice broke a branch from an ancient chestnut tree and demolished our Victorian outhouse toilets. We have hired a portable toilet, but Matt has generously offered us the use of the Castle's toilets.

In spite of this, in April our season began enthusiastically. While some of us enjoyed the scorching summer, a good number of us invented ways to keep cool during our matches.

The highlight of the season was a match against a team brought to Hurst by the County President to mark 275 years of bowling on our green. County won, but by only seven shots.

Our Link friends enjoyed the summer with us too. A lot of fun and laughter was punctuated with bowls, tea and cake.

During the season we recruited a few more members, and we are always happy to see people give the sport a try. Our annual fun day was enjoyed by all and the season ended with our competition finals and trophy awards.

In October the Club received an award from Berkshire Community Foundation, made in acknowledgement of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The presentation took place at the historic Windsor Guildhall. The Foundation gave a total of £70,000 to seven voluntary groups - representing £10,000 for each year of her reign.

Our season begins again in April 2023. Our thanks to our green-keepers for ensuring we have a beautiful green to play on next summer. Contact us through our website www.hurstbowlingclub.co.uk, or contact **Ronnie Ashley** on **07751 653 613**.
v.m.ashley@btinternet.com

Hurst Morris People

Hurst Morris People (www.hump.org.uk) recently presented local charity, First Days, with money collected when 'dancing out' in public over summer 2022. Hurst Morris Squire (boss) Karen Ricketts is pictured presenting a cheque to Lindsay Browne, First Days Outreach Manager, along with other members of the side.



First Days provides essentials for children from low-income Wokingham-area families whilst supporting and coaching parents: www.firstdays.net

Hurst Morris are back practicing traditional music and dancing at Hurst Village Hall this autumn and winter before performing in their 2023 summer season.

Hurst Show and Country Fayre

Hurst Show Raises Record Funds for Local Good Causes

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who visited and supported the Hurst Show this summer!

The Show has confirmed that thanks to the generosity of show visitors they were able to make a total donation of around **£20,000** to local good causes including St Nicholas CofE Primary School, Alexander Devine Children's Hospice and JAC.

This has been a great boost to these organisations who so badly need donations right now, and is a record for funds raised in any one year by Hurst Show.

The organisers are still waiting for Guinness World Records to confirm whether their Largest Hobby Horse Parade world record attempt is an official world record.

Next year's show will be on June **24th and 25th 2023**. Anybody interested in volunteering to help at the event should email hurstshowandcountryfayre@gmail.com.

Hurst Horticultural Society



"This year's show held at the Village Halls and Scout Hut turned out to be a roaring success by any standards" said Frank Whittaker, Society secretary. He went on to say that this traditional village show, now in its 109th year, remains part of Hurst Village culture and continues to be a popular event.

Inspired by television's Bake Off, Sewing Bee and Gardeners' World growers, cooks, artists and other creative folk flocked to the show with record visitor numbers, even the weather played its part in this success.

The show was made possible by over 40 willing volunteers who got involved, each playing their part in making it a real community event.

The Society is in need of a new Chair to complete its organisational team so interested parties are invited to apply at: secretary@hursthorticulturalshow.org.

Early planning has now started for the 2023 show to be held on Saturday 19th August and full details of The Society can be found at: www.hursthorticulturalsociety.org along with many photographs taken at this year's show.

St Nicholas CofE Church Services



Christmas Services at St Nicholas Hurst:

27th November Advent Sunday	11am Messy Church at St Nicholas
4th December - Second Sunday of Advent	11am Parish Communion conducted by Reverend Graham
11th December - Third Sunday of Advent	11am Messy Christingle
18th December - Fourth Sunday of Advent	11am Parish Communion conducted by Reverend David West
24th December – Christmas Eve	4pm Crib Service 11.30pm Midnight Communion conducted by Reverend Graham
25th December – Christmas Day	11am Christmas Day Communion conducted by Reverend David West

Also in December:

Friday, 16th December	9am Pre-School last session at St Nicholas
Sunday, 18th December	6.30pm (time tbc) Carols in The Castle led by Hope and Claire Lawrence
Tuesday, 20th December	10am St Nicholas School Carol Service

Hurst Gospel Hall

A group of Bible believing Christians who meet to worship and praise God, and learn more of the Bible and God's Son, Jesus Christ.



