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*Published by the Hurst Village Society*

**www.hvs.org.uk**

# 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. 114**

**www.hvs.org.uk**

**September 2010**

## OUR BEST KEPT SECRET

Summer and cricket on the village green ... this age-old tradition is keenly upheld by the Hurst Cricket Club. However, it takes place behind a high grey wooden fence! All this is about to change. Work will shortly begin to replace the fence with a railing fence, similar to the railing around the play area. This will open up the view in the centre of the village and show the beautiful field beyond. Hopefully, it will also encourage more people to join [and support the club](#). The Hurst Village Society has taken on the project in line with its aim to enhance the character of the village.

Steve Rumble and the committee of the Cricket Club are very enthusiastic and appreciative of this gesture by the HVS. They look forward to seeing more visitors at the ground. Their last match of the season takes place on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> September, after which work on the fence will begin.



## THE GREAT VILLAGE SHOW

Our two main summer events were once again an outstanding success. See pages 2 and 3 for a full report of all the happenings.

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## Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair

Saturday, 26th and Sunday, 27th June 2010

Dozens of good causes have received healthy boosts to their funds – thanks to money raised at the Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair.

Among the Hurst good causes supported were St Nicholas Primary School, St Nicholas Pre-School Playgroup, the Scout and Guide groups, the Horticultural Show, the Pantomime Group, Hurst Romans Football Club, St Nicholas Church, Blue Flame Dance, Hurst Morris People, the Karate Club and the Bowling Club.

A full list of the beneficiaries appears on the Show's website:

[www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk](http://www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk)

### Thank you to Hurst

The show committee wants to thank the hundreds of Hurst people who contributed in dozens of ways to create a weekend packed with fun and entertainment.

Show chair Duncan Kendall said: 'It was a great community event. Everyone's hard work meant it all ran very smoothly.' Duncan is stepping down from being show chair after four years in the post.

### Tell us what you think

The show has one other job, arising out of this year's show, for Hurst people to do. The committee would like anyone involved in the show in any way, visitors included, to tell them about the show attractions they enjoyed, ideas for additions and also any improvements they can suggest.

Ways to contact the show committee are given in the panel below.

### The provisional dates for next year's Show are 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2011

The committee would welcome new members. Preparations for the show start in January. Anyone interested in joining can telephone Duncan for a chat about what is involved on 0118 934 2852.

### Give your views on 2010's Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair

Please help plan next year's show, by saying ...

- Which attractions did you particularly enjoy?
- What new attractions would you like?
- What improvements would you like to the show?
- Any other comments.

To send your comments:

- Go to [www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk](http://www.HurstHorseShow.org.uk) and click on the Contact Us button to send us an email.
- Telephone Sue Corcoran on 0118 932 0571.

Many thanks for your help.

Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair Committee

## SERVICES AT ST NICHOLAS, HURST

### Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> September

8.00am Holy Communion  
11.00am Family Eucharist and Sunday Club

### Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> September

11.00am Family Eucharist and Sunday Club

### Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> September

8.00am Holy Communion  
11.00am Family Praise



### Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> September

#### 11.00am Harvest Festival

The service will be appropriate for people of all ages and will be a special opportunity to invite all our friends and neighbours. The service will be followed by lunch. We do hope that you will be able to come.

### New pattern of services at St Nicholas

Beginning in October, the 11.00am service on the third Sunday of each month will be a more informal Eucharist suitable for all ages. It will be shorter than the usual hour, with opportunities for the younger people and children to be more involved.

The Family Praise service, which is not a Eucharist, will usually be held when there is a Fifth Sunday in the month. The first of these services will be on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Memorial Service

On **Sunday 31st October** at 4.00pm there will be the annual service, which is designed so that we can remember all who have died, either recently or in years gone by. We shall sing some familiar hymns, listen to the readings and make our particular remembrance through the silence and the lighting of a candle. Please do come yourself, and, perhaps bring someone with you who might particularly appreciate the service.

### Remembrance Sunday falls on 14<sup>th</sup> November.

As usual the service will begin at **10.45am**. We will read the names of those from this community who died in the two World Wars whilst remembering in the Silence those who have died since, including the current operations in Afghanistan. At the end of the service we shall gather around the War Memorial as the wreaths are laid.

For more details about the church in Hurst, please phone the Revd John Coombs on 0118 934 0017 and/or go to [www.acny.org.uk/5339](http://www.acny.org.uk/5339).

## HURST GOSPEL HALL

Our regular activities continue as follows.

**Mondays** J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) for children 5 years upwards. Quizzes, singing, Bible Stories and lots of fun and games. 6.15 – 7.15pm during term time.

**Tuesday** evening is our Bible Study and Prayer evening. From 7.45pm.

**Wednesdays** 8.00pm. On the first Wednesday of the month, the ladies meet. For more details, please contact Mrs Norah Thomas on 01189 667 239.

**Fridays** Mother and Toddler Group from 10.00 – 11.30am during term time.

**Sundays** Each Sunday evening at 6.30pm we have a Gospel meeting.

On the third Sunday of each month, this is replaced by CAMEO at 5.00pm. We begin with a time to chat, then we have tea, some hymn singing and a Bible talk.

For more information, please ring Rachel Simms on 0118 977 2071 or e-mail [David.Simms2@btinternet.com](mailto:David.Simms2@btinternet.com). Alternatively, you can visit our website at <http://www.hurstgospelhall.org>

## VOLUNTARY ACTION WOKINGHAM BOROUGH

### FREE training workshops

#### Voluntary and Community Sector Representative training Skilling Up For A Stronger Voice

**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010 10am to 1.30pm**

This training is equipping local groups with the necessary knowledge and tools to ensure their representatives get their voice heard and to make sure their concerns are on the local agenda! Places are limited, so for more information and to book your FREE place, call Romany on 0118 912 3141 or email her at [training@vawb.org.uk](mailto:training@vawb.org.uk).

