

the Hurst

ISSUE 5

JUNE/JULY/AUGUST 2019

- **HURST GREEN GOES TO ELLERHOOP**
- **COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS**
- **LETTER FROM THE VICAR**
- **NEW AT THE SHOP**
- *AND MORE...*



Rebirth of the Royal George

What's going on in Hurst Green • News, views and information

EDITORIAL

When we first settled in Hurst Green the assumption was that there would be a pub, a church, a school and at least one village shop. So it was quite a shock to discover that this wasn't the case! Soon after we moved in, the bakery closed as did the Post Office and shop, the church was virtually shut and we couldn't find a traditional pub!

Apparently, Hurst Green once boasted 5 public houses, which seems impressive for such a small village! However now we have the Royal George, restored back to its original glory, serving traditional pub food and providing a meeting place for all. I think this will be a great asset and wish Alan Mills the new manager all the very best for this new venture.

The Community Shop and Café has brought life to the village, providing a hub for local people, a Post Office, a place to eat, connect with others and, if you have time, become a volunteer!

Having a church in the village which is open and welcoming is kind of taken for granted but not always the case. At Holy Trinity we are seeking to provide a safe place for people to explore their spirituality and understanding of God. Everyone is welcomed and accepted whether you have a faith or not.

The school is also thriving, full of happy children and dedicated staff, so all in all I would say our village is cool, hope you think so too!

Annabelle Blackaby
thehurst.hg@gmail.com

The copy deadline for the next issue of *the Hurst* is 31st July

Editor: Annabelle Blackaby Design: John Hawkins
Print: Fastprint Hastings Cover pic: Nick Day

USEFUL CONTACTS

Allotment Association 01580 860251

Breakfast Club (75+) 01580 860760

Brownies 01580 860742

Comedy Capers 01580 860221

Community Shop & Café 01580 860070

Cricket Club 07796 976809

First Responders 07837 224905

Holy Trinity Church 01580 880282 (Vicar)
01580 860649

Hurst Green C of E School 01580 860375

Nursery School 01580 860375 x211

Parish Clerk 01580 860111

Rother District Council 01424 787000

Short Mat Bowling 01424 773478

Twinning Association 01580 860977

Village Hall Booking Agent
01580 860111/860425



Robertsbridge
Garden Machine
Centre Ltd
SALES AND SERVICE SINCE 1966



01580 880686
thegardenmachinecentre@hotmail.co.uk
robertsbridgegardenmachinecentre.com

Station Car Park, Station Road
Robertsbridge, East Sussex TN32 5DC

 Find us on Facebook

The End of an Era – goodbye from Eurasia – Rebirth of The Royal George

Twenty-three years ago, Jo Lee took on The Royal George Hurst Green, a sadly neglected beautiful building and created 'Eurasia'. Since then she has developed a very successful business serving Malaysian/Chinese food to loyal customers from near and far. Jo will continue to serve 'home-style' Malaysian Peranakan Cuisine in the newly opened Penang Room.

The main restaurant and bar has returned to its original function; that of a public house, which was a former Coaching Inn; providing refreshment and a meeting place for friends and family.

The new pub is open every day from 11am to 11pm, except Tuesdays, serving traditional food and drink. Each week there will be a 'Snack of the Week' available for £3.00, tea, coffee, cakes and sandwiches served from 11am-4pm, Happy Hour from 4-6pm with samples of food in the bar, 'Prosecco and Bites', on Thursdays and a Sunday Carvery for £12.50 per person (£7 for children, under 4 eat free!) What's not to like?!



Alan Mills in the bar area

So, who is the new manager? Certainly not a stranger to the Hurst Green community, Alan Mills moved to Hurst Green in 1990 and has been involved in Comedy Capers from its beginning, the Panto, Children in Need and the Twinning Association. Now he will be heading up the running of the Royal George with the expert help of Ann Loo who many will have got to know over the past 11 years at Eurasia.

RENEW is being REVIEWED ...

Thank you to everyone who has supported this venture over the past two years. As you know the costs involved in the upkeep and maintenance of the church are huge and so far we have raised over £3000. But we are not getting many customers coming to the church on Wednesdays so have decided to change the venue to the Community Shop where there is already a Renew table. So from now on we will be there from 9am-11am every Wednesday to meet for coffee, cake and chat. During the summer months we hope to bring a rail of ladies clothing as well.

There will be another Fashion Show event in the church on Friday 7th June at 7.30pm, tickets available in the shop price £5 which includes your first glass of Prosecco. So come along for a fun and entertaining evening, pick up some great bargains and enjoy the local talent! **Annabelle and Debs**

WEDDING FESTIVAL

St Mary's SALEHURST



4th-7th July

St Mary's Church in Salehurst are busy planning a Wedding Festival to help raise funds for some restructuring of the church.

