

Hurst Village Society

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

Newsletter No. 100

www.hvs.org.uk

June 2006

New Committee Members Needed Now!

The HVS Annual General Meeting was held on Friday 17th March. There was a very good turn out this year and we would like to say "Thank you" to all those who attended. At the meeting, each of the committee members provided an update on their respective areas of responsibility and Annette Drake gave an update from Shute End.

In spite of the good turn out, the HVS Committee remains short of members. While we are pleased to welcome Barbara Johnson and Mel Green as new members on to the Committee, we say a reluctant farewell to Nick Willson, Duncan Kendall, Wendy Tobitt and Sheila Whittaker. We will miss them; their contribution and personalities have benefited the committee significantly over many years.

We now need volunteers to join the committee to take on the roles of: Chair, Planning and Internet. Please contact any member of the committee (see back for contact details) if you are willing to volunteer some time to help HVS in its mission to preserve and enhance the character of the village - we can guarantee you will have some fun too!

East Wall of St Nicholas Church

The work is well underway and the wall's structure is sounder than expected, especially that of the Chapel. There were some surprises found in the inspection holes of the Chancel wall. This included some infill of parts of a chalk window frame from when the Victorians replaced the originals. These pieces have been retained and are on show on the display table in the north aisle.

The roof and wall head work is nearing completion so the scaffolding will go this month. The drainage work is well underway, although the builders have struck some hard core around the tower as they try to re-install the drains to south of the church. This has come from when the Tower window was introduced by the Victorians. The north drains, like the south, will join onto the previous repairs of 2003. Meanwhile the south guttering is away for refurbishment while this is going on. The work, although slightly delayed, should be completed this month.

Also in this issue:

Hurst Horse Show

Pantomime update

Party in the Park

*** News Bites ***

HVS Dinner Dance

This year's Dinner Dance will be held on **Saturday 2nd December**. This is a very popular event where the Large Village Hall is transformed into an amazing wonderland and much fun and wine is had by all! Make this a date in your diary.

Sale of Alcohol at the Village Halls - update

The changes in the licensing laws have meant that the Village Hall needs to apply for a licence for the retail sale of alcohol. Our caretaker has undergone the necessary training and is licensed as a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) and our formal application to vary the Halls licence is now with WDC. The government has imposed this system on the basis of 'one size fits all' and this has proved a major headache for village halls, clubs and schools. The result is that we have to apply for a licence for every day of the week and for all hours in order to cover all possible requirements. The Halls' Committee would like to assure residents that the number of occasions (typically three times/month) when there is alcohol for sale on the site will remain unchanged. All these events are either private parties or ticketed events. There is positively no intention of running a pub or keeping a stocked bar.

The Green Man

The Green Man is now open **all day** on a **Sunday** for food, **12:00 - 9:00pm**. Roasts are served 12-4pm with a full menu thereafter. We look forward to serving you!

Hurst Village Tennis Club

We meet on **Mondays 7:00pm - 9:00pm** at the Dolphin School tennis courts. Anyone wishing to join in can either just turn up on Mondays or call **Pippa Boyd** on **0118 934 5034**. We welcome any standard of play.

St Nicholas and St Mary's Church Services

Sunday 2nd July The Third Sunday after Trinity *(week 1)*

St Mary's: 9:30am Family Eucharist *
St Nicholas: 11:00am Morning Worship *

Monday 3rd July 8:00pm Parish Confirmation at St Nicholas with the Bishop of Reading

Sunday 9th July The Fourth Sunday after Trinity *(week 2)*

St Mary's: 8:00am Holy Communion 9:30am Morning Worship *
St Nicholas: 11:00am Family Eucharist *

Sunday 16th July The Fifth Sunday after Trinity *(week 3)*

St Mary's: 9:30am Family Eucharist * 6:30pm Service of Prayer for Healing & Wholeness

St Nicholas: 11:00am Family Praise & Baptism

Sunday 23rd July The Sixth Sunday after Trinity *(week 4)*

St Mary's: 9:30am Family Praise
St Nicholas: 8:00am Holy Communion 11:00am Family Eucharist *

Sunday 30th July The Seventh Sunday after Trinity *(week 5)*

Please see Church Notice Board

The services usually follow this pattern each month with Children's Club taking place during the services marked *.