#### Equality & Diversity Impact Assessment training

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 9.30am to 12.30pm**

Voluntary Action Wokingham Borough is already successfully delivering FREE training to Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups across Wokingham Borough.

With the **2010 Equality Act** coming into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October, public bodies including Wokingham Borough Council, Berkshire West PCT and Thames Valley Police are all required to have the new public Equality and Diversity duty practices and policies in force by April 2011.

VAWB urges 3<sup>rd</sup> sector VCS groups not to insulate themselves from these legal changes. VAWB's training workshops provide easy to understand direction and are appropriate for representatives from all voluntary and community groups and organisations in the borough.

Places are limited, so for more information and to book your FREE place, call Romany on 0118 912 3141 or email her at [training@vawb.org.uk](mailto:training@vawb.org.uk).

#### Voluntary Action Wokingham Borough (VAWB)

14, The Metro Centre, Toutley Road,  
Emmbrook, Berkshire, RG41 1QW

Registered charity number 1091696

Registered company number 4375898



## HURST HORTICULTURAL & COTTAGE GARDEN SOCIETY SHOW

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2010**

Most gardeners thought that 2010 was going to be a disappointing year for crops, but once again the produce on display in the marquee at the annual show was outstanding. The horticultural judges commented that the first prize winners could have won at national shows, as the standard was so high.

Inside the village hall, the exhibits in the cooking, flower arranging, needlework, art and photography sections were a most impressive sight as the tables brimmed with local talent.

The children's classes once again attracted some imaginative and fun entries making judging a difficult task.

The Waltham St Lawrence Silver Band played lustily throughout the afternoon in the Village Hall grounds. The various stalls included plants and vegetables, Hurst honey and jam, cards, *bric a brac*, jewellery, and Jamie Oliver goods. Visitors had the opportunity to try spinning at the alpaca stall where woollen items were on sale.

Well done, children, for creating a most interesting village 'tapestry' in the craft area sited for the first time in the playgroup's new sensory garden. Some adults took a nostalgic step back in time whilst the younger generation enjoyed a new experience riding in the traditional wooden swing boats.

The Berkshire Search and Rescue dog display was impressive and the information unit sited in the dog show field attracted much interest. The charity will benefit from a generous donation from dog show profit. Some ninety-seven dogs entered the show held in the adjacent Willowmead field, making a very busy afternoon for all concerned. HH&CGS are most grateful to Mrs Clayden for her continued support in the loan of the field.

New exhibitors are always encouraged to enter and hopefully many will be inspired and have a go in the 2011 show, which is always held on the Saturday prior to the August Bank Holiday weekend.

HH&CGS news and meeting dates will be published in future editions of the HVS Newsletter. Meetings usually happen in September, January, April and July.





## Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair



Bonita Norris from Wokingham, who opened the Hurst Horse Show, is the youngest British woman to have climbed Mount Everest. She is pictured here with Sam Graesser. Sam left St Nicholas Primary School this summer to start secondary school in September.



Niki Measures receiving the Senior Rider Championship shield from the trophy sponsor and Hurst Horse Show Committee founder member, Major Terry Bunyard.

### HURST PANTOMIME GROUP

The Hurst Pantomime Group are delighted to announce that we will be putting on a production of *Babes in the Wood* in January 2011. We are, of course, looking for actors/actresses, but we also need help with many aspects back stage, and are particularly keen to hear from anyone interested in set painting or being an assistant director.

**Initial Meeting – Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Committee Room, Large Village Hall, 7.30pm**

Introductory meeting and script read-through.

**Youth (13+) and Adult Auditions – Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Large Village Hall, 7.30pm – 10.00pm**

**Children's registration and auditions – Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2010**

**Large Village Hall, 1.00pm – 3.00pm**

Registration and auditions for the children's roles

#### Rehearsals

Rehearsals for youth (13+) and adults will be on Friday evenings and some Sunday afternoons. Children's rehearsals will be on Sunday afternoons from 1 – 3pm.

#### Performances

Performances will be on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> January, Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> January and Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Please look out for further details on posters locally  
or call Claire on 0118 969 0930.

## THE VIEW FROM SHUTE END

### Council cuts

The Council has now outlined details of how it will accelerate the Transformation Programme to make the necessary £1.2million worth of savings, following cuts in Government grants. The aim is to secure financial sustainability over the next three years by restructuring the organisation, while making sure that services are delivered to those who are in most need.

The Leader of the Council, David Lee, said, 'With public spending being squeezed nationally, we face significant challenges to ensure our community continues to get high standards of service.'

The Executive Members are set to accelerate the Transformation Programme. 'Possible reductions' will be from:

Berkshire Connexions £100,000; WBC music services £30,000; Flooding £200,000

Primary targeted Support – Children services £30,000

Secondary Target Support – Children Services £30,000

From the Accelerated Transformation, the proposal is from:

Staffing reductions £65,000; Income generation £148,000;

Employee conditions £172,000; Procurement [acquisition] £15,000

The Chief Executive said, 'We are looking to make internal changes that do not impact negatively on residents. However, reshaping the Council will mean that posts will be lost and by the end of this year [March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011] we anticipate reducing the workforce by 100 posts, by shredding agency staff, holding vacant posts and redeploying existing staff.'

### Last but not least

Dumping of rubbish in our lanes is an enormous problem now. Can we all be on the lookout for the perpetrators, noting the vehicle's registration number if possible. These culprits are not villagers. Dumping waste is a criminal offence!

