

# HURLEY NEWS

December 2020

All the information is correct at the time of writing the newsletter but things are changing all the time

“Well, We’re coming to the end of a very strange year, a year when we were unable to enjoy many of the village events. The village hall user groups were unable to use the village hall for long periods, no popular events such as the plays, bingo and the Fun run. However let’s look on the bright side as there are signs that a return to normal should be here by spring next year, whatever the new normal will be. As the year comes to an end I would like to thank the HCA committee members, the distributors of the Newsletter and all involved with the 200 Club for the effort they all put in. Rules have been relaxed for the Christmas period so let’s enjoy it but at the same time remain safe.

So! A happy Christmas and New Year to you all”

Cheers Tony . Chairman Hurley Community Association



**Well done everyone who took part at Halloween  
and made it special for the children.**

**Let's continue to bring a bit of normality and Christmas cheer with**

## **HURLEY'S CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMPETITION**

So get the Santa's, reindeer, sleighs and snowmen out,  
plug in those lights  
and light up Hurley

Judging will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm  
and a prize will be awarded to the  
best decorated house.

This popular event is organised by  
Hurley Community Association



Christmas is coming, but not as we know it.....This promises to be a Christmas like no other we have known, Christmas bubbles, restricted travel and limited visitors. Here is a little peek at **A TUDOR CHRISTMAS:**

**The Christmas season** ran for 12 days 24<sup>th</sup> December – 6<sup>th</sup> January. The ‘twelfths’ had very strict rules, one of which banned spinning the main occupation for women. It was essentially a season of silliness, feasting, disguising, pageants and role reversal.

**Christmas decorations** were anything green Holly was thought to give protection against witches. The greenery was not taken down until 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Christmas Food Meat:** boars head, brawn, roast pork or roast beef. Henry VIII was one of the first people to eat Turkey as part of the Christmas feast and as the popularity of the turkey grew each year large flocks of turkeys and their owners could be seen walking to London from Norfolk and Cambridgeshire starting as early as August and fattening the birds on the way. A Tudor Christmas pie was not a dish for vegetarians it was a turkey stuffed with a goose stuffed with a chicken stuffed with a partridge stuffed with a pigeon all put in a pastry case called a coffin and served surrounded by a jointed hare small game birds and wild fowl

*Puddings:* Frummerty was a type of beef broth thickened with fruit and bread.

Sprouts first appeared on a Christmas menu in 1587

The traditional **Mince Pye** was made up of 13 ingredients to represent Christ and the 12 Disciples, dried fruits, spices, and a little chopped mutton in remembrance of the shepherds were used.

But all this serious feasting was reserved for Royalty and Gentry and was washed down with a drink from the ‘wassail bowl’ (from the anglo-saxon word ‘Waes-hael’ meaning ‘be of good health’). A crust of bread was put in the bottom of the bowl and forked out and given to the most important person in the room – hence today’s ‘toast’ as part of our ceremony's today

**Christmas gifts** were usually given at New Year.

**Boxing day** the servants were given left over food in boxes to take home to the family

**Entertainment:** Flapdragon or Snapdragon was a popular game. Guest took it in turns picking out raisins from a dish of flaming brandy. Bets were taken on each persons success

**Useless information:** 1541 The unlawful Games Act passed a law forbidding any games or sport except Archery on Christmas Day

1551 Edward VI decreed that everyone had to WALK to Church on Christmas Day.

80% of the diet at the Tudor Court consisted of meat or fish. Out side court 80% of the English people could afford little or no meat

The kitchens at Hampton Court Palace employed more than 200 men and 1 woman

Etiquette books instructed guest ‘not to allow clear pearls to fall from their noses, nor relieve themselves under the table’

*And for the mathematicians Santa would need 200,000 reindeer flying at 200,000 times the speed of sound in order to deliver presents to every child on earth on Christmas Eve*

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS**

Approaching Kingsbury Village from Dunton Island and after you pass the Marston junction you came to a tight dogleg in the narrow road, in any fog you approached it with great caution, any mistakes and you could end up in the boggy wetland of Tame valley on either side of



the road. After you had negotiated the dogleg you crossed the river Tame via the narrow bridge. On both sides there were indents to allow pedestrians to step aside and allow traffic to pass. Sometime in the 1920's traffic lights were installed, I'm not sure of the date. That's how it was that late afternoon as I sat in the swirling fog and drizzling rain waiting for the amber light.....the lights changed, I revved the engine to get the windscreen wipers going, then let the clutch out and fled across the bridge - well not exactly, what with the fog and the narrowness of the bridge I crept across my eyes straining to catch sight of the junction with the Coventry Road, it's only 50 yards away but if you miss it there was the danger of slipping into the deep ditch on the far side. Don't forget, there were no cat's eyes on the road in this truly rural area . A few dashes of fading white paint in the middle of the road was all we had to guide us. Got round the junction and the lights at Kingsbury station were just visible to guide me to the bridge, further on where the blaze of lights from the signal box up on the railway bank outlined the bridge with a black hole in the middle. I drove into the black hole slowly, past the ghostly outline of the rickety wooden stairway to the signal box with fog swirling round from the eddies of air caused by the cars passage. I was now the guiding light to a convoy of cars behind me, they just had their sidelights on as they knew from experience that their full beam would blind me and we would end up in Drakenage Farm Yard four hundred yards further on. Any long breaks in the grass-verge was quite disorientating. I arrived at the Hurley turn off without incident. It was a cold afternoon but I was sweating. From here to the Camp Hill junction the grass verge was almost unbroken so it wasn't too bad, up and over Polly's hut and from now on it was downhill past 'Coopers Garage and Hurley's first street lamp, past the post office Conwys the Butchers, the Working Men's Club, where a group of miners were milling about outside.....turn right and home