The Festival will open on Wednesday 3rd July with an evening reception, followed by four days when the church will be full of wedding outfits, bridesmaids' dresses, flowers, music, bells and lots of other wedding-related things. It will close on Sunday 7th July with an evening service celebrating marriage, followed by cake!

Everyone is very welcome to come along whenever they can. The church will be open from 10am to 4pm. Refreshments will be available throughout the day.

For more information, contact
Elsbeth Howell elsbeth@howellhq.co.uk
01580 880361



NEEDS YOU!

If you are concerned about the level of speeding traffic through the village

If you are willing to spare a couple of hours a week, then come and make a difference and join the newly formed team

Contact Annabelle via thehurst.hg@gmail.com

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles using speed detection devices.

CARAVAN
TECH(SALES)LTD
www.caravantech.co.uk
London Road,
Hurst Green,
East Sussex
TN19 7PN

**CARAVANS
MOTORHOMES
CAMPERVANS**

**NEW AND USED MODELS
AND A FULLY STOCKED
ACCESSORIES SHOP**

OPENING HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9:00 - 17:30
SATURDAY: 9:00 - 17:00
SUNDAY: 11:00 - 16:00

BAILEY

EGGS TO APPLES
FARM SHOP
'shop local, leave with a smile'

FRUIT & VEGETABLES • DELICATESSEN
CAFE & TERRACE • BBQ SUPPLIES • FISHCOUNTER
PICNICS • GROCERIES • CELLAR
FLOWERS & PLANTS • HAMPERS & GIFTS

MON TO FRI 8.30AM - 6PM
SAT 8.30AM - 5.30PM / SUN 9.30AM - 4PM
01580 860566 WWW.EGGSTOAPPLES.CO.UK
HURST GREEN. A21. TN19 7QP.

Letter from the Vicar

In my letter this month I include quotes from Laura Lee's blog: lauralee1.wordpress.com. Laura is a fellow vicar who often inspires me with her wisdom.

Happiness is one of those things that everybody seems to believe that they have a right to, but still there are so many lonely and unhappy people in the world. Some people spend a lot of money on self-help books and courses in the pursuit of finding this elusive holy grail of happiness. Jesus didn't write a manual for happiness, he simply gave us two commandments, Love God with all of your heart and love your neighbour as yourself. Augustine of Hippo said, "To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement". In her blog Laura says, "with God, and with a community, you are never alone, you are not connecting with virtual people, via a screen. You are praying, reading and learning together. You belong, and you are part of a community who you care for and who care for you..." This is of course true of most communities not just church ones, but she goes on to say, "...even more importantly you will be starting a great adventure with Christ. Before you know it you will begin to obey those two commandments and your life will never be the same again!" This has certainly been my experience as a Christian. Laura has also shared her Happiness List (a work in process) and I thought I would share it with you. These are relevant whether you have faith or not. I have edited the comments.

Do things for others Generosity is hard wired to the pleasure mechanisms in our brains. When we give time, energy and kindness to others it not only helps them but is good for our own well-being, however do it not for reward but because there is a need.

Connect with people
As John Donne famously said, "no man is an island". We need each other.

Live life mindfully
Try to be aware of and enjoy each moment when you can. This isn't always possible – we are easily distracted. But take time to notice, savour and be thankful for the small things.

Keep learning new things There is so much to explore in our incredible world, even from the comfort of our chair.

Have goals to look forward to Remember that bigger goals need to be set with many smaller goals on the way so that you have a sense of achievement.

Look for what is good Don't look for the negatives but focus on the positives, especially in other people!

Be comfortable with who you are This can be incredibly hard but try to see yourself as God sees you – wonderfully and fearfully made, precious in His sight.

Be part of something bigger This goes back to the importance of being in community with others and our need to feel connected.

If you would like to be a part of God's family in Hurst Green we would love to welcome you! **God bless, Rev Annette**
annette@jhbd.co.uk 01580 880282/07900 332791
If you would like to talk to me then please catch me at Hurst Green Community Shop 9.30-11.30am on 2nd and 4th Thursdays, or ring or email at any time.



Holy Trinity Hurst Green

WEEKLY SERVICES

1st Sunday • 9am • Holy Communion
2nd Sunday • 9am • Breakfast Church
3rd Sunday • 4pm • Informal Worship
4th Sunday • 9am • Holy Communion
5th Sunday • 9am • Morning Prayer

www.hurstgreenhtc.org

Hurst Green goes to Ellerhoop



On the 6th of April, a group of Hurst Green residents arrived in Germany to begin a four day visit to our twinned village of Ellerhoop, in Schleswig Holstein. The group was the largest in several years; in total 15 adults and 7 children were warmly welcomed by the German hosts.

