

# Hurst Life

Including Sayers Common & Albourne

Local village talk,  
by the village

Issue #15 : June 2016

Free  
Please help  
yourself!



Fergus to meet the Queen

**p.14**

All the St Lawrence Fair info you need

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Street Party for ma'am's birthday

**p.5**

# Hurst

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By David Tingley, Editor

First things first, not only has **The Queen** just turned 90 years old but Hurstpierpoint resident **Fergus Anckorn** has recently attended one of her legendary garden parties. Read a little more about why and his own story on **page 14**.

On the subject of HM The Queen - Hurst is celebrating in style with a **Village Street Party** on **Sunday 12th June**. This issue has numerous articles relating to the event - but we have printed an ad - kindly supplied by our friends at Sussex Living - which gives a good taster on **page 13**.

On the same weekend the village is hosting its annual **Open Gardens** event - read about Lucy Wilsdon's unique outdoor space and how you can get to see it on **page 6**.

On **page 16** Deb Hollywood takes great pleasure in writing up her time with the youngest member of the St Lawrence Fair committee - **Kieran Murray**. We do appreciate Kieran taking the time to tell his story, and always welcome suggestions of new folk to talk to - to enable us to share their experiences of life with the rest of the village through our pages. Do email editor@hurstlife.co.uk for any **Village People suggestions** and also your **5 Mins With** answers, and, of course, any suitable photos which would look great on our cover.

**Jane Willis** sent in this month's **cover photo** after taking a stroll in the spring sunshine recently with her camera. She gets a **£20 shopping voucher** to spend in the village as a 'thank you' too.

We can't get this close to July without giving a big shout out to the **St Lawrence Fair**. With Fair Day coming up on **Saturday 2nd July** - we felt all the promotion for it needed to be in this June issue to get the word out to the village in good time. Do read about all the events taking place on page 8-9.

Deb and I also look forward to meeting many of you on the day, as we will have a stall again - getting amongst the action!

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**Hurst Life** Published by Kipper



📸 Jane Willis  
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We love to hear from groups, organisations and individuals about what's happening locally. Include a photo if you can. Email your stories to [editor@hurstlife.co.uk](mailto:editor@hurstlife.co.uk)

## Once upon a time there was a school fete...

By Kate Halls

The St Lawrence School PTA is holding a Summer Fete on Saturday 18th June from 12noon-3pm.

Please join us for an afternoon of fun and games with a Once Upon a Time theme.

There will be lots of stalls including crafts, face painting, teddy tombola, bottle tombola, children's games, secondhand toys, games, books and DVDs, candy floss, cakes, tea tent, raffle, the famous PTA BBQ and much more...

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# Queen's Street Party

All the village is looking forward to celebrating the 90th birthday of HM The Queen on Sunday 12th June.

Organised by a group of local traders and residents, Gill Blackburn explains that it will be a party atmosphere on the High Street that day: "We are all very excited about it. There will be so much going on, including facepainting, an open mic night on the green, children's games and plenty of food to choose from."

Other fun will include a dance performance by the children of St Lawrence School, a disco on the green, the chance to grab your selfie with Stephen from Googlebox, a plant and cake sale, raffle and a Prince and Princess dressing up competition for kids.

The road will be closed to traffic between 1.30-5.30pm on the day.

There will be free tea and cake for the over 75s, plus a host of other catering options, including, the usual pubs and restaurants, ice cream, pizza van, BBQ, hog roast and a popup Mama Ghanouche.

Stall pitches are available for the afternoon, call Gill on 07748 630316. All proceeds from the day will go to St Peter & St James Hospice.



## Charity celebrates 21st

Hurst Community Charity is 21 years old this year and to celebrate will be holding a special Celebratory Service at Holy Trinity Church. They would love for as many people as possible to join them and, in true birthday style, there will be tea and cake to follow. Michael Barnes, Chair of the Charity's Trustees, says: "The success of the charity would not be possible without the dedication of the many people who voluntarily help the charity, some in the shop and some behind the scenes, and also the many who come in to buy what others have freely given."

Do join them at 4pm on Sunday 5th June at Holy Trinity Church.

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## Swing band joins the party

After playing at the Village Centre recently Downsbeat Swing Band has been invited back to Hurstpierpoint to be part of the line up at the Village Street Party on Sunday 12th June.

The group, led by Peter Everett, received a fantastic response from the audience back in April and are looking forward to being part of The Queen's 90th birthday celebrations this month.

Musicians in the group come from all around Sussex with just one member having the short commute from Hurst itself!

