



Hurley Community Association Newsletter

July 2023

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In This Issue

- Editor's update
- Upcoming Events
- Focus on Alex Simpson
- In Loving Memory
- HCA Drop In
- Hurley & District Gardening Club
- Welcome to baby Isabella
- Bobby Robinson - the marathon man
- Time out
- Parish Council News
- Baxterley Church News
- Snippets

200 Club Draw Jun 23

£100 – Number **193**£50 – Number **191**£10 – Numbers **12, 74, 140, 141 & 173**

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Editor's Update

July brought bad news for many residents in Hurley, with torrential rain flooding around 20 homes, bringing misery to the affected families, my heart goes out to all concerned. The HCA responded by arranging and providing sandbags and liaising with the authorities to get the drains and gully's cleared, in an attempt to avoid re-occurrence should the heavens open up again. Our thanks go to the many residents who helped each other in their time of need, this is when community spirit is most obvious. The HCA has organised a fund-raising event, hosted by Emma and Lisa at the Holly Bush on 2nd July. There will be an article to cover the event in next month's newsletter.

There was also an incident at Dexter Court whereby conmen gained access to resident's homes by deception and stole valuables. A truly awful experience and words fail me as to how people can do such things. Please make sure you check the identity of any stranger at your door, before affording them access. Typically, you will know they are coming in advance, by letter, if not then call the business they purport to belong to, in order to validate them.

A reminder to add Saturday 5th August to your calendars for this year's Family Fun Day at Hurley King's Football Ground. Posters are at shops and communal areas in Hurley and surrounding villages. The event is funded by the HCA and entry is only £1 per adult. Kids are free and they each receive a gift so come along and join the party. Please remember that the venue does not allow dogs, sorry for any inconvenience.

We are still looking for event sponsors, with various options available, if you or your business wish to sponsor the event please contact the editor to discuss, thank you.

Look after each other and stay safe...

Best Wishes, John Given



Upcoming Events at the Village Hall and in the village:

5th August from 1pm to 6pm

HCA Family Fun Day 2023

29th October from 5pm to 7pm

Scarecrow Trail and Halloween Disco

11th December from 6pm

Cinderella Pantomime

Wishing you a great July from all of us at the Hurley Community Association

Focus on... Mr Alex C Simpson of Wakefield Close



The HCA recently invited Alex Simpson and his lovely wife, Helen, to join us at the Village Hall. Alex has done so much for Hurley and was presented with a card signed by the committee and a voucher to spend on his arts and crafts passion and two volumes of newsletters, from 1997 to the present date! A little light reading during his retirement. Alex, was asked to write his story so we can share a trip down memory lane.

In 1954 I was working at 'Hams Hall Power Station', which was still expanding at the time, I met George Vernon who was a jobbing builder from Hurley on site, after sharing a few tea breaks together, he asked me if I'd fit some plugs and sockets in his cottage in Hurley, I agreed. Hurley in 1954 was the hub of a spiders-web of meandering lanes, and Hurley village was clustered round the 'Holly Bush'. Helen and I got married and moved to Hurley. Being an opinionated busy-body; I soon got involved in the life of Hurley.

In the mid 1960's, Mr Davis, the headmaster of Hurley Primary School, approached the parents, asking us if we would be interested in forming a Parent Teachers Association. We readily agreed and I was elected chairman.

Our main function was raising funds for the school, and to that end we ran weekly 'Whist' & 'Beetle Drives'. We eventually raised enough money to purchase a minibus. I also served as treasurer for a time, I stepped down in 1982 when my youngest daughter left the school.

During the sixties and seventies, I was a member of the Hurley Amateur Dramatic Society. Rehearsals and plays were performed in the Village Hall where I met the Village Hall Management Committee, which I joined. Shortly afterwards the then Secretary Olive Baxter retired, and I was elected to replace her, I have been involved in the Hall's management ever since.

Some years ago, the Borough Council decided to demolish the old 'Hurley School' building. The vicar Rev. Derek Carrivick got together a group of spirited villagers, set up a protest group under the heading 'Hurley Community Association'. I became involved and joined them. The protest was unsuccessful, but the Association stayed in being to become the umbrella under which other village groups could function. Shortly after the HCA was formed, they took on the Village Hall management, at which time I was still on the management committee.