As always, I am at home for you all on Saturday mornings from 10am – noon to discuss any Council-related issues you wish to raise. My telephone number at home is 0118 934 1036.

Annette Drake

Walden Acres, Wokingham Road, Hurst. RG10 ORU



A weed is a plant that has mastered every  
survival skill

except for learning how to grow in rows.

Doug Larson

## POLICE REPORT

*From PCSO Anne Chalmers*

**Cold calling.** A company calling themselves Crime Research UK are actively cold calling residents in this area. The caller will claim to be working in conjunction with the Police, Neighbourhood Watch or the Government (or indeed all three). The caller will ask if you are the home owner and if you are aged between 18 and 80 years of age. They say that you have been selected to receive a free home alarm, fitted and working, for just £1. Please do not invite these callers into your home. They are not working in conjunction with the Police. If you receive a call, note as many details as possible and contact your Neighbourhood Police Team on 0845 8 505 505.

**Operation Lion Cub** is running on Friday and Saturday evenings between 6pm and 2am. We have had a report of noise at the youth shelter. If the young people who use this facility are too noisy late at night and are affecting local residents' quality of life, please report the incident on the non-emergency police contact number.

For any anti-social behaviour such as groups congregating and causing noise and nuisance in your area, please call the non-emergency number **0845 8 505 505**.

**Burglaries.** As the warm summer evenings are with us, please be aware of open patio doors, open ground floor and bedroom windows. Statistically, burglary is not a common activity in the area. However, I urge residents to remain conscious of home security. Please don't become a victim.

**Scrap metal.** There has been an increasing interest in scrap metal across the Wokingham area. We have also received reports of theft of lead and other metals such as copper from premises. When stolen, it is usually transported in transit vans or open backed vehicles. Although there have been no reports as such from within Hurst, I would like to urge residents to report any suspicious activities.

**Dinton Pastures.** During patrols at the Dinton Pastures car park, it was noted that property is being left on show in locked vehicles. Please may we remind residents and visitors not to leave anything on show that might catch the attention of a thief.

**Speeding.** Residents of Hurst have concerns regarding vehicles speeding through the village. These concerns are taken on board and added to our list of hotspots in the area. The results of the Speed Indication Survey taken in July will be posted in our monthly Neighbourhood Police Teams update.

**Visit to Dolphin School.** PCSO Anne Chalmers and PCSO Nicola Shepherd attended Dolphin Primary School in Hurst and gave a 'safe and sound' personal safety talk to year 8 (13/14 year olds), who are preparing to go to their secondary schools in September.

*PCSO Anne Chalmers*

E-mail: [anne.chalmers@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:anne.chalmers@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

## HURST MORRIS PEOPLE

### Invitation to have a go

Hurst Morris People (HuMP) came of age this year. It is 21 years since Hurst couple, Christine and Tim Taylor, founded the Morris dance team, helping keep alive more than 500 years of tradition.

Made up of people of all ages and from all walks of life, our dancers and musicians have enjoyed another successful dance-out season, including performances at Oxford and Wimborne folk festivals, local pubs, and Hurst Horse Show and Country Fair.

**Hurst Morris People have seen their numbers increase three-fold over the past few years. Who said Morris dancing was dying out? Not in Hurst!**

If you would like to find out what Hurst Morris dance and music is all about :

Come to our **free Open Workshops** on  
**Thursday, 23rd September and Thursday, 30th September 2010**  
**Hurst Large Village Hall, 8.00pm - 10.00pm**

For details contact:

Joint Squire, Chris Smith, on 01628 633051 (e-mail: [patsy\\_asmith@hotmail.com](mailto:patsy_asmith@hotmail.com)) or one of our Hurst dancers, Sue Corcoran, on 0118 932 0571 (e-mail: [corcorans@talk21.com](mailto:corcorans@talk21.com))

See our website for pictures, news and more information: [www.hump.org.uk](http://www.hump.org.uk)

### FIBRE ARTS : LEARN A CRAFT DAY

*Sunday, 5th September 2010 10.30am - 4.00pm*

Tippens Wood Alpaca Farm will be hosting a 'Learn a Craft Day' for anybody wanting to learn or improve their skills at spinning sheep wool or alpaca fibre. Our tutor Jan Shailes from the Kennet Valley Guild has over 35 years' experience in teaching spinning. The day will start with an introduction to the theory of spinning and how to prepare a fleece. After trying your hand at spinning, there will be a break at 12.30 to see the alpacas whilst having a light lunch and a glass of wine (vegetarians catered for). In the afternoon there will be a talk on different types of fibre and a chance to try advanced spinning techniques.

Cost for full day: £25 with lunch and materials included

Pensioners : £15 with lunch and materials included

If you would like to join us for a half day, do let us know as the cost of the course will be different.

Please send an e-mail to [info@tippenswood.com](mailto:info@tippenswood.com) if you are interested in joining us or call 07736 351 973 and speak to Anila Preston at Tippens Wood Alpaca Farm, Wokingham [www.tippenswood.com](http://www.tippenswood.com). We can provide spinning wheels for you to use, but please let us know in advance.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Parish Council Meeting

*Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2010, 7.30pm*

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September in the usual place, Small Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

### Autumn Clean Up

*Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2010*

Village Halls Car Park. Start at 9am. Please feel free to come along any time between 9 - 11am. Give the village a chance to prepare for winter. Bags, tabards and picker sticks will be provided.

### St Nicholas Night Celebrations

*Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

The gates to School Road will open at 5pm

### HVS Dinner Dance

*Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010*

Tickets are now on sale for our annual Dinner Dance.