The exact location for the band is still being finalised but they will be playing between 2-4pm - so just follow your ears!



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## Contemporary garden amongst Open Gardens

Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens comes to the village again this month – giving residents and friends the opportunity to have a look around ten local gardens to get ideas, enjoy the sunshine or just be nose!

Lucy Wilsdon, of Park Cottages on Manor Road, will be opening her garden for the first time this year after recently completing the overhaul which she started at the end of 2015.

"I now have a beautiful garden which is just how I want it – a modern cottage feel using contemporary materials and colours. I am fascinated to see how visitors respond to the fact that it is 'a break from the norm'."

Lucy, who has used blacks and greys in the layout in order to accentuate the bright colours used in the planting, has tried to create a space that is both useful and beautiful. As the property only has a front garden, she realised it need to be easily traversed by the postman on a daily basis as well as for her to relax in the evenings.

Lucy will be serving prosecco cocktails and mini elderflower cupcakes during the afternoon of Sunday 12th June between 1-5.30pm – all to raise funds for St Peter & St James Hospice.

More info from the organisers website:  
[www.hurstpierpointpengardens.org.uk](http://www.hurstpierpointpengardens.org.uk)





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# St Lawrence Fair children's Events

**Saturday 18th June ..... Hurst's Got Talent**  
3.30pm, Morleys Bistro

**18th June - 30th June .... '0-60' window competition**  
Entry forms from Mishon Mackay

**Sunday 19th June ..... Pet Show**  
From 12.30pm, Guide HQ  
Small animals: 12.30pm  
Dog show: 1.30pm

**Friday 1st July - South Av. Green**

**12.30pm - 2.30pm ..... Teddy Bear's Picnic**  
Plus fun activities

**6pm - 7.30pm ..... Junior Disco**  
Age 4+

**From 6pm ..... Family BBQ & Live Music**

**6.30pm ..... Kids Tug of War**

**Saturday 2nd July - South Av. Green**

**From 12pm ..... Fair Day!**  
Procession, Harris' FunFair, Fun run,  
arena events, stalls, street food market

see the next page for full details of all these events.

why not cut out and keep this page for easy  
reference of all our events?!





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



**HURST'S GOT TALENT : Saturday 18th June, 3.30pm. sponsored by sussex osteopath**

Come and sing, dance, play an instrument, or act for us and the audience at Morleys Bistro. Application forms are on our website. The winner will open Fair Day.

**'0-60' window competition : 18th June - 30th June. sponsored by MISHON MACKAY**

Entry forms available from Mishon Mackay on the High Street for 50p. Can you spot random numbers between 0-60 in the window displays of the High Street shops?

**Pet Show : Sunday 19th June, From 12.30pm. sponsored by Heath vets**

Small Animals : 12.30-1.15pm - Best Small Pet and Pat Venables Cup for best owner/keeper.

Dog Show : From 1.30pm with classes:

Best Junior Handler (U14s); Best Trick (open age); Dog the Judge would most like to take home (open age);

'Waggiest Tail' (open age); Prettiest Pooch (open age); Most Handsome Hound (open age). The Heath Cup will

be awarded to the dog in the best condition, and a new one for this year - the Wright Cup will be awarded to the winner of our veteran's class. Each class entered is £1 per animal.

**Friday 1st July, South Avenue Green:-**

**Teddy Bear's Picnic : 12.30pm - 2.30pm. sponsored by The UK Cook Shop**

Pre-schoolers - Bring your teddies and have some fun with cake decorating, a craft activity, carousel ride, magic show and an ice lolly. Voluntary contributions are gratefully received for this event.

**Junior Disco : 6pm - 7.30pm. sponsored by The New Inn**

£3 a ticket, to include a snack, fruit and unlimited squash/water.

Age 4+. Sorry but due to the noise, activities and space constraints this is only open to over 4s (eg. school age)

and we ask parents to please have fun outside the marquee - there will be plenty of tables/seating for you outside so you can sit nearby. Thank you.

**Family BBQ & Live Music : From 6pm. sponsored by ODT Solicitors**

Come and enjoy an evenings entertainment with live music, our BBQ and bar.

**Kids Tug of War : 6.30pm. sponsored by Flippers & Fins Swim School**

Teams of 8 boys and girls (U14). The winners and runners-up will join forces and take on the winning adult team in the main arena on Fair Day.

**Saturday 2nd July, South Avenue Green:-**

**Fair Day! : From 12pm. sponsors : Clifford Dann, Morleys Bistro, Stuart & Partners**

Enjoy the procession, the main arena events, fun run, stalls and our street food market, and the Harris' funfair; details and maps will be in the main Fair Programme which you should receive hand-delivered!