The twinning partnership, which began in 1982 and is now in its 37th year, is still going strong with many life-long friendships being renewed on this visit. Local parish councillor Derek Johnson, who has been visiting for over 30 years and has known many of the current German hosts since they were children, said "They are just so welcoming and make us feel at home". Victoria Davis, who visited Ellerhoop for the first time with her three children Lizzie, Freya and Clara and husband Chris, had a great time: "We had a wonderful time with our hosts, and the girls had such fun on the farm we stayed on".

This year saw a packed and entertaining itinerary, with visits to the nearby city of Hamburg including the world famous Miniatur Wunderland (Miniature Wonderland – of course!), the Fischmarkt (Fish market – which had very few fish

but lots of beer and live music), and the Eckholt wild animal park. Hurst Greeners were also involved in a game of Bösseln which is a north German game, where two teams take turns to launch a rubber ball around the village – the team who got around the 2km circuit with the fewest rolls were the winners! It was great fun, but we feel that it might not be suitable to play along the London Road in Hurst Green!

Next year will see the return of the Germans to Hurst Green, and anyone who would like to be part of this event can get in contact with the current organising committee by emailing hurstgreentwining@gmail.com or by calling **01580 860977**. We would be particularly interested in anyone able and willing to host our German visitors when they visit in May 2020.

theHurst This quarterly publication, produced by Holy Trinity Church with the Parish Council, and partly funded by the advertisers, will be available on the church website: www.hurstgreenhtc.org

New at the Shop!



Dingley Dell is the name that we have chosen for our wildlife garden.

We chose the overgrown and rubbish filled woody area in the corner of the garden and once it had been cleared we realised how much space there was. Our vision is to create somewhere we could let children, and adults, learn about the plants and animals that we live alongside but we don't realise they are there as we don't normally look. We do want Dingley Dell to be educational but more importantly we want it to be fun.

Soon after we had cleared the area Bob Janes made and installed a lovely bird bath, and he attached a motion activated camera to one of the trees so that we could see who or what was passing by and using the bird bath. We were amazed at how many different animals passed through, the most surprising was a sparrowhawk.

We have no budget to implement a grand design immediately, so we are looking for various donations to help us along. We recently received some logs and wood chippings to mark out the pathway. The Brownies had a collection and have given us some bird boxes, and Derek Johnson and Barry Edmondson made some more boxes which they've given us.

The most important thing you could donate is your time so if you're interested in becoming a 'Friend of Dingley Dell'



and helping in any way, please leave your contact details at the Shop, either in person or by phoning **01580 860070**.

Also new in the shop is a **Smart Screen** with lots of info about what's on and coming up.

If someone has an event or some news they want put on the screen they should send it to the Shop's e-mail address c/o Mandy, which is shop@hurstgreenshop.co.uk or hand it in at the Shop for Mandy's attention.

For all you women out there, a new group is starting on Mondays at 7pm in the shop.

Hurst Green Women's Circle will mindfully combine practical activities with spiritual exploration...and there will be coffee and cake! For more info contact Talena on **07502847124** or pop into the shop.



We need your tokens! Hurst Green School and Nursery are looking for funding to improve the area for our nursery and reception children. Please will you support us and pop your blue tokens in our pot which will be in the Hawkhurst Tesco for the month of June. Only tokens from the Hawkhurst store will be accepted! Thanks so much!

Community First Responders

I'm Juliet and I have been a Community First Responder for South East Coast Ambulance for 5 years. I came to the role with no previous medical experience but, having seen an advert, thought it was something I wanted to try.



Juliet Holroyd

As it turns out I don't mind turning up at a stranger's house, trying to gain access, ascertaining who the patient is (it's often surprisingly unclear!) and dealing with a stressful, confusing or traumatic situation, in fact it is a rewarding challenge. I have learnt so much and gained many skills along with an admiration for the human spirit and strength. Along the way I have been able to support patients, and families, at some of their most difficult and stressful times and provide assistance to the SECamb crews.

We are issued with a variety of equipment including those to take observations such as blood pressure, temperature, heart-rate and oxygen saturation, also oxygen masks and most importantly a defibrillator. An ambulance can often have a long journey to reach a critical incident such as a cardiac arrest. As CFRs we can reach patients in our community quickly, using our own cars and often provide life-saving skills such as using a defibrillator and doing chest compressions.