As always, we have plenty going on for all ages. Please consult our website – www.hurstgospelhall.org for details of regular meetings

The Ladies light lunch on 7th December from 11am will be a Christmas themed event. Ladies, if you have not joined us in the past, perhaps this would be a good time to start!

Our **Christmas Carol service** is planned for **Sunday 18th December at 17.00pm**, followed by refreshments. We also plan to have a short **Christmas morning service from 10.30am to 11.15am**, to sing a few Carols and have time to reflect on the true meaning of the day. It would be lovely to see you!

We also plan to deliver our calendars during December. These are made up of relatively local photos, taken by those in the fellowship, and include Bible verses for each month. They also have details of all meetings. We hope you enjoy this year's compilation!

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

St Nicholas CofE Primary School



It's been a very busy and active start to the new school year at St Nicholas CE Primary School. There are lots of new and exciting clubs for the children to enjoy which are proving very popular including lunchtime Dance club, books and boardgames, Judo, piano, guitar and recorder lessons.

Remembering Queen Elizabeth II



The children have taken time out to acknowledge the sad loss of Queen Elizabeth II. The children had time to reflect on what she taught us as a nation with her kindness and love.



A special assembly was held where the children sang the Platinum Jubilee song, which was truly emotional. The children also penned some beautiful words and pictures in our Book of Remembrance.

Harvest Service at St Nicholas Church

We celebrated Harvest this year with a thoughtful service at St Nicholas Church based on the theme for this term which was Generosity. Following donations from our families, the children also packaged up individual parcels with hand written notes which were sent to vulnerable members of the community, supported by The Link Visiting Scheme, our children's chosen charity of the year. Further parcels were also sent to Alana House (St-Nicholas Church Charity for Harvest).



Getting Out and About

The children have enjoyed many trips and visits this term, including a science experience at Baylab, Green Park, a fur and Falconry visit to Early Years and Key Stage One children, A visit to The Living Rainforest and a trip to the Allotments. Our Year 6 children have tested their teambuilding skills, courage and determination though their Residential trip to PGL, Liddington.



Can you Help?

The children at St Nicholas are keen readers and would like to invite members of our community to listen to their stories. If you could volunteer some time to the school to hear our children read, please do get in touch with the school, either by telephone or by emailing admin@st-nicholas.wokingham.sch.uk

Dolphin School



Nursery Stay & Play Sessions

We are delighted to invite you to our Nursery Stay & Play Sessions for prospective Nursery children and their families.

An opportunity for you to spend time in our Nursery with Jane Robinson, Head of Early Years (whilst meeting other prospective families and having a cup of tea!)

Thursday 2 February – 10:15am to 11:45am

Thursday 16 March – 10:15am to 11:45am

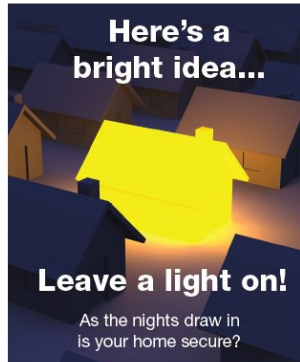


Please call 0118 934 1277 or email admissions@dolphinschool.com to book your place!



Don't make it easy for burglars this winter and holiday season

As the winter nights close in, leave a light on... and burglars in the dark! Burglars are often opportunistic thieves and you can take steps to avoid becoming one of their victims this winter.