If you would like more details about the church in this parish or would like to check the times of the services, please 'phone the **Revd John Coombs** on **0118 934 0017**

Hurst Pantomime Group - Aladdin 2007

Preparations are well under way for the January 2007 production of Aladdin in the Hurst Village Hall. Considerable funding is required to launch such a project and this is now well in hand thanks to a hugely successful race night, held on 19th May which has raised an incredible £2,140.

Thanks go to Rita and Terry Bunyard for their tremendous efforts in organising this event and also to all those who came along to support the evening. Thanks also to the Wokingham Half Marathon for their generous donation to Pantomime funds of £400.

The Pantomime will once again be directed by the inimitable Peter Stallwood, ably assisted by musical director Steve Randall and choreographer Mary Nondé. The script has been chosen and the performance dates confirmed as:

Thursday 11th January at 7:30pm

Friday 12th January at 7:30pm

Saturday 13th January at 2:00pm & 7:30pm

All that remains now is to find the cast and crew!

Anyone interested in taking part should note the following important dates:

Adult registration for those interested in being part of the main cast, chorus or backstage crew will take place on **Monday 4th September 2006 from 7:30pm – 10:00pm** in the Committee Room. This will be followed by a brief read through of the script.

Adult auditions will then take place on **Friday 8th September 2006 from 7:30pm – 10:00pm** in the Large Village Hall.

Children's chorus registration is on **Sunday 10th September 2006 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm** in the Large Village Hall.

Those wishing to be considered for the main cast and adult chorus must be able to commit to being available for **rehearsals every Friday from 7:30pm – 10:00pm** commencing **Friday 15th September** and some Sunday afternoons from October. They will also be required for dress rehearsals on **Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th January**.

Children will need to be available every **Sunday 1.00pm – 3:00pm** from **17th September** and also for the dress rehearsals.

Further information is available from:

Judith Boulton on **01344 752672** or **Jo Penney** on **0118 934 1498** or visit the web site at **www.hurstpanto.org.uk**

www.hvs.org.uk—What's On in Hurst ?

The HVS web site provides information about events in the village and important dates to note, which are posted in a monthly email. There is also a skills register showing all the local skills we can call on within the village. So log on today and register for your regular email updates and find out more about Hurst and what's on.

Hurst Horse Show and Country Fayre



24TH & 25TH JUNE 2006

A hive of activity is taking place across Hurst village as we ramp up our preparations for the 2006 Hurst Horse Show and Country Fayre. With new members on the committee this year the show promises to be the best ever with lots of new attractions for the whole family. We have also had a lot of interest and support from local sponsoring companies that has enabled us to increase our publicity and events.

On the Horse Show side, we are offering the full range of jumping and showing classes and there will be plenty of fun events and displays for all the family to enjoy. Schedules and entry forms are available on our website www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk

At the Country Fayre this year we have plenty of activities to entertain you including our bustling stalls, Morris Dancers, horse and dray rides, tug of war, birds of prey, Flyball dogs, a Grand Draw, ferret and terrier racing, bouncy castle, wine tasting and much, much more.

Last year we introduced the scarecrow competition and it was very popular indeed and this year we are repeating the competition so please do come along with your special creation. Scarecrow competition entry forms can be obtained from our website www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk

This year we have extended our catering choices and our licensed bar will feature the world cup football live on TV, so there is no excuse for all the family not to attend! Come along and soak up the atmosphere with all your friends and family.

The week before the show is the crucial time when most preparations to the field take place, we urgently need many more people to help this year. Please help us if you can, on the dates listed below:

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th June - Horse Show Jump Painting, Willowmead Field, from 10:30am onwards. For those handy with a brush!