I became a Kingsbury Parish Councillor for the Hurley Ward in 2005 and continued to do so till recently. As the Parish Councillor for Hurley, I was approached by a resident, David Welland, who asked me if I was aware that if a group of villagers, say eight, were interested in having an allotment; if they approached the Borough Council then they were bound to find them a piece of ground, he asked me if I would head the project. Our request was granted, Sylvia Burns now runs the very successful 'Allotment Association'. The Allotment Association is another one of Hurley's success stories, I'm still involved as a sleeping partner. I have been continually involved with the above groups/committees over the past fifty years.



In Loving memory...



Dawn Clark
31 Jul 1957 – 12 Jun 2023
Aged 65, of Lime Grove

Dawn has lived in Hurley for 28 years. She loved gardening and village life, running the toddler group for a number of years. Her family would like to thank everyone for the flowers and kind thoughts at this sad time. Jon Clark

The HCA delivered flowers and card to Jon on behalf of the residents of Hurley.

HCA Drop In Club at the Village Hall



The Drop In Club runs every Tuesday from 11am – 1pm.

Collect vegetables from "Time Out", sit in a cozy room, enjoy conversation, coffee/tea, cake, stop off for a cuppa while walking the

dog, browse the large collection of second-hand books and jigsaw puzzles or just come and meet your neighbours. It's a great opportunity to get out of the house and enjoy a friendly and relaxing environment.

Everyone is welcome and if you would like a lift or need any other information, please contact Jo on **07475 929888**

Hurley & District Gardening Club News

Hurley and District Gardening Club's Mystery Evening details will be revealed at the June meeting on Wednesday 28th June.

A visit locally and something very much to look forward to, details from Jenny B (secretary) and to book your place.

There is no regular meeting in August, but HDGC will have a stand at the HCA Fun Day on 5th August. Come and see us for all things gardening! Regular meetings resume in September.

If you are interested in joining, or for more information, please contact Jenny on **07831 406629**.



Welcome to baby Isabella of Hurley Common



I just wanted to send an email to say a big thank you for the recent gorgeous flowers and lovely card to welcome our new arrival, Isabella, to Hurley. It was very much appreciated; we love living here (having moved here a couple of years ago) and makes us feel part of the community! Charlotte & Alex Taylor

Bobby Robinson of High View... The Marathon Man



Bobby has always loved playing sports. In 2020, Bobby challenged himself to run 5k a day for 10 days, raising £788.99 for Macmillan Cancer Support. He found the challenge exciting and a way of showing his gratitude to organisations that have had an impact on his family. He decided to up his game and run 5 marathons in 5 days for Reach charity, another cause Bobby holds close to his heart, he raised £1355.

In August 2022 Bobby's Nan, Elaine, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Elaine has been receiving treatment from the Dorothea ward at the George Eliot hospital. The staff have played a vital role in her recovery, supporting her and her family throughout. They have continued to be incredible and helpful post treatment. Bobby wanted to not only say thank you, but to show his gratitude to the staff at the hospital. So, he decided to take on his biggest challenge yet. **2 marathons in 1 day.**

Bobby completed his 2 marathons in 1 day on 10th June 2023. The finish line being the Holly Bush, where all his family and friends gathered to celebrate his achievements.

Bobby has raised a total of £2057.50 for the Dorothea ward. His just giving page remains open if anyone wishes to donate. Visit [justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) and search '**Bobby Robinson 2 marathons**'.

Bobby would like to thank everybody for their generosity and support. Having everyone waiting to support him at the finish line was the encouragement he needed when the pain was indescribable, and the heat became close to unbearable throughout completion of his second marathon. He would also like to thank everybody that donated to his just giving page or brought raffle tickets, his aim was to raise £500, so to raise over £2000 is amazing!

Ed. Well done Bobby, a fantastic achievement and truly inspirational, we're proud of you.



Time Out



Time Out provides residents of Hurley with a bag of fruit and vegetables worth £10.00, all for a suggested donation of £2.00 and **please bring your own bag**. Available to collect from the Village Hall every **Tuesday** from **11:30am to 12:30pm**. As it stands, **the scheme will end on 18th July, unless further funding can be secured**, updates will be posted by the HCA.

Open to all residents, for more information call Julie on **07428 730950**

Thank you to everyone who supports the Community Association via the 200 Club subscriptions, this raises around £4800.00 per year, with half going towards the upkeep of the Village Hall. Each month a draw takes place and prizes of 1 x **£100.00**, 1 x **£50.00** and 5 x **£10.00** are passed on to the lucky winners. All numbers are currently taken, but if you wish to join the waiting list please send a text to Gary (**07725 332229**) availability always on a first-come-first-served basis.