- Close and lock all your doors and windows when going out or to bed
- Keep valuables out of sight
- Don't advertise that you're out
Invest in a light timer switch
- Register your valuables with www.immobilise.com
- For crime updates sign up to www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk



You can find further crime prevention advice at www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Please contact us if you have any information relating to burglary in your neighbourhood. Report online or call us on **101**. Always dial **999 in an emergency**. Alternatively, you can call Crimestoppers anonymously on free phone **0800 555 111**.

Email: You can contact your local neighbourhood team via:
WokinghamNHPT@thamesvalley.police.uk

HVS SKILLS AND BUSINESS REGISTER

Please support Hurst traders

Accountant: Land & Scales Ltd

Cadomin, Wards Cross 0118 934 1818 maria@landandscales.co.uk

Small Business accountant specialising in helping to run sole trader businesses and small limited companies, statutory accounts, company secretarial accounts, tax returns and pay-rolls. CIMA qualified.

Admin Services: Mayday VA

susan@mayday-va.com www.mayday-va.com

I am a virtual assistant based in Hurst working with solo professionals and small business owners. I specialise in helping them with all the admin pieces of their business, like calendar management, document formatting, event and travel planning.

Building Contractor: S & K Construction

Furze Covert, Dunt Lane

01189 320 245 07957 303 658 www.sandkconstruction.com

All types of building work, extensions, alterations, and conversion. References available. Free quotation and advice given.

Building Contractor: C Sawyer and Son Builders Ltd

Colin Sawyer

Hurst csawyerandsonltd.co.uk 07768 533 774

Builders for over 38 years. Specialists in old building and listed buildings works.

Car Locksmith: AutoLock3000

Matthew Koekemoer

Lodge Rd Hurst 07950 597 295 1@autolocks3000.co.uk

Lost keys or locked out? We can get you back on the road with a new set of keys in no time. Remapping cars for more power or lower fuel consumption and ECU units fine-tuning to bring the best from your car.

Catering: Flame BBQ

Grange Farm Units, Hurst

07958 670 153 events@flamebbq.co.uk www.flamebbq.co.uk

Outdoor catering specialising in cooking on open fires, firewood pizza, paella and grazing tables.

Chimney Sweep: Thames Chimney Sweep

Neil Scott

01628 828 130 07799 268 123 enquiries@thameschimneysweeps.co.uk

Professional Chimney Sweep. Buy with confidence. Trading standards approved. Fully insured. Contact for prompt attention. Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps member.

www.thameschimneysweeps.co.uk

HVS SKILLS AND BUSINESS REGISTER

Please support Hurst traders

Day Nursery: Muddy Ducks Nursery

Dinton Pastures

07935 228 600 info@muddyducksnursery.com www.muddyducksnursery.com

We are passionate about outdoor play and the importance of children learning about nature and the environment. 2 – 5's. (Funding available)

Garden Maintenance: Burge Maintenance

Alex Burge

Broadcommon Rd 07712 742 671 groundsmaintenanceuk@gmail.com

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

Gutter Clearance: 1st Choice Gutter Clean

Lyndon Roscher

079 8576 3940 hello@1stchoicegutterclean.co.uk 1stchoicegutterclean.co.uk

Clean – Clear – Repair of all gutters

MOT Servicing: Berkshire Autos MOT and Service Centre

Grange Farm, Nelsons Lane 0118 934 3114 berkshireautoshurst@aol.com

Friendly and professional local garage, catering for individual needs. We provide MOTs and servicing; and in addition, tyres, diagnostics, mechanical repair work and air-conditioning.

Printing Services: Giclee London/RGBuk Print Solution & Equipment Specialists

sales@gicleelondon.co.uk www.gicleelondon.co.uk

Long term Hurst business, they are experts in Fine Art printing, specialising in high quality and varied finishes, they also can print posters, photography and just about anything you can think off. Can also supply any printing equipment your business may require, specialising in large format printers.