Members £30, Non-members £35. Please contact Jennie Roxburgh-Smith on 0118 934 0840.

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## DINTON PASTURES DIARY

### A Date with Nature

*First Saturday of every month 9am to 12.30pm*

Join the local branch of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds for a walk around the country park. Meet in the main car park. Adults £1, accompanied children free (proceeds to RSPB)

### Lavell's Lake Bird Walks

*Second Sunday of every month 9am to 12 noon (approx)*

Meet at Sandford Lane car park opposite the Black Swan Sailing Club.

A donation of £1 is appreciated and goes towards conservation management and winter bird food.

### Astronomy Talks

*Loddon Room, Dinton Pastures*

*First Saturday of the month 7.00pm*

The Reading Astronomical Society holds a regular series of talks on astronomy basics. Cost: Free. For further information contact Gerry Bond on 0118 986 4032 or email [beginners@readingastro.org.uk](mailto:beginners@readingastro.org.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Wayne Smith, Chairman of Hurst PC, Tel: 0118 934 0840

### School Road Playing field – New Play Equipment

I must begin with an apology to both the immediate residents living in close proximity to the park and to those parents/children who had expected the new equipment to be installed for the summer holidays.

Work did start on 7<sup>th</sup> June but was stopped the same day, due to concerns expressed by the residents living on the perimeter of the area. The Parish Council had been in communication with Wokingham for nearly a year discussing the project. Many site visits/proposals were made with WBC, in conjunction with Playbuilder, to consider both location and equipment type, and plans thereafter were approved.

Unfortunately, we were not made aware that the scheme should have gone out to public consultation, and at no point during our many meetings with WBC were we advised that this was the case. Informal discussions were made by a number of councillors while reviewing plans with a number of parents/children that use the park, although that was not formalised into a full consultation.

The work has now been stopped until we have carried out a consultation whereby residents can express their views.

*To express your views on this subject, we would be very pleased to see you on 11<sup>th</sup> September, as below. To achieve the best feedback from Hurst villagers, it is important that you attend and not just feel everyone else will attend on your behalf.*

### YOUR VIEW IS IMPORTANT FOR THE VILLAGE!

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September at the Play Area, School Road, Hurst, 2 - 4pm**

The Parish Council will be on site to discuss the proposals and share a selection of plans. Separate flyers are included in the September edition of the HVS Newsletter promoting the event. Details can also be found on our website [www.hurst-pc.org.uk](http://www.hurst-pc.org.uk)

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### Village Pond and surrounding area

We have now employed the services of a local gardener/maintenance person to look after the area around the pond/play areas. The plants that have not survived through the dry spell will be replaced in the autumn, along with any grass re-seeding that is needed.

During July the flowers in our wooden containers were stolen. They have now been replaced; hopefully they will stay until we replant for the autumn/winter.

I must thank the Cricket Club for allowing the PC to have access to their water supply, especially John Jewell who replaced the outside tap thus making the filling of the buckets so much easier!

### Village entrance signs

Sorry, still no more news from Wokingham Borough Council. We shall continue to chase them.

## Planning Update

F/2010/0741	Abbots Lodge, Nelsons Lane - Approved
F/2010/1282	The Barn, Green Lane - Approved
F/2010/1394	Stebbings, Broadcommon Road - Approved
F/2010/1289	Meadow Cottage, Wokingham Road - Approved
F/2010/1286	Rose Cottage, Forest Road - Approved
F/2010/0220	Rushtons Farm, Warren House Road - Approved

## STOP PRESS

### Kentwood Farm – O/2020/0943 – Refused

#### Application from Crest Nicholson Operation Ltd for 357 dwellings with garages and carports, with a total of 569 parking spaces

The Council's view when recommending refusal stated that:

'This application site is located within the North Wokingham Strategic Development location [SDL] and therefore the broad principle of development here is acceptable.

Within North Wokingham SDL, there is a phased allocation for around 1500 new dwellings to be provided.'

This was the first phase and was refused.

The application was not considered acceptable for a number of reasons, *inter alia*

- it was premature as it was submitted in advance of the adoption of either the Masterplan SPD or the infrastructure delivery and contributions SPD
- it does not comply with the Development Plan Policy
- the proposal represents piecemeal development
- it does not incorporate a Northern Distributor Road, which is essential *and a raft of other reasons!*

It appears that residents have won round one!

## Join up to Community Messaging

Neighbourhood Watch is busy in your local area. You can also be part of the community messaging system where you are sent e-mails detailing crime in your area and what to watch out for.

Community Messaging is very useful to all members of the community. Not only is it a tool that can be used to advise neighbours of potential crime in the area, but it also gives the community a broader picture as to what the police are doing in the surrounding areas.

To register, complete the simple online application, which will be reviewed by our administrators prior to authorising your access.

[www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org](http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org)

<http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/community-messaging.pdf>

To find out more about Thames Valley Police in your area, please go to our website at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk).

*Dinton Pastures Country Park celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year*

## WHY GRAVEL CREATED DINTON PASTURES

The seven lakes, woodlands and meadows of Dinton Pastures Country Park were created from gravel pits dug out during the 1970s.

As gardeners know, gravel – pebbles, stones, flints and quartzite – is a plentiful natural resource in Hurst and it's here thanks to the River Loddon and changes in temperatures during the last Ice Age.

The 28-mile River Loddon rises in Basingstoke and flows through an area south of Hurst, where it is joined by the River Blackwater. Both rivers flow over bedrock made up of Paleogene deposits (laid down 60 – 55 million years ago) over chalk with flints (created 97 – 65 million years ago when this land was under a warm sea).