**Don't forget to support our other local events on or around Fair time:**

**St Lawrence School Summer Fete**

**Saturday 18th June, 12-3pm**

Lots of fun stalls & activities on the school field.

**Hurstpierpoint Gym Club Championships**

**Saturday 2nd July, 8.30-11.30am**

Spectating welcomed and free.

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# Hurst College supports local tea party initiative

Hurst College is supporting a tea party initiative run by Hurstpierpoint and Sayers Common Parish Council.

The College has loaned the school minibuses and a driver to the initiative which takes place every month and offers a chance for older people who live in the community to go to a tea party at someone's home.

The project was conceived by the Parish Council and several local residents in August 2015, with the idea of taking a small group of elderly people into different local residents' homes to enjoy tea, cake and a friendly chat.

The number of people attending the tea parties has varied from nine to twenty-five, depending on the size of the home. The latest addition to the scheme has been to provide a short spot of entertainment such as piano, flute playing or singing.

Roberta Taylor, Assistant Clerk at the Parish Council, said: "This initiative was started to try to reach older people who might not be able to get out easily and offer them an interesting and safe outing.

"One of the main problems we have had was organising transport for all people attending. We recently approached Hurst College for help, and we were readily offered the use of one of their minibuses and a driver.



It was a great relief for us, and the driver was kind and patient. We appreciate their help with this community project – an example of one part of the community helping another."

The Parish Plan Community Life document 2011 identified assisting elderly people to participate in community life as one of its action points.

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## Digital agency expands and moves into Hurst

Sussex-based, full service digital agency Artemis Marketing, ranked first out of over 2,000 of the UK's search engine optimisation companies, has just moved into Hurstpierpoint. The agency has been 'Highly Recommended' by their clients, who've posted 60 glowing reviews praising Artemis' services and how they've helped increase their enquiries, sales and bottom line profits.

Artemis provides a full range of internet marketing services to clients all over the UK, in a vast range of different industries. In a nutshell, it uses digital marketing to drive sales for clients. More specifically it offers search engine optimisation, pay-per-click advertising, email marketing and social media management.

Artemis was founded almost twelve years ago by Managing Director Mike Knivett (pictured) who explains: "Client demand has led to us hiring four new staff this year who have joined our search engine optimisation team. We've outgrown our previous offices in Balcombe and found a perfect larger site that will allow us to meet our expansion plans for the coming future." The new premises are just outside Hurstpierpoint, equidistant between Brighton and Crawley, just minutes from the A23.

Artemis is looking to build its client base locally and is therefore keen to talk to Sussex-based, small- to medium-sized businesses who would like to hear more about how digital marketing, spoken in plain English, can help their business achieve its growth plans and increase revenue.



**HURSTPIERPOINT**

# *Village Party*

**SUNDAY 12th JUNE**  
**1.30pm - 5.30pm**



*To Celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's  
90th Birthday*



Come and join us! There will be a party atmosphere in the street, which will be closed to cars. Lots of things to see and do for all the family, including Hurstpierpoint Open Gardens, many shops, pubs, wine bars and restaurants to enjoy...

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- BBQ
- CHILDREN'S GAMES
- OPEN MIC ON THE GREEN
- BELL RINGING
- RAFFLE
- PLANT STALL
- CAKE STALL
- HOG ROAST
- FOOD STALLS
- ICE CREAM
- MAMA GHANOUSHE
- PIZZA VAN
- CHOIR
- STREET ENTERTAINERS
- DANCE PERFORMANCE FROM ST LAWRENCE PUPILS
- DISCO ON THE GREEN
- CELEBRITY APPEARANCE FROM STEPHEN FROM GOGGLE BOX – MAKE SURE TO GET A SELFIE TO SHOW YOUR FRIENDS!
- ENTER POPONIN PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN COMPETITION
- PRINCE & PRINCESS FANCY DRESS COMPETITION