Plumbers: Turners Plumbing & Heating

Broadwater Lane Whistley Green

0118 934 5627 enquiries@turners-plumbing.co.uk www.turners-plumbing.co.uk

Call us regarding repairs and installations: Boilers: Gas, Oil and Electric: Central Heating and Radiators: Under floor heating: Burst pipes and water leaks: Kitchen, Shower and Bathroom: Swimming Pools.

Skip Hire: John Horwood Skips

John the Skip

Wokingham Road

07710 008 630 01628 788 144 johnhorwood@johntheskip.co.uk

All sizes from 3½ yard upwards always available. Grab Hire Service Top Soil and crushed

HVS SKILLS AND BUSINESS REGISTER

Please support Hurst traders

Soft Furnishings: Jane Carr

Hinton Farm House, Hinton Road www.janecarrsoftfurnishings.co.uk

07909 916 235 jane@janecarrsoftfurnishings.co.uk

Quality hand finished curtains, blinds & other soft furnishings made to order. Design service, free measuring/quotations. Large range of fabrics, curtain poles/ tracks.

Solicitor: Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Eugene Wojciechowski, eugene.wojciechowski@penningtonslaw.com, 0118 934 4485

Eugene is an employment law specialist and his firm advises both businesses and individuals on a full range of legal issues.

Water Softeners: Thames Valley Water Softeners

Gavin Boakes

Tape Lane 0118 934 4485 info@thamesvalleywatersofteners.co.uk

Local water softener supplier: Free installation survey & advice. 10 year guarantee. Repair Service available. Salt for pick-up or delivery.

www.thamesvalleywatersofteners.co.uk www.blocksaltman.co.uk

Window Cleaning: Richard of Hurst

Richard Boyden 07980 872 034 richardofhurst@hotmail.com

Local, trusted and reliable. No house or business too small or too big. Free quotation. Fully insured.

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 include a feature in our regular newsletter sent out by email, and our Hurst Villager Magazine is delivered to every household in the Village and includes the full skills register.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE HVS SKILLS AND BUSINESS REGISTER 2022

£20.00 Per calendar year for members of the HVS

£25.00 per calendar year for non-members of the HVS

This will include calendar year-long exposure on our website and in our Newsletters. Also included in any HVS Magazines: email: skills@hvs.org.uk

Hurst Village Society, Lloyds Bank plc. Sort Code: 30-91-11 Account Number: 01349706

Reference: Business name

Help Vulnerable People This Christmas

Many people will struggle during the winter and over the Christmas period. **Please give generously to help them through the difficult weeks ahead.**

Woodley Food Bank

The local food bank in Woodley is truly struggling with the massive increase in demand for its service. Like many Food banks, they are experiencing a reduction in donations, culminating in very little / zero stock on most items that form a food parcel at our stores. It is with this in mind, we make a heartfelt plea, for the items below - every item donated is truly appreciated, and provided to those that need it most.



Donations can be made to **1 Myrtle Cottages, Hinton Road.**, Hurst There is a plastic box on the drive in which to make donations, that are delivered on a weekly basis.. Some of the most needed items include Sugar, Coffee, Pasta, Cereals ,Pasta Sauce, Spaghetti (dried), Noodles (incl Pot Noodles), Tinned Vegetables (all types, incl potatoes), Tinned pies (Fray Bentos Meat and Veg varieties), Tinned fish , Tinned fruit, Tinned Soups (Veg and Meat), Meat meals (tinned), Biscuits , Crisps, Custard - tinned and dried, Tinned Desserts, Long Life milk, Juice (cordial and long life), Toothbrushes and toothpaste, Shampoo and Shower Gel, Deodorants (M&F) and Toilet Rolls.

The Link Visiting Scheme - Giving the gift of friendship this Christmas

About us

The Link Visiting Scheme is an award-winning charity dedicated to reducing loneliness in Wokingham Borough. For over 20 years, we've brought vital, life-enhancing social connections to older people through regular visits and local community activities. With the support of over 400 wonderful volunteers, we currently help around 500 people feel valued and connected.