We are required to 'book on' for 6 hours a week but this can be at any time that suits. There is regular training and annual assessments to ensure our skills are up to date. We also assist our community by installing Public Access Defibrillators which everyone has access to and anyone can use.

To increase confidence in this we also do familiarisation sessions to any local groups that would like them. It can be a very challenging role and sometimes upsetting. However, we provide support to each other within our team and SECamb are there to talk through any difficult incidents.

We give of our time freely and without payment, so much appreciate the support and recognition of those locally. I have enjoyed it so much I now work full time for the British Red Cross, contracted to SECamb, doing front line ambulance work. I look forward to many more years to come providing first aid and reassurance to those in need.

LET'S GET GARDENING

WITH ERNEST DOE POWER



click & collect
ernestdoeshop.com

Hurst Green
TN19 7QP
01580 860495

ernestDOEpower
where you can buy with confidence.

Hurst Green Primary School and Nursery

The Class of 2019 had a great year. When I asked them what the highlights were, they unanimously voted staying up late on the PGL holiday as number one followed closely by the sports tournaments and school dinners!

Asked what they would miss most when moving on to their secondary schools the answer was friends and teachers at Hurst Green.

Some of the other activities enjoyed by the pupils this past year were a lunch for the royal wedding, a visit to Glyndebourne and a crazy hair day. The year 6 children also enjoyed

being buddies to the new pupils and looking after the nursery children when they started in the 'big school'.

We wish them all the very best on their transfer to their next stage of education and many happy memories of their time at Hurst Green Primary School.



The Social Club

In the late 19th and early 20th century, billiards and later snooker was becoming a popular pastime, but there were no facilities in the village.

To the rescue came the Shakespeare family who were living in the Lodge at that time. They had a snooker room with a full size table and invited their friends in the village to use the facility from time to time.

With more interest growing it was apparent that a purpose made building was required in the village. A suitable piece of land was acquired from the Bernhurst estate and the club building was erected on the site where it still stands today at the corner of the A21 with Station Road.

As the minutes go back as far as 1912 it can be assumed that is when the Working Men's Club as it was known then

was formed. A second hand snooker table was purchased along with all paraphernalia, cues, rests, scoreboard etc that go with it.

At some point in the 1960s the name of the club was changed from a working man's club to The Hurst Green Social Club to make way for female members. In latter years snooker has gone into a decline and many clubs have sold off their snooker tables with Hurst Green being no exception, although this has freed up much needed space to allow for event nights such as Discos, Karaoke, Race Nights etc. A pool table has been installed and there are currently two teams in the Pool league. The Club has a steady membership and more members would be welcome.

Contact Derek French at:
derek@docuplex.net



It's a pleasure to say that things are looking up for Hurst Green Cricket Club this coming season. Through a partnership with Netherfield Cricket Club we

will be playing more cricket both home and away. This arrangement with Netherfield has come about as a result of disappointing news – their cricket square was rendered unplayable following a winter of it being used as a football pitch and this is why we're always wary of damage to the cricket field here in Hurst Green.

Date	Team & Venue	Time
05/05/19	Eridge (Away)	13:00
12/05/2019	Catsfield (Away)	14:00
19/05/2019	Rotherfield (Home)	14:00
26/05/2019	Winchelsea (Away)	14:00
02/06/2019	Bodiam (Away)	14:00
09/06/2019		
16/06/2019	Etchingham vs Mountfield	TBC
23/06/2019	Bodiam (Home)	14:00
30/06/2019		
07/07/2019		
14/07/2019	Sedlescombe (Away)	14:00
21/07/2019	London Rams (Home)	13:00
28/07/2019	Penshurst (Away)	13:00
04/08/2019	Wadhurst (Home)	14:00
11/08/2019	Clive Vale (Home)	14:00
18/08/2019	Pakenham XI (Home)	TBC
25/08/2019	Catsfield (Away)	13:30
01/09/2019	Crowhurst (Away)	TBC
08/09/2019	Brightling Park (Away)	TBC
15/09/2019	Brasted (Home)	13:00
22/09/2019	Battle (Away)	13:30

I absolutely believe the Drewett's Field is a vital green and open space for the community to use appropriately and if you have an idea for how it could be used please let me know at hurstgreenc@gmail.com or on 07796 976809. I'd also encourage people to remember that all the work to keep it in good shape is undertaken by volunteers and comes free of charge to residents.

We're always looking for new players of any playing ability (male or female) from the village to join us. Even if you don't play but want to get involved (perhaps you enjoy scoring the games, or want to help keep Drewett's Field looking good) then please drop me a line at hurstgreenc@gmail.com or on 07796 976809.

