



Hurley Community Association Newsletter

January 2024

Volume 24, Number 01

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200 Club Draw Nov 23

£100 – Number **181**£50 – Number **85**£10 – Numbers **20, 101, 138, 147 & 175**

200 Club Draw Dec 23

£100 – Number **10**£50 – Number **169**£10 – Numbers **13, 26, 76, 138 & 166**

200 Club Draw Jan 24

£100 – Number **103**£50 – Number **164**£10 – Numbers **18, 31, 51, 66 & 152**

Contact Us



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Editor's Update

It's great to be back with our first Newsletter of the year. The HCA wishes all residents and businesses in Hurley a healthy and prosperous 2024.

I'll start by thanking those who attended the events in the Village Hall in the run up to Christmas. The Cinderella Pantomime proved to be a very well-run event (as we have come to expect from Jo), unfortunately the attendance was low which is such a shame, but we will learn from this and see how we can better communicate the children orientated events in the future.

By contrast, the Murder Mystery was very well supported (almost sold out), and the feedback received was amazing. The HCA committee worked extremely hard, and we were supported by a number of organisations who I would like to mention here.

- Billesley Players for putting on a super performance at a heavily discounted price.
- Piccadilly Community Centre for the loan of tables.
- Kingsbury Parish Council for a generous grant of £275.00 towards decorations.
- Emma and the team from The Holly Bush for an excellent 4 course meal.
- Our resident 'James Blonde' AKA Eddie Fellows of the HCA for organising the event.

We are looking at organising similar events this year so watch this space.

The Christmas Calendar photo competition was won by Louise Courtney of Coronation Road. Louise won an Amazon voucher for the winning photo, our thanks to all who submitted photos from around our lovely village. Start snapping now for this year's competition. Calendars remain on sale at the Post Office at only **£2.00** each.

The Kingsbury Parish Council grant also enabled the HCA to fit 1600 new lights to the Christmas Tree outside the hall and it really did make an impact. Regarding the Village Hall, I'm sure you have all noticed the new doors have now been fitted. These electric doors open and close via touchpads and this is part of the HCAs effort to make the building more accessible to everyone. Our thanks go to Aky for his perseverance and organising the installation. Further Village Hall enhancements will be made during 2024, we hope residents will make use of the facilities for parties and family events.

The 200 Club is again fully subscribed, thanks to Gary Masters for continuing to run this fund which provides a large amount of income to the HCA. I urge residents who have the time, to pop along to the weekly Drop In Clubs which are run so well by Jo Hetherington, she does a great job to make each week an entertaining and tasty one!

The HCA would like to invite all residents to submit and help with articles for the newsletter throughout 2024, it doesn't matter whether you are computer literate or not, if you have the ideas, I'll work with you to create the article.

That's all for now, so as always, please look after each other and stay safe...

Best Wishes, John Given
Chairman

Wishing you a great 2024 from all at the Hurley Community Association

Unity Events – an events company with a difference (by Jo Hetherington)



My name is Jo Hetherington and as a relatively new resident in the village of Hurley I can fully appreciate how people can become isolated in rural communities. Limited access to a wide variety of social opportunities locally and very restrictive public transport. Within the village we are often reliant on volunteer run facilities like village halls, local communities to provide social opportunities.

UNITY EVENTS So far, I have seen that the volunteers work very hard however they are often restricting due to lack of funds or limited time. Villages have such a wide demographic so to add to the facilities already in a village I want to try to offer more to rural communities.

Therefore, I have set up Unity Events, which is an events company with a difference. We will hire village halls, community centre etc to host events for the local community to attend. We will arrange everything from sourcing entertainment, decorations, refreshments either by providing them ourselves or working with local small businesses. The events will be open to the local community for a moderate fee. I know many village halls run community cafes however I would love to set these up in any space that does not currently have these. I have already arranged to run a pop-up café at the Yesteryear Antique Fair in Coleshill every month. In addition to these events, we will be organising trips out with pickups and drop off within villages.

Recently we ran a coach trip to Stratford Victorian Christmas Market which provided pickups in Kingsbury, Hurley, and Coleshill. The feedback was great as people really appreciated the coach coming to their village. In January we have a coach trip to Bath, and we are in the process of planning a family outing during half term. If you think your village would like to be considered for pick-ups for upcoming trips, please let us know. We are and will continue to reach out to community members for their ideas for events and trips.

Unity Events is registered with local environment health as a food business and has public liability insurance. Personally, I have my basic DBS. I have previous experience in catering and hospitality, also my previous job was as a children's home manager where I would work with vulnerable young people aged 16-24. The aim was to promote their independence and prepare them to leave the care system. It was a challenging role that I did for 11 years, and I believe my skills can be extremely helpful in my plans.

I am hoping this business will become successful and will then allow us to recruit local people. Employment opportunities will aim to help young people or those who are looking to return to work after a long break, providing training and a nurturing workplace that will help people start their journey into the workplace.

For more details, please contact Jo via email: johetherington@unityevents.org or telephone: **07475 929888**

Hurley & District Gardening Club News



The Hurley & District Gardening Club is holding a meeting on **Wednesday 28th February at 7.30pm.**

Heidi Goody is giving a talk in Hurley Village Hall on Baxterley in Bloom. How the Bloomers are

progressing and especially on the initiative to 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'. Guests - £3.50. New members are always welcome.