Wednesday 21st to Friday 23rd June - Setting up for the Horse Show, Willowmead and School Fields, from 6:30pm onwards. Includes putting up the tents and marquees, the arenas, the stalls and a host of jobs that have to be done before Saturday morning!

Finally, please do visit our fabulous website for more information about the show www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk

Party in the Park - Saturday July 1st

Hurst Romans FC are preparing for their second Party in the Park on **Saturday July 1st**.

3 live bands will be performing, including the tremendously popular band from last year's event - Night Train (back by overwhelming demand!) We also have two home grown bands made up from Dads from the village and surrounding areas. **Tickets** are priced at **£12.00 each**.

Bring along your own booze, BBQ, three course supper or just a good old picnic, (licensed bar also available at very reasonable prices) and enjoy live music from 70's, 80's and 90's.

Pitch your table on the field - between 9:00am - 5:00pm. Gazebo's, dining chairs, deckchairs, BBQs candelabras etc., - just bring them along to make your evening a comfortable one

Gates open for the evenings attractions at **6.00pm**, **bands start** playing at **7.30pm**

Tickets available now from:

Martin Rayner 07920 592904

Deborah Wyatt 07880 747279

Ruth Graesser 07931 445559

www.hurstfc.org.uk

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**Open every day during term time - Monday to Friday, 9.00 to 3.00**

At St. Nicholas Pre-school Playgroup our aim is for each child to be happy and confident, achieving their full potential in all areas of development – physical, emotional, intellectual and social – before starting full-time, compulsory education. Our sessions are run using a combination of free play and some more structured adult-led group work.

Learning through free play is the most important way in which pre-school children can develop their full potential. In play, children experiment with possibilities and become more flexible in thinking and problem-solving. They learn to use their imagination and learn to work alone as well as with others.

Adult-led groups can provide for more one-to-one help where needed. We hope to encourage pre-reading and pre-writing skills as well as encouraging good concentration and perseverance in their learning. We aim to develop listening and comprehension skills as well as memory and language.

If you'd like to find out more about the pre-school, or arrange a visit, please contact **Jane Carr**, Registrations Officer, on **0118 934 1113**.

**Vacancies are currently available. Up to five sessions per week per child are funded by Wokingham D.C.**

## **The view from Shute End**

Following the local elections for a third of the District Council seats. We started the new Council year on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2006. At a meeting of the full council the new Council Chairman, Angus Ross, was appointed, and Frank Browne was re-elected as Council Leader for another year. During the same meeting the Executive members, Chairmen and Vice-Chairman of Committees and Panels were agreed for the year. The political balance changed when the Liberal Democrats lost 3 seats to the Conservatives. We now have 40 Conservative members and 13 Liberal Democrats.

### **Family Fun and Information Day**

On **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July** a **Family Fun and Information Day** is being arranged. The day is organised by Children's Services and local voluntary sector organisations including the Me2 Club, Berkshire Autistic Society, Crossroads, Peapods, Wokingham District Mencap, Princes Royal Trust, Carers' Centre and Scope (for families of children with additional needs in the district, and for professionals who work with them).

There will be a wealth of information and advice available from local statutory and voluntary organisations, covering a range of issues including education, health, social care, play and leisure activities, childcare and family support.

For **further information** or to receive posters and flyers to publicise the event, please contact **Desni Ennis** at the Children's Information Service on **0118 935 2255** or email **cis@wokingham.gov.uk**

### **Dinton Pastures - 5m Netting**

The proposal to put a 5m netting up in Dinton Pastures to protect walkers on the public footpath (from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole) from stray golf balls has not yet been determined. The cost of the netting would be £32,000 - are there any other solutions? Public consultation on this is still on-going, so please make your views known prior to the application being determined.

I am available every Saturday morning from 10:00am - 12 noon should you wish to discuss Council matters, alternatively please call me (details on back of newsletter).