Cold periods during the last Ice Age (about 130,000 years ago) when the sea froze and water levels dropped meant that the River Loddon flowed fast. The force of the water washed away bedrock, releasing stones and flints, which caused more erosion downstream. During warm periods, the river flowed slowly, allowing the stones and pebbles to settle in the wide floodplain around Hurst and Twyford and creating gravel terraces both sides of the river.

During the 1960s and 70s, landowners were keen to exploit this natural resource and meet the demands for aggregates in housing and road building. Hurst Village Society was created to fight the proposals to dig up farmland around the River Loddon. Residents resisted the plans unsuccessfully and endured decades of noise, dust and dirt as the gravel was dug and removed.

Wokingham District Council was keen to restore the area for people to enjoy, and wildlife soon moved into the flooded pits, meadows and woodlands, thus helping to create Dinton Pastures Country Park as we know it today.

*Wendy Tobitt*

My thanks to Lesley Dunlop from Berkshire Geoconservation Group, [www.berkshirerigs.org.uk](http://www.berkshirerigs.org.uk), for the booklet *Gravels of Berkshire*.



Black Swan Lake, Dinton Pastures

## Wild Harvest Workshops

*Loddon Room, Dinton Pastures*

*Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October,*

*Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October*

Join Peter Sibley (ecologist) and Clifford Davy (mycologist) for a full-day course in recognising, collecting, preparing, preserving and cooking edible wild plants and mushrooms. Cost: £65 per person.

Contact Peter Sibley on 0208 985 2914 or email: [wildharvest@hotmail.com](mailto:wildharvest@hotmail.com).

## HURST VILLAGE SOCIETY

## Membership Application / Renewal

Please complete **Section A**.

Please complete **Section B**, or **Section C** if you wish to pay by Standing Order.

If you choose to pay by standing order, please feel free to make a donation as well.

### Completed form to be sent to:

HVS Membership Secretary, Derek Jackson, Flat 8, Dorndon House,  
School Road, Hurst. RG10 0GD

**A** Name .....  
Address .....  
.....  
.....  
Tel: ..... E-mail: .....

**B** I enclose a cheque (to Hurst Village Society) / cash for £5.00, as my  
subscription for the year.  
I also enclose a donation of £ ..... to the Hurst Village Society.

**C** To my Bank: ..... Bank  
Address .....  
.....  
Sort code .....

Please debit my account no. .... with the sum of £5.00,  
being my subscription to the Hurst Village Society, and credit account  
no. 01349706 (Hurst Village Society No.1 Account) at Lloyds Bank plc, High  
Street, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1BT. Sort Code 30-91-11.

Date of first payment: Immediately  
and thereafter annually on 1<sup>st</sup> January

Signature ..... Date .....

Print name .....

## HURST ROMANS FOOTBALL CLUB

### Party in the Park

Our annual Party in the Park took place on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Four bands played this year and the great mix of live music, sunshine and record ticket sales made the night a great success! Hurst Romans Football Club would like to extend a big THANK YOU to all those who made it such a wonderful evening. Much needed funds were raised for developing our new home ground, Stowbridge Field in Hurst.

### Club activities

Hurst Romans Football Club would like to welcome Chris Bannon and Tony Annetts who will be running the men's 1<sup>st</sup> team this coming season.

We would also like to welcome Wayne Smith and Iain Perry. They will be Manager and Coach respectively for the U10's team, who will train at Stowbridge Field on Sunday mornings at 10.30am for an hour. The U12's are also expected to play there this coming season.

The Club needs new players of all age groups who might enjoy playing football for fun. We would particularly welcome any boys and girls who will be five years old by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010, to join our up and coming U6 team

If you are interested in joining Hurst Romans Football Club at any age group, please contact Greg Neall on 07747 055518.

## HURST BOWLING CLUB

The Club has continued its successful playing season, winning the majority of its friendly games and lying third in the Manchester Unity league with games in hand over the leading two clubs. More importantly, we have welcomed several new members, including some who live in the village. We are also delighted that several visiting sides have remarked on how well the green is playing.

We manned a stall at the Village Fair in June as well as the Horticultural Fair on 21<sup>st</sup> August. If you would like to try your hand at the game, you are welcome at the green behind The Castle, Church Hill any Tuesday at 6pm or after. The season closes at the end of September.

If you have any queries, please contact Suzanne Hill (Secretary) on 01344 625 828. You can also visit our website on <http://www.hurstbowlingclub.org.uk/>

### Are you a member of the Hurst Village Society?

**The Village Society aims to provide an independent voice for Hurst residents. If you are not a member already, please do join us and contribute to activities in the village. You can find the membership form on page 8. The annual subscription is still only £5 per household.**



## HURST BROWNIES

Hurst Brownies are currently having a busy and exciting time during Guiding's Centenary year.

We went to Paultons Park, Romsey, at the beginning of May along with 4,500 other Brownies from Dorset and the Southwest region. We would like to thank Twyford Scouts for kindly lending us their mini bus and also for when we go to the County Celebration Festival 100 at Newbury in June. In July, we are staying over at Headquarters in London as part of the Centenary Brownie Takeover.

The Brownies are working towards their World Issues badge, which will include a visit to Waitrose to learn more about Fair Trade and recycling, and also World Traveller for girls attending residential trips. We joined Hurst Scouts at Chalfont Heights for their annual Family Camp. Fortunately the sun shone, increasing the fun time had by all.

Our seven new Brownies made their Promise with a Teddy Bear's Picnic theme. We currently have quite a long waiting list. We accept girls from age 5, as there is currently no Rainbow unit running in Hurst.