*All proceeds raised on the day will be donated to St Peter & St James Hospice*

## A royal appointment for Fergus...

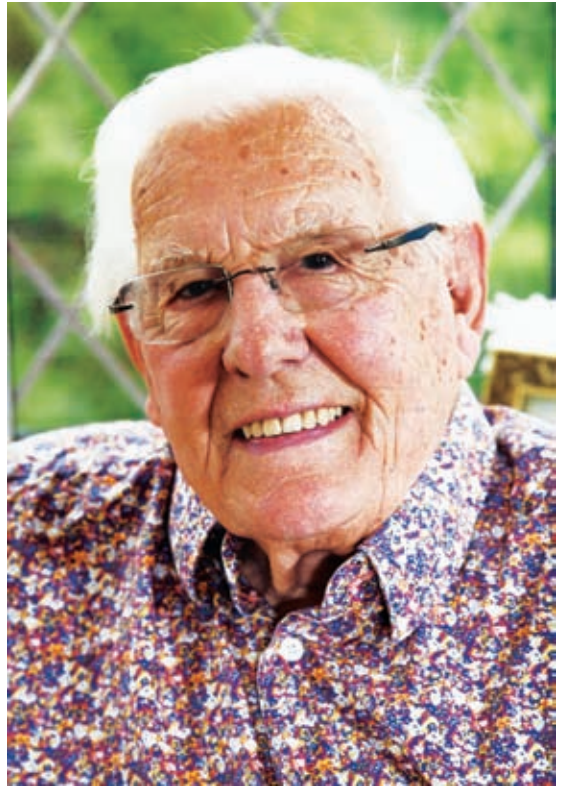
Local magician and WWII veteran Fergus Ankorn recently attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace with The Not Forgotten Association. The charitable association was founded in 1920 and provides support for our injured service men and women of all ages. He attended with his daughter Deborah, who lives in France.

Fergus, who is now in his 98th year, spent 3½ years in Japanese prisoner of war camps following the British defeat in Singapore in February 1942. Critically wounded during the height of the battle, having been blown up in his Artillery lorry, he was declared dead by a passing British colleague, who took his 'dog' identity tags and handed them in for the casualty list. Luckily, he was not dead and was later taken into hospital and survived yet another ordeal, which was to be known as the Alexandra Hospital Massacre, whereupon the victorious Japanese army executed most of the patients and staff at the Hospital.

Fortunately, yet again, he survived. Fergus was then sent up into Thailand (formerly Siam) and was engaged in forced labour as a POW, during which time he partook in the building of the infamous bridge over the River Kwai. Fergus' hobby had always been conjuring and during his time as a prisoner he helped keep the morale of other prisoners up by taking part in entertainment productions staged by the troops. He was also summoned on occasions to perform in front of the Japanese Camp Commandant, who took a keen interest in magic. On one such occasion Fergus nearly lost his life yet again, when the Commandant told him that he was having some important colleagues over for a meeting and would like them to be entertained. He asked Fergus what he needed for the show and Fergus replied: "An egg." Realising he had been given a docket saying 'Give this man what he wants' to go to the cook house with, he very cheekily asked the Japanese cook for 50 eggs!

The show went extremely well and Fergus made good use of the one egg in the featured trick and, following applause all round, he returned home to his hut. The next morning he was summoned to the Commandant who was scowling and said to Fergus: "You do trick with one egg... Where 49 others?" Fergus thought he was surely staring at a swift death sentence, but staring around the room he suddenly had inspiration. "Your show was very important to me, I had to practise all day."

He got away with it! This is one of many stories which are in Fergus' book *The Conjuror On The Kwai*, which was written by Peter Fyans and forms the base of a two man show which Fergus & Peter present to schools and community festivals by invitation. The show is essentially an interview-style production with graphics, which educates the audience by telling them first-hand what life was like in a war zone, followed by starvation and captivity. Interestingly, it not only covers the obvious negativity of his experiences but is also scattered with a good deal of humour and hope. The show proved to be a significant hit as part of last year's Hurst Festival programme.



Fortunately, yet again, he survived. Fergus was then sent up into Thailand and was engaged in forced labour as a POW, during which time he partook in the building of the infamous bridge over the River Kwai.

In later life, Fergus started giving talks to the public and schools feeling that it was an important part of our history for the story to be told. Since 1996 he has tirelessly raised many thousands of pounds for The Burma Star Association, to which he has donated any income from his talks. He has also been very public about his lack of animosity towards the Japanese, studying the language and visiting Tokyo & Osaka in 1994.

Fergus lives in Hurstpierpoint and magic still plays a huge part in his life, attending The Magic Circle in London every Monday. He joined in 1936 as the youngest member. At 97 he is now the oldest member!



## Bell-ringers celebrate with quarter peal

By Deb Hollywood

Along with other events and celebrations taking place on Sunday 12th June to celebrate the Queen's official birthday, there is one in particular to listen out for!