Christmas 2022

For many, Christmas Day is a day for family, for getting together and celebrating with loved ones. Sadly, however, for some people without family or close friends, it is the loneliest day of the year. A time when isolation, loss and grief are even more keenly felt. For the 11th year running, we're planning to bring festive cheer to those who are alone and who would love some extra company. This includes having a friend to talk to, a delicious meal on the day plus a gift of treats. If you are on your own, please get in touch with us and we can see if we can help. We rely on donations to support those in our community who need us most. Could you help?

For more information visit our website www.linkvisiting.org/christmas or call our office **0118 979 8019** or email **Marjie Walker**, CEO, at marjie@linkvisiting.org

Help Vulnerable People This Christmas

Many people will struggle during the winter and over the Christmas period. **Please give generously to help them through the difficult weeks ahead.**

The Cowshed

The aim of The Cowshed is to provide good quality cleaned and ironed clothes and other essentials free to anyone in need. The clothes are donated from the general public as well as retailers and manufacturers and are processed ready to be delivered or collected by social services, other health professionals or our clients. The idea is that our clients feel they are receiving a gift to assist them in a time of crisis rather than some old clothes that are over worn, marked or damaged.



With Christmas approaching, the requests for support are coming in fast and Cowshed still need lots of presents so please if you are able to provide a gift, donate money, or help by volunteering the Cowshed team would be grateful. There is a Cowshed donation bin for new toys at **Shute End Council Offices in Wokingham** (RG40 1BN) as well as a donation centre in Reading at **Unit 2 Bennet Court, Bennet Road, Reading** RG2 0QX
For more information visit: www.thecowshed.org/

Age Concern

Twyford & District Age Concern aims to promote and maintain independent living for elderly residents in and around our local community. Their independent, friendly day centre provides a warm and happy atmosphere, and a stimulating, caring and active environment, offering companionship as well as respite care. Open 5 days a week, the centre offers full day care facilities with a home-cooked midday meal from their 5* Kitchen, members can join in a wealth of activities.



We offer a range of services and fun to our members, their families and carers. These include:

- Seated exercises, crafts, sing along sessions, and entertainment.
- Carer support - offering opportunities to discuss matters of concern as well as giving advice and guidance on all aspects of care for the elderly.
- Monthly social events including bingo, themed days & entertainment.
- Assistance with form-filling. e.g. Attendance Allowance, Blue Badge etc



If you or your group would like to hear more about us, or are interested in us running a craft workshop/activity/Coffee Morning etc for you, then please call **Sally** on **07900 568 054**.

If you, or someone you know, feels isolated or lonely do come and talk to us. Our team has plenty of skills and experience. General enquiries contact is: **0118 934 4040**, or visit: info@ageconcerntwyford.org.uk

"There is always a warm and friendly atmosphere at the Centre. The Management and staff are extremely friendly and always helpful. The lunches are freshly prepared and very tasty. I love it here."

Hurst Village Society Membership Application/Renewal

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL: _____ E-MAIL: _____

I would like to receive periodic local information by e-mail from the HVS: YES / NO

New data protection regulations (Data Protection Act May 2018) require you to consent to your personal details including your email address being held by the HVS. Details will not be disclosed to any outside body.

Signature _____ Date _____

Standing Order Instruction to:

Name of your Bank: _____ Branch: _____

Your Account Name: _____ Sort Code: _____ - _____ - _____

Your Account Number:

Payee Details:

Payee: Hurst Village Society Bank: Lloyds Bank plc
Sort Code: 30-91-11 Account Number: 01349706

Payment Reference: Your surname followed by first initial

Payment to be made: Immediately and thereafter on **2nd January** until further notice

Amount: £5.00 (Please amend this amount if you wish to add a donation)

Customer Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

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 membership@hvs.org.uk if you'd like to discuss joining the HVS and want to know more about membership.

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