I extend an invitation to all residents of the village to come and spend a sunny Sunday afternoon watching the cricket at any of our home fixtures listed here. You might even get a cup of tea if you time it right!

Ian Hirst (Acorn Way)

When?
Mondays, 2-3pm

Where?
Robertsbridge Club,
Station Road,
Robertsbridge

Swings and Roundabouts

A Choir for Carers and Friends

Do I have to audition?
No! Just come along and sing.

I can't read music, does it matter?
No! You'll be fine.

Do I have to pay for a whole term?
No! Pay as you go and come when you can.

Find your own voice again in our relaxed, friendly and fun choir.

Folk, pop, world music, gospel, sea shanties and more.

Give Sheila a call on 01580 880 740 or 07900 181 385. You can do it.

Hurst Green Brownies

This busy year the girls chose to complete several badges including Friend to Animals, Artist and World Guiding Badge.

We've held theme meetings about outer space, the Royal wedding and owl, hedgehog and butterfly evenings.

We've joined other Units at events including a Silent Disco and a Dance Day where the girls tried out Line Dancing and Latin American.

The girls also went to the PGL holiday activity centre in Windmill Hill trying kayaking, raft building and abseiling.

At Christmas we went to Burghwood House to sing carols and brownie songs to the residents and we've raised money so we could give bird boxes to the Community shop.

The Brownies have enjoyed crafting, playing games and singing.

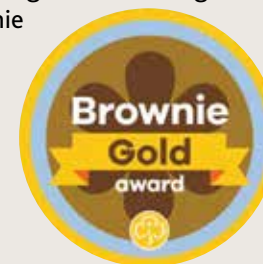
This year we started the new Brownie Programme which is based around six themes: Know myself; Express myself; Be well; Have adventures; Take action; and Skills for my future.

We have a whole range of new activities for our weekly meetings and new badges including the Brownie Gold Award.

If you have a daughter aged between 7 and 10 years old who you think might enjoy Brownies you can register her at

www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/

Susan Eyres, Brownie Leader



UP AND COMING EVENTS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 1st June Village Fete 1–5pm.
Live music, stalls, refreshments etc.

Monday 3rd June Hurst Green Women's Circle 7pm at the Community Shop

Friday 7th June Fashion Show in the church. 7.30pm Tickets £5.00 from the Community Shop

Last Thursday of every month – Breakfast Club (75+) in the Community Café

Thursday 4th-Sunday 7th July Wedding Festival, 10am-4pm at St Mary's in Salehurst

Saturday July 27th at 3pm 11th Annual Richard Beattie Davis Sandhurst Musical events for Hospice in the Weald. Piano recital/garden party in Sandhurst. Daniel Grimwood will be performing music by Dvorak as well as a variety of Russian works. Tickets from Gillian Davis 01580 850384.

What's on Hurst Green Village Hall

Monday Brownies 6pm (term time only)
Short mat bowls 8pm

Tuesday Pilates 8.45 & 10am
Jive 7pm
Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm
(last Tuesday of month)

Wednesday Upholstery 10am
Fitsteps 6pm
Historical Society 7.30pm
(3rd Wed of month)

Thursday Pilates 8.45am
Short mat bowls 2pm
Jump squad 6.30pm
Zumba 8pm

Saturday Yoga 10am

Merriments Gardens

Find inspiration in our RHS Partner Garden. Buy exquisite plants, gifts & garden essentials in our Shop and relax with home-cooked refreshments in our table-service Restaurant



GARDEN · PLANTS · SHOP · RESTAURANT
01580 860666 · www.merriments.co.uk
Merriments Gardens Hawkhurst Rd, TN19 7RA



PLANTERS

NORTH OF HURST
GREEN ON THE A21

Garden Centre, Farm Shop, Café,
Butchery, Antiques and Art.

So much more than a Farm Shop...

For café reservations please call 01580 860959

A21 - Hurst Green East Sussex, TN19 7QS

www.planterersA21.com

Fishdene Garage

- Our workshops are open five and a half days a week
- We have full Service & MOT facilities for class 4 and class 7 vehicles.
- We have full repair and diagnostic facilities.
- We have tyre changing and wheel alignment equipment, and our tyres are competitively priced.
- Air conditioning service available, please ask for further details.

Call for
further
details

- We have courtesy cars available while your car is in for Service and repairs.
- We can also collect and return your vehicle while in for servicing.



01580 862000

WE ARE A FAMILY
RUN BUSINESS AND
HAVE BEEN
ESTABLISHED
OVER 38 YEARS

London Road, Hurst
Green, Etchingham
TN19 7QR