We have gained a new Unit Helper, Emma (Otter) and two new Young Leaders - Alice and Jasmine, also known as Koala and Panda. However, we are still hopeful of finding someone willing to train as a Guider or Unit helper. Kim (Woodpecker) leaves with her daughter in July and we have already said goodbye and thank you to Liz (Peacock). The support of a team is invaluable and you don't need to be connected to the movement to be able to Lend A Hand! So please contact me on 0118 901 7891 or [mhalle@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:mhalle@globalnet.co.uk) for more information.

*Fiona Hallett*

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## 1<sup>st</sup> HURST GUIDES

The past term has been an action-packed one, with a dance class one evening, a camp fire and cook out another. We also made the most of the warm light summer evenings and spent several Tuesdays climbing, kayaking and dragon boating at Longridge in Marlow.

As previously mentioned, we have two girls due to complete their Baden Powell award, which is the highest award achievable in Guides. All that stands between them and their goal is their Adventure Weekend. This could consist of anything from a weekend of arts and crafts, to a weekend of archery and climbing.

We finished the term off with a scream and spent a thrill-filled Saturday at Thorpe Park, where we tackled some of the scariest and fastest roller coasters. All in all, we've had a great term filled with all sorts of activities.

Hurst Guides meet in the Scout Hut at 7pm every Tuesday evening. We currently have 13 girls with three Brownies due to join us in September. If you would like to know more, please contact Wendy or Amy at [wendygribbs@mac.com](mailto:wendygribbs@mac.com) or [amybaatz@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amybaatz@hotmail.co.uk).

## \*\*\* NEWS BITES \*\*\*

### The Green Man

Phil and Jack would like to thank everyone for all the kind words and support given in the first months of their new venture at the Green Man.

To celebrate our arrival we are pleased to announce that we are now open all day on Saturdays, serving food from 12.00-9.30pm. Also now serving fresh coffee from 11am throughout the school holidays with delicious biscuits and chocolates.

### The Castle

We understand that there may be more news to report about the future of The Castle in the coming weeks. In the meantime, Greene King continues to ensure that The Castle is open for business. The present management warmly welcome those who would like to drop in for a drink or for something to eat.

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## Hurst Community First Responder

We now have a Community First Responder for Hurst. When a 999 call is received, the responder is dispatched at the same time as the ambulance. The responder, being local, is often at the scene sooner and usually arrives at the scene within eight minutes. This gives the responder the opportunity to treat any life-threatening conditions that need immediate care or treatment. A responder will primarily attend Category 'A' emergency 999 calls, which include heart attacks, strokes, breathing difficulties, unconscious patients, shock, diabetic emergencies and choking.

Responders are trained by the NHS but are completely self-funded. To ensure that we can give the best care in these situations, we do rely on donations from local businesses and community support as new kit, new supplies and training cost money.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Hurst Horse Show committee for their generous donation of £350. If you would like to make a donation to Hurst's Community Responder Scheme, please contact your CFR on [HurstCFR@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:HurstCFR@hotmail.co.uk).

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## Calling on HVS members

**We are trying to update our membership records.**

**Please may we request members to e-mail their name, address and e-mail details to the Membership Secretary, Derek Jackson, on [djnsqso@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:djnsqso@yahoo.co.uk). This will be much appreciated.**

## Village Tales

### LIFE ON THE FARM

The recent series on television 'Escape in Time' presented by Ben Fogel, gave a very graphic idea of life on a Victorian farm – working on the land, mucking out the cow stalls, boiling the weekly wash in a copper, and making everything for their own needs.

Sam Bullock in his *Reminiscences of Old Hurst* describes how it was in Hurst.

Quite three parts of the inhabitants worked on the land.

In harvest time the labourer, his wife and children would be fagging from daylight to dusk, no self-binders, and it used to take much longer to gather. ...

Then in the winter some would be in the barn threshing the corn out with a flail, which was two thorn sticks about an inch or so thick about 2 feet long joined together with a swivel so that they held one stick and twisted the other above their heads to thresh the sheaves with. Anyone not used to it would hit their head more than the corn.

After the corn was cut and carried, the women and children would go gleaning, as it was called, picking up all the ears of corn that were left on the ground. The short ones, or those with hardly any stalk, would be put in a pocket which was on the front of their aprons. The longer ones were done up in neat little bundles, taken to their own homes, threshed out and ground usually at Sandford Mill. Then they would make their own dough and bring it to the bakers for them to bake it into bread. Other times the women would be in the meadows and parks picking up stones, wood and acorns. Acorns they would give to their pigs, if they had any (most labourers had a pig or two in their sties). If not, the farmer would buy them at 9d or 1/- a bushel.

More interesting facts about the history of Hurst can be found on both the HVS and the Wooded Hill websites: [www.hvs.org.uk](http://www.hvs.org.uk) and [www.woodedhill.org](http://www.woodedhill.org).

### Three generations at the plough

Trevor Woolford, of a long established Hurst family, can recall his father, uncle and grandfather working on the fields round Whistley Green, Broadcommon Road and Hinton Road.



Francis Woolford, Trevor's grandfather sitting on the grass mower in the 1930s.



Jim Woolford, Trevor's uncle, was a steward of the Heavy Horse Society. He is shown here after winning the ploughing competition in 1994.



Trevor, himself, aged two, sitting on his father's tractor.

## TREES AND THINGS ...

When I first saw Tippens Wood, I did not want to buy it. It was the personification of the dark dark wood from nursery tales. You had to push your way through brambles, nettles and overgrown coppice every step of the way and it all seemed a bit pointless. Three years later and I am in a different place, albeit still clambering up a very steep learning curve.