'Just another day at the office' ----- How many of you remember Polly's Hut? Alex

### 200 CLUB WINNERS

	£100	£50	£10
August	175	129	36.41.155.159.184
September	123	2	38.40. 47. 93.134
October	68	160	28.69.124.132.189
November	130	157	6.64. 68. 129.143



To take part in the 200 Club draw and support your local community contact 0772 533 2229. Subscriptions are £2 per share (number) per calendar month and are collected in the first week of the month, or you can pay monthly, bi-monthly, six monthly or annually. Subscriptions are collected in advance

# M & N MEATS

**Thankyou for your custom  
Wish you all a Happy Christmas  
a safe and healthy New Year**

**&**

**LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT  
HURLEY VILLAGE HALL on**

**WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> December  
WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> December  
WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> December  
8.15am – 2pm**



**Turkeys & Turkey crowns available  
plus all the usual fayre**

On behalf of the HCA and residents of Hurley I would like to thank Steve and his team from M & N Meats for their support during this very strange year

## **\* Support our local shops \***

**We are lucky enough to have two excellent shops in our village and  
between them they provide most requirements  
Newspapers, magazines groceries, off licence.**

**+ Postal Services & banking services for most banks at the Post Office**

### **USEFUL NUMBERS**

**Pear Tree Surgery – there is no walk-in surgery.**

**Hurley surgery 01827 872490.**

**Kingsbury surgery 01827 872755.**

**Hurley pharmacy 01827 870470**

**Hurley Convenience store 01827 872372**

**Hurley Post office 01827 872201.**

### **EXCEL HOMES**

**Free quotes for new boilers, boiler  
service**

**boiler repair, plumbing  
& Home Improvements  
MATTHEW WILEMAN**

**01827 873289**

**Mobile: 07855 607 789**

**Gas safe registered**



**Hurley Community Association AGM, which was due to take place in October, has been deferred until it is safe to hold an open meeting in the village Hall.**

HCA include small ads. and promotions in support of local businesses and for the benefit of the community. This is an information service and the HCA is not providing recommendations or guarantee of service.

Hurley Community Association is a registered Charity No. 1079485

## HURLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



It comes as no surprise to hear that this year Hurley Primary School haven't been able to hold their usual fund raising events.

No Summer Fete, no disco's, no movie nights and now there will be no Christmas Fayre. These events raise money to help fund field trips, pantomimes, games, books and more recently electronic notebooks.

So we have changed our approach and we are holding a School Christmas Raffle to continue to raise funds to support the school and we are inviting the whole of Hurley Village to participate. Children will be bringing raffle books home to sell to family and friends. No problem if you have no children at Hurley Primary School you can buy your raffle tickets from Hurley Post Office or the Village Shop on High Street.

Tickets cost £1 each or £5 for a book of 5. Prizes include a surround sound system, scooter, board games, book sets, family days out, Christmas decorations and chocolate, sweet and food hampers. As you can appreciate, our sponsors have had a difficult year and with many closed due to lockdown a full comprehensive list is not available at the time of going to press.

A big thankyou goes to our prize donors for their generosity including local business' 19Gales, Lucky Tails, Hurley Post Office and the Village Shop for supporting us and helping with the sale of the raffle tickets.

We would also like to thank the whole community for supporting the school past, present and future.



Thankyou



## POPPY APPEAL 2020

I just wanted to say a huge 'THANKYOU' to all who have supported the Poppy Appeal this year and have made the effort to thank our Armed Forces past and present.

As predicted it has been a challenging year with Churches, pubs and business's either closed or on restricted opening hours, but the villages have still given fantastic support.

It was so nice to see so many houses and gardens decorated within the village, a wonderful pot of home made poppies in Dexter Lane and Gail's pretty 'poppy garden' on Hurley Common.

The Lamp-posts and 'poppy net' at the cemetery looked splendid. Someone stopped his car to say that Hurley's display was the best he had seen. Mr Morgans marked the day for the rest of the children within the safety of the playground.

Rev. John conducted a short but moving service at the Memorial and wreaths were laid.