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## **SCOF - Senior Citizens Open Forum**

The programme for the remaining meetings until the August break is:

22<sup>nd</sup> June: Keeping fit in your home environment, by Graham Swatridge, Bulmershe Specialist for Sport

27<sup>th</sup> July: Integrating services for rehabilitating people in their homes, by Karen Jackson, Joint Head of Older People's Services.

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### **Hurst War Memorial**

**John Terry** is researching into the history of the soldiers born or resident in Hurst who gave their lives in the World Wars. He is keen to hear from anyone who has information or photos of the soldiers that would help to create a detailed picture of this era in village life. Please contact John on **0118 934 4340** or by email **john@foxton.eclipse.co.uk**

## **Parish Council News**

From **Wayne Smith** - Chairman of Hurst PC - contactable on **0118 934 0840**

### **Annual General Meeting**

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we held our annual parish council meeting. The then chairman reported on another busy and eventful year with considerable achievements being made and long-term projects coming to fruition. Two examples being, the completion and publication of the Parish Design Statement, and the installation of two vehicle activated signs. Jan Martin also announced her intention to stand down as chairman. Jan has represented the council as chair for the last six years and has played a key role during her time in many projects – one in particular the work she has done to bring better facilities to the village for our children. The council would like to pass on their thanks to Jan for the sterling work she has achieved.

### **Village Litter pick**

Thanks to all those who turned up to our annual village clean up. We had a successful morning on the 25<sup>th</sup> March filling almost 4 skips- don't worry if you missed it we will have another either in the autumn and or next March!

### **New Chairman**

I know Jan will be a hard act to follow so I'm glad she has decided to stay on as vice chairman for the next year. I look forward to the year ahead and working with the village to protect and preserve what is a great place to live.

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### **Update from Jackie Daniels – PCSO Hurst**

As you will all know by now, I am the Police Community Support Officer for Hurst and I am very keen to support Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) within the area. We hope that by establishing communication with co-ordinators and members, we can:

- Establish new schemes and set up co-ordinator meetings and village meetings to the benefit of the community
- Exchange information to create a safe neighbourhood
- Re-establish any NHW schemes that have not been so active and would now like to be more active
- Discuss any quality of life issues that you may have
- Promote a link with a complete cross-section of the community, from the very young to senior citizens.

If you would like to discuss any of the above issues, I can be contacted as follows:

Email: [Jacqueline.daniels@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Jacqueline.daniels@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Tel: 0845 8 505 505 (ask for Jackie Daniels)

**Open House** – I am pleased to announce that Christine Seal (the new NHW Administrator) and I will hold an open house session at Twyford Police Station for anyone to come along and discuss any issues; this will take place on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June** from **2:00 – 4:00pm**.

## Attracting Every Strapline Perfectionist - Buy Into By-line Writing

Where are the column writers, news hounds, hacks and frustrated journalists? They're not all working for the British Tabloid press. Reliable sources inform us Hurst has its fair share.

So.... how about taking on the South East's prime journalistic role: **Editor of the HVS Newsletter** no less!

Yes, we need a new one. How about you? Or how about persuading the shy and retiring person you know who is really, truly honestly wanting to do the job? The salary is worse than lousy (nothing). The perks are no better. But oh! That sense of satisfaction; that community spirit; that making a difference factor.

Even if you are only slightly interested, please contact any **HVS Committee member for further information.**

## Hurst Village Society Committee Members

|                              |                                               |                               |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| David Bingham                | 3 Whistley Court Farm                         | 0118 932 1267 Treasurer       |
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| Eddie Coe                    | 4 Lodge Road                                  | 0118 934 5103 Membership      |
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| Wayne Smith                  | Woodville, Wokingham Road                     | 0118 934 0840 Skills register |
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| Annette Drake,               | Walden Acres, Wokingham Road                  | 0118 934 1036 WDC Councillor  |
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