At 12 noon the Hurstpierpoint Bell Ringers will be ringing a quarter peal (that's 1,260 changes to those of us who don't know) which lasts for 45 minutes.

The bell-ringers, who meet at Holy Trinity Church on Thursdays to practise, have a strong membership and are pleased to have a group of young teenagers in their group. At a recent coffee morning at the church, the group were on hand to demonstrate rope making (smaller versions of the real thing!) and chat to an interested group who were fascinated by this craftsmanship. The inclusion of the 'Sally', the coloured rope at the end which is pulled, is an intricate process needing a steady hand and just the right amount of tension. The history of bell-ringing is entwined into our modern day language with phrases such as 'ringing the changes', of which there are 5,000 in a full peal. The history extends further back to when pubs, along with churches, were the focal points of village life, and pubs were named after how many bells the church had, and there was a real status in numbers. Holy Trinity has eight bells, two of which date from 1775. It was during the 17th century that eight bells became more common and were used as the yardstick for bell-ringers and composers.

William Stafford, Rachael Mahoney, Sophie Payne and Josh Hutchinson were on hand to answer questions, proudly sporting their Sussex Young Ringers uniform. They are a few of the young contingent who, in April of this year, came first in a regional competition. Rachael said: "The atmosphere is a mix of excitement and nerves!", with William adding: "And if anyone asks, bell-ringing is nothing like the Mars advert!"

Bell-ringing, once learned, is a skill that can be kept for life. Member Sue Elrick said that having come to bell-ringing in her 50s she has definitely found it harder to learn than the younger members. John Norris, who started out in 1959, said: "Young members do find it easier and once learnt can ring bells anywhere. When they leave the village for university, employment or to get married, they often

end up bell-ringing elsewhere." Their departure leaves the way open for new recruits and is open to all ages. The prerequisite seems to be hand to eye coordination as opposed to brute strength, although there were a few comments about aching backs and arms!

There are over 5,000 spires in the UK, which with eight bells apiece necessitates 40,000 bell ringers nationally, a figure which has remained unchanged for the last 50 years and reflects the strong interest in this historic activity which still holds its own today.

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# Kieran Murray

## VILLAGE PEOPLE

By Deb Hollywood

At the time of going to press Kieran Murray will have recently celebrated his 19th birthday. Kieran was born and has grown up in Hurstpierpoint, with his mum, dad, Bertie the dog and the ginger cat.

Kieran is known to many for his gigs at various pubs in the village and private events. He opens his mouth and sings, and in that moment people stop talking. Kieran has a phenomenal voice, think Ed Sheeran meets George Ezra (more of this later), and when he stops singing people start talking – about him!

It was at the age of ten that Kieran first sang the James Morrison song You Give Me Something – a song that was to prove significant later – and in that moment, his mum, Lee, thought 'We think he's good, let's explore this further'. Kieran started lessons with Hurstpierpoint's Sam Nixon, who still remains a constant as a vocal coach. I asked Kieran if he believed he was good straight away? "No, it was when Sam said she thought I was, that I began to believe it." Dave, Kieran's dad, says that Kieran started singing much earlier and at the age of two could be heard belting out Sex Bomb by Tom Jones in the car with his Grandma Margaret – although at this stage they couldn't really tell if he was good or not!

Kieran's talent continued to develop throughout his school years and he says he received support from Downlands' teachers such as Miss Hunniset and Mr Smith. The latter he performed with at a school talent show, Kieran describing Mr Smith as being a 'brilliant guitar player'.

It was Downlands that suggested he go on to Central Sussex College to study A Levels. I asked Kieran if he was surprised to hear the recent news that the Haywards Heath site is due to close. "Not massively shocked," he replied, "but it is sad as the staff in the Arts department were fantastic! I don't know where students will go to from this area to study the arts now."

For Kieran, the next step was to audition for the

esteemed British Institute of Modern Music – Brighton, more commonly known as BIMM. When he saw the list of audition songs he knew it had to be James Morrison's You Give Me Something and it did – a coveted place at BIMM. Kieran will complete his Foundation year this summer and is staying on to study for a three year degree course in song writing and vocals. This year has been more intense than Kieran anticipated, although he's enjoyed studying Michael Jackson, David Bowie and The Beatles, to name but a few, and is looking forward to his degree when he'll be learning more about the music business and focusing on developing vocals and performance skills. Still, you know what they say about all work and no play, and Kieran is no different from many teenagers in his other interests, namely his girlfriend, working part-time at Morley's Wine Bar and his X-box!

You would think all of this would leave little room for much else in Kieran's life but you'd be wrong! Kieran is