Covid 19 restrictions have even impacted on my box collecting, counting and processing your donations, so I regret that I am not yet able to give a total but I will have a figure ready for the next newsletter and I will also put a poster in the Post Office

Thankyou Once again

Marilyn Barnett. Poppy Appeal Organiser for Hurley, Wood End and Kingsbury



## KINGSBURY PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE

Kingsbury Parish council now has a Facebook page to keep up to date with information in all the villages of the parish and a twitter account (@kingsburyparish).

Please like or follow us.

We are also in the process of creating a new website and this will go live on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020- fingers crossed! More information to follow

**Proposed bus shelter update:** The proposed bus shelter for Hurley requires a safety/site meeting to finalise details before we order the shelter. This was arranged for November but had to be cancelled due to lockdown. Hopefully after next week we can rearrange this meeting and get the order in.

It takes around eight weeks from order to fitting

## TIME BANKING

### A Message from County Councillor Andy Jenns

As the local County Councillor I'm currently working with Council Officer, Cheryl Jones, Rev. John White

and Carole Young to establish a time banking group for Kingsbury, Hurley and the other villages within the Kingsbury division. If it is successful here it is the intention of the County Council to roll out time banking schemes across other communities in North Warwickshire.

Community Groups as well as individual residents can sign up and get involved.

A similar trial scheme is being run in the South of Warwickshire and the Kingsbury Division has been chosen for the North Warwickshire trial.

We have a little more information for you below but if you would like to know more please contact Andy Jenns at [andy.jenns@aol.co.uk](mailto:andy.jenns@aol.co.uk)

**WHAT IS TIMEBANKING?** It is a way for people to come together to help others in their community and be rewarded for it – in time. For every hour of time you give helping someone you receive a one hour time credit in return

All skills are equal, and one hour = one time credit.

Anyone who lives or works in the North Warwickshire area can join. You don't need any special skills – just the time and the willingness to help others and receive help in return. Age, ability, mobility or employment status are not an issue any one can get involved in Time Bank.

### **WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER MEMBERS TO HELP SET UP TIME BANK**

If you want to know more contact the Local Project Coordinator, Cheryl Jones

[cheryljones@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cheryljones@warwickshire.gov.uk)

**Tel: 0744 334 5610**

**Facebook – time4warwickshire**



## KINGSBURY and BAXTERLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

With every good wish to you all from Kingsbury & Baxterley Group of Parishes this Advent and Christmastide. May God's peace reign in your homes, His love reign in your hearts and His joy reign in all your festivities however difficult these may seem in what will be a very different Christmas this year owing to the pandemic.

With our prayers for a much better 2021 for everyone.

May the light of Christ, the King of all, shine ever brighter in our hearts, that with all the saints in light we may shine forth as lights in the world. With our blessing for the Season.

Revd. John, Revd Carole and Ruth

For details Christmas services or to read the Kingsbury/Baxterley Group of Parishes weekly newsletter visit

[www.facebook.com/kingbaxgroup.org.uk](http://www.facebook.com/kingbaxgroup.org.uk)  
parish website [www.kingbaxgroup.org.uk](http://www.kingbaxgroup.org.uk)

Please give me a ring if I can help in any way.

**Revd John** on **01827 874252** Baptism and wedding enquiries particularly welcome.

**HURLEY DEFIBRILLATOR** is situated on the front wall of the village Hall, Knowle Hill, and should be used in the event of Sudden Cardiac Arrest. No other health emergency warrants the use of a defibrillator.

The first signs of a sudden cardiac arrest is usually fainting. If someone appears unresponsive, try shaking, pinching and shouting at them. If they appear unconscious or in a seizure-like state, and they don't appear to be breathing, you're most likely dealing with a sudden cardiac arrest. The next step is to administer CPR while someone else call 999.

To use the defibrillator call 999 and quote the number on the front of the yellow box then follow the instructions you will be given

If the person is in pain but still breathing and responsive it is probably a heart attack and a defibrillator should not be used, call 999 immediately.

## A CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. Ornament the enclosure with large sprigs of berry-bearing evergreen  
.....
2. Hey, miniscule urban area southwest of Jerusalem  
.....
3. The Antlered quadruped with the cerise proboscis  
.....
4. Removed in a bovine feeding trough  
.....
5. Approach all who are steadfast  
.....
6. Hush, the foretelling spirits harmonise  
.....
7. Quiescent nocturnal period  
.....
8. I apprehended my maternal parent osculating with a corpulent, unshaven  
male in a crimson disguise  
.....
9. May the Deity bestow an absence of fatigue to mild male humans  
.....
10. Present me nothing but dual incisors for this festive yuletide  
.....

**THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE  
OF  
HURLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND A SAFE AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

**WE HOPE THAT 2021 WILL SEE OUR WORLD RETURN TO A BIT  
OF NORMALITY AND WE CAN MEET UP WITH OUR FRIENDS  
AGAIN.**

**WE WISH YOU ALL HEALTH AND HAPPINESS**

There will be no Newsletter in January but if you have any news to share with us please contact me 01827 872994 or email [hurleynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hurleynewsletter@gmail.com)

Thankyou

Gail,