Our small wood (which type apparently comprises 80% or so of UK woodlands) is classified as semi-ancient natural woodland, which means, in practice, that you cannot touch it without permission from the powers that be.

So off I went to the Forestry Commission. The local officer was very helpful and together we have drawn up a long term (10 years +) plan for its management and harvest. What I came to realise straight away is that trees are a crop. They grow, mature and die. The question is when, if ever, do you intervene and harvest?

It is not an easy choice as we all like to admire mature trees. But there comes a point where the wood cannot grow, as the over-storey (the tree canopy) forms a continuous blanket when in leaf and denies light to the woodland floor. Tippens Wood had reached that point many years earlier. That led to the harvesting of 80 odd oaks in late summer 2008.

Suddenly, the wood changed. Light got in and things started to grow again. We have also started to cut down the overgrown hazel coppice to give it a chance to regenerate – hopefully for wood chip supply in years to come. The brambles can now be kept under some sort of control and the wildlife has started to come back.

We are currently engaged on a programme of thinning the ash trees, which again have reached maturity. It is all a question of balance. Hopefully next year we can think of replanting for future generations.

When we bought the wood, the vendor said 'Don't worry about the wood - it looks after itself.' It all depends what you mean by 'looking after', I guess. It seems to keep us involved year round and I really enjoy seeing the changes slowly take place.

David Preston

TIPPENS WOOD FARM

[www.tippenswood.com](http://www.tippenswood.com)

Dirty days hath September

April June and November

From January up to May

The rain it raineth every day

All the rest have thirty-one

Without a blessed gleam of sun

And if any of them had two-and-thirty

They'd be just as wet and twice as dirty.

Keep a green tree in  
your heart and perhaps a  
singing bird will come.

- Chinese proverb

<b>Sewing</b>	<b>Louise Kendall</b>	6 Tape Lane louise@s-sewing.co.uk www.s-sewing.co.uk	0118 934 2852
Custom-made curtains, blinds and soft furnishings. Range of fabrics available. Free home visit for advice and quotation. Alterations also undertaken.			
<b>Sewing</b>	<b>Jane Carr</b>	Hinton Farm House, Hinton Road jane.carr@zen.co.uk	0118 934 1113
Curtains, cushions, patchwork quilts and many other soft furnishings made to order or altered. Also clothing alterations. Free quotations and advice.			
<b>Toastmaster, Master of Ceremonies and Auctioneer</b>	<b>Roy Austin</b>	Acre Wood, 2 School Road royaustin@hotmail.com www.britishtoastmaster.com	0118 934 4422 07961 144548
Nationwide and worldwide service. Available for weddings, dinners, golf days, corporate hospitality, fund-raising, etc.			
<b>Upholsterer</b>	<b>Anna Lockwood</b>	Lockwood Design, Barn Farm, Wokingham Road www.lockwood-design.co.uk	07981 794268
Trained upholsterer specialising in traditional upholstery. Complete restoration service or simple re-cover for cushions, chairs, sofas. Free home visit for quotation and advice.			
<b>Web design and Consultancy</b>	<b>Duncan Kendall</b>	6 Tape Lane dk-skills4@bdkso.co.uk www.yeswhere.co.uk	0118 934 2852
Hosting, e-mail forwarding, domain name management.			
<b>Wine Cellar Shop</b>	<b>Peter &amp; Annette Dart</b>	Stanlake Park RG10 0BH www.StanlakePark.com peter@StanlakePark.com	0118 934 0176
A large selection of award-winning wine made from grapes grown at Stanlake Park. Tables outside. Great for gifts. Check website for opening times.			

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE SKILLS REGISTER

We charge an annual fee per entry in the skills register: £15 if you are a member of the Hurst Village Society, £20 if you are a non-member. For that you will get a yearlong exposure on our award-winning website and in our very popular newsletter, which goes out three to four times a year.

For all enquires, please contact Wayne Smith, tel: 0118 934 0840.  
e-mail: wayne.x.smith@googlemail.com.

Cheques should be made payable to Hurst Village Society.

We welcome any new skills and services. However, you have to live in the village!

SKILLS REGISTER			
<b>Accountant</b>	<b>Maria Land</b> ACMA (CIMA)	Cadomin Wards Cross	0118 934 1131
Small business accounts, sole traders, partnerships, small/medium limited companies, payrolls, self-assessments. We have a diverse range of clients from builders to hairdressers.			
<b>Accountant Chartered Certified</b>	<b>Gisela Sharpe</b> FCCA	48 Martineau Lane	0118 934 3334 0776 5707642
Accounting and taxation requirements for sole traders, partnerships, small/medium sized companies, including starting in business, VAT, payroll and CIS services. All types of businesses dealt with.			
<b>Alpaca Farm</b>	<b>Anila Preston</b>	Tippens Wood Farm Green Lane, Forest Road Wokingham info@tippenswood.com	01344 452 941
Friendly alpacas for sale and craft classes – spinning and felting alpaca fibre.			
<b>Architect, Chartered</b>	<b>David Noble</b> Dip.Arch (Oxford) RIBA	Folly Cottage Dunt Avenue dn@sedgman-noble.co.uk	0118 934 1200
Free initial consultation. House extensions, all buildings. Plans for planning permission, building regulations. Full service. PI insurance cover.			
<b>Beauty Salon/Day Spa Halcyon</b>	<b>Karen Eden</b>	West Orchard Orchard Road www.halcyon-brw.co.uk	(Home) 0118 932 1792 (Salon) 0118 934 0355 07768 342481
Local salon, with good parking, offering a range of beauty and wellbeing services for women and men. 10% discount to Hurst residents quoting HVS001 when booking.			
<b>Builder</b>	<b>Martin May</b>	Pound Cottage, Forest Road	01344 306 214 07956 412086
Reliable, experienced local builder. Extension, loft and garage conversions, carpentry, UPVC windows, insurance work undertaken. Free estimates. Testimonials available.			
<b>Building contractor</b>	<b>Glyn Crocombe</b>	Furze Covert, Dunt Lane sandkconstruction@hotmail.co.uk	0118 932 0245 07957 303 658
General building works, extensions and alterations, painting and decorating.			
<b>Charismatic Cars</b>	<b>James Strugnell</b>	Ashridge Wood House Forest Road, Wokingham www.charismaticcars.co.uk james@charismaticcars.co.uk	0118 978 7308
Fine collection of chauffeur-driven vintage and classic cars for special occasions.			

<b>Caring Southview Elderly Care</b>	<b>Debra Morley</b>	1 Southview Whistley Green debra@live.be	0118 934 1389 07702 536733
Elderly day / respite care in our family home in Whistley Green. Over 10 years' experience, fully insured, CRB checked, members of NAAPS.			
<b>Caring T &amp; S Support Service</b>	<b>Tracey Williams</b>	West Hope Wards Cross gtmanning@btinternet.com	07786 931 060
	<b>Shelagh Robinson</b>	shelaghrobinson@btinternet.com	07525 211 568
Care and support to people in their own homes. 25 years' experience with all client groups: elderly, dementia, mental health problems, learning disabilities. Transport for appointments, shopping trips, etc.			
<b>Catering</b>	<b>Penny Curry</b>	1 Tape Lane pennycurry3@msn.com	0118 934 0866
Dinner parties, canapés, desserts and buffets.			
<b>Chiropactor 21<sup>st</sup> Chiropractic Clinic</b>	<b>Rachel Ackroyd</b>	Fairings Davis Way Rachel-ackroyd@hotmail.com www.21stchiropractic.co.uk	0118 932 0051 07903 046475
Sports massage therapist. Member of McTimoney Chiropractic Association and General Chiropractic Council.			
<b>Counsellor</b>	<b>Rosemary Sturmer</b>	Rosslare Davis Street	0118 934 1149 07950 762875
Member of British Association of Counselling & Psychotherapy and Association of Christian Counsellors			
<b>Blue Flame Dance</b>	<b>Ruth Noble</b>	Folly Cottage Dunt Avenue info@blueflamedance.com www.blueflamedance.com	0118 934 1200 07834 900451
Dance Teacher. Group or private lessons. Street Dance, Tap, Jazz, Modern. Adults / Children. Birthday parties available.			
<b>KW Electrics</b>	<b>Pauline O'Brien</b>	Unit 40, Grange Farm Nelsons Road landpobrien@aol.co.uk	0118 934 4133
Electrical contractors. All types of work undertaken, domestic and commercial.			
<b>Financial Advice and Mortgages Advanced Financial Advice</b>	<b>Nigel Osgood</b>	Old Place Lodge Road nigel@advancedfinancialadvice.co.uk www.advancedfinancialadvice.co.uk	01628 594 433 07768 277413
An alliance of professional financial advisers who have attained advanced qualifications in their respective areas of expertise.			

<b>Garden Care</b>	<b>Jonathan Lane</b>	Toad, Hinton Road	0118 934 0654 07966 627883
<b>Graphic and web design, branding, e-mail marketing</b>	<b>David Hasler</b>	West Orchard Orchard Road www.ocular.co.uk	(Home) 0118 932 1792 (Studio) 0118 958 9815 07768 342479
Marketing solutions for local, national and international brands and businesses, in English and all European languages. Referral scheme for Hurst residents - £25 Halcyon vouchers			
<b>Groundwork R and J Services</b>	<b>Barbara Kent</b>	Rhoda Ryde Dunt Lane	0118 934 0079 07802 839571
Complete groundwork services. Landscaping, site clearance. Digger and dumper hire.			
<b>Hairdresser</b>	<b>Daniel Buggy</b>	Laburnums Davis Street	07875 844875
Local hairdresser. Trained and worked in large local salons. Regional Finalist in Wella Trend Vision, 2008. Weddings and group bookings welcome.			
<b>Piano Teacher</b>	<b>Christine Lambert</b>	Hodge ALCM, ATM (SMTC) Pound Lane EPTA	0118 934 0705
Pianoforte, Clarinet, and Flute tuition. Beginners a speciality, from the age of 8. Adults welcome as beginners for all the above instruments. Over 25 years' experience teaching in Hurst. Portfolio of exam successes.			
<b>Plasterer</b>	<b>Spyros Divanis</b>	1 Broadwater Cottage Broadwater Lane visualplastering@hotmail.co.uk	07760 426221
Specialising in internal plastering and external rendering. Also coving and decorating.			
<b>Plumbing Services</b>	<b>Ray Williams</b>	6 Forest Road Wokingham	
Bath to walk-in shower conversions. Easy to clean wall surfaces. Cabinets made to match, also purpose-made joinery. See our website www.brooksjoinery.co.uk		Plumbing: 01344 422775 Joinery: 07713 482614	
<b>Residential Letting and Property Management</b>	<b>Janet Walsh</b>	7 Martineau Lane www.huntersproperty.co.uk	0118 932 1349
<b>Master Saddler James Turner Saddlery</b>	<b>James Turner</b>	2 Ivy Cottage Hinton Road james.saddlery@yahoo.co.uk www.jamesturnersaddlery.co.uk	07766 102904
Qualified saddler and saddle fitter. Saddle checking and flocking done on site. Ideal, Black Country, Jefferies, Frank Baines, and many more makes available. Repairs undertaken.			