Parish Council News... by Cllr John Given

I'll start with the flooding on 11th July which meant misery for many residents. Yes, it was a torrential downpour but the state of the drains, gully's and ditches raised a number of questions. I have been working with WCC Environmental Services to prioritize the most affected streets (work now complete) and look at the long-term maintenance of the drainage system. Once their reviews are complete, I will provide all residents with their findings and plans to address them.

For your information, Kingsbury Parish Council is responsible for local bus shelters and various benches. It provides grit bins, dog waste bins, and some litter bins. It also owns and looks after the local defibrillator machines and is a statutory consultee in relation to local planning applications as well as being consulted by the Borough and County Councils on a range of other matters. It operates a small community grants fund and Parish Councillor's are also custodian trustees of Hurley Village Hall.

Please note that all meetings are open to members of the public. If you are unable to attend in person but have something to say, then please contact me and I will raise your question. The remaining 2023 meetings are 26th July, 28th September, 25th October and 22nd November. The venues are announced a week in advance, please check KPC website or ask me.

I shall hold a surgery at Hurley Village Hall from 6pm to 8pm on Tuesday 4th July. All residents are welcome to come along and ask questions and raise concerns for my action. I plan to hold such a surgery every 2 months, though please feel free to contact me at any time with issues that fall within my remit as your elected Parish Councillor.

Snippets....

* The Village Hall is available for hire by all residents of Hurley for only £10 per hour, please contact Emma on **07855 301483** for a booking form or more details.

* **Call out for Tombola Prizes and Bottles of Wine** - If you have prizes for the Tombola Stall at this year's Fun Day please contact hurleycommunityassociation@gmail.com, all donations will be gratefully received.

* Please be wary of bogus tradesman fraud. Don't trust anyone you don't know, always check ID and call the business to confirm **before** letting anyone in your home. These conmen can be very convincing so if you're not expecting them be suspicious and check them out first.

* HCA still has a small number of King Charles III Coronation coins available, contact the editor if you wish to purchase as a keepsake, great for newborns and Christmas gifts in 2023. First-come-first-served.

* The HCA wants to recognise great occasions, for example significant wedding anniversaries, graduations and births, please contact the HCA with details, and we will arrange flowers on behalf of the community.

* **M&N Meats** will be parked outside the Village Hall every second Wednesday from 8:30am to 2pm. Next dates are ... 12th July and 26th July, then 9th August

* Volunteers are needed to help at the Fun Day, if you have a little time please help out, it's very rewarding.

* Little Seeds Nursery is accepting enquiries for children, over 24 months, to start in September. Call Gemma on **01827 872820** for details

* The HCA has three open vacancies on the committee, if you wish to join this active team, please contact the editor for more information.

Baxterley Church by Ann Prosser



Once again Jenny and I are very grateful to all who turned up last Saturday and worked hard to restore the church and churchyard to their immaculate best. It all looks wonderful now and ready to welcome everyone for a drink and piece of cake on Saturdays in July and August. Just drop in between

2.00pm and 4.00pm and enjoy the peace and quiet of the church or wander round the churchyard.

July date TBC 7.30pm - 9.00pm – Antique Antics - Richard Winterton (Wintertons Auctioneers) has very kindly offered to tell us a little about his life as an Auctioneer.

ALSO... he will do a GOOD, BETTER, BEST - as seen on the Antiques Roadshow ALSO... he has volunteered to auction a beautiful picture kindly donated by Jill Roberts (you have seen her work here at Baxterley at our Open Weekends)

ALSO... Light refreshments will be available. Tickets £5.00 from Jenny **01827 873525** or Ann **07717 002719**

Friday 18th August – An evening of musical excellence, with the Arden Ensemble 7.30pm – 9.30pm. Tickets £10.00 (inc. light refreshments) from Jenny or Ann

Funds raised go towards the School Room and Toilet project.

News from the Holly Bush



Every **Wednesday** from 7:30pm it's BINGO
Thursday 21st July – Quiz Night teams of 4-6, Entry £5 per team. Food is served from 5-8pm every **Wednesday, Thursday** and **Friday**. Join us for a hearty breakfast every **Saturday** from 9am to 11am. Live entertainment this month: **Saturday 21st July** – **Trixie Lee**. We look forward to serving you.