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



HCA Drop In Club at the Village Hall

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

Join Jo and the regulars for a cup of coffee or tea and try some of the amazing homemade cakes on the table.



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.

The club is funded by the HCA, and everyone is welcome (dog friendly too) and if you would like a lift or need any other information, please contact Jo on **07475 929888**

Church News by Rev Carole Young (Associate Priest)

A Special service of Sung Compline on **Friday 2nd February** at Baxterley Church at **7.00pm** celebrating Candlemas with refreshments in the School Room afterwards. All welcome!

The group of parishes normal pattern of services continues without change:

1st & 3rd Sundays - 9.30am Baxterley and 11.00am at Merevale

2nd & 4th Sundays - 9.30am at Hurley and 11.00am at Kingsbury

5th Sundays - group service by arrangement - next one is 31st March (Easter Sunday), 10.30am at Hurley



Baxterley Church – The School Room Project (by Jenny Pearson)



Despite the extremely wet weather we have been able to continue work on the School Room and have now virtually finished the inside. Flooring is down, kitchen facilities are installed, painting and tiling are all but finished. Two redundant church pews have been restored and put back into the schoolroom as extra seating and we are now waiting to begin the landscaping to tidy up the outside.

We have applied for a little more grant money to finish off the project and are planning to have a formal Opening Ceremony and Thank You in March. This will be by invitation, but everyone is very welcome to come and view and/or use the facilities during our Open Weekend on **March 16th and 17th 2024**.

Happy New Year to everyone who has helped with or joined the Christmas Activities at Baxterley Church CV9 2HS and we look forward to welcoming you to another beautiful candlelit service of Candlemas - followed by refreshments - **at 7pm on Friday February 2nd 2024**.

For all Baxterley Church matters, please contact Ann (**07717 002719**) and Jenny (**07748 636708**) Church Wardens

200 Club



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.

Our thanks also go to the subscription collectors for their invaluable help. We are currently looking for a volunteer to take over the Coronation Road round, please ask for details, thank you.

Hurley Primary School Ofsted Report

Congratulations to the Headteacher, teaching staff, support staff, governors, and pupils at Hurley Primary School for achieving a **GOOD** rating during the Ofsted inspection carried out at the end of October 2023.



An outstanding achievement, especially given the impact of covid, you have done the village proud, thank you all and keep up the good work.

This month in 2003

The below caption is taken from Hurley News, January 2003 edition, I wonder how many people realise how relatively new broadband is, and where would we be today without it?

BROADBAND INTERNET CONNECTION

At present 78 Hurley households have registered a desire to receive a Broadband connection with BT.

For Hurley exchange to be considered for an upgrade, the village would need to show an interest of around 200 households.

To register your interest either phone BT connection enquiries on Freephone 0800 085 7054 or register online at btopenworld.com/broadband.

Bulky Waste Collection

NWBC operate a Bulky Waste Collection service, ideal if you are unable to get your items to the local tip yourself. There is a charge of £29 for 5 items, plus a maximum of 3 additional items at a further £6 each.

Families and friends can group together to share the costs.

Full details of what can and cannot be collected is available via the NWBC website: www.northwarks.gov.uk alternatively contact the editor for help and assistance.

Email: customerservices@northwarks.gov.uk

Telephone: **01827 715341**

Family Fun Run 2024... your thoughts?



The HCA would like to gauge local interest in holding a Family Fun Run this year.

This event would require many volunteers to provide route marshalling, refreshments, timekeeping, organising etc. So even if you are not able to take part in the run there are still many ways to support the event.

We are thinking of distances and routes for all abilities with the emphasis on the 'family' and 'fun' parts. Suitable dates would also be required to ensure maximum participation.

The fun run ceased after the July 2019 event due to low support so we do need to see whether it is viable again, and we would ask for volunteers to help organise.

Please contact the editor with your thoughts and ideas by the end of February, a decision will be made based on the feedback we receive. Thank you.

Local Groups

1st Wood End Scout Group



We meet at Wood End Working Men's Club each Wednesday evening. Our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers take part in a range of activities from abseiling to zorbing, and everything in-between. We offer fabulous opportunities for all members and we have spaces available in all sections. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the groups. For more information please email woodendscoutgroup@gmail.com

Snippets...

The HCA is always looking to support Local businesses. Limited space is available in each monthly newsletter, contact the editor for details.



Please pick up after your dog



Time Out will be in the Village Hall from 11:30am to 12:30pm on Tuesday 6th and 20th Feb

FREE TO COLLECT: The HCA has a full size table-tennis table in the Village Hall. It is in need of some very minor repair but is available to anyone free-of-charge. Please contact the editor if you want it.

Paid Ad – Unity Events

Unity Events has a number of activities scheduled for the coming months.

For more information and details of upcoming events please contact Jo Hetherington johetherington@unityevents.org or telephone: **07475 929888** or scan the below QR code to visit our Facebook page



TRENTHAM MONKEY FOREST COACH TRIP

Half term outing where monkey's roam free. Choose from Coleshill, Hurley or Kingsbury for pick up/drop off. Prices £15-£25

FEB 16



MORE EVENTS.....

Currently arranging further school holiday events. Plus more coach trips are in the planning process so check out our social media pages



FAMILY CRAFTERNOON TEA

February's theme is 'Share the love' so we'll be making collage's cards and kindness rocks. Sandwiches, cakes and drinks are available to. Hurley Village Hall

FEB 11 @15.30

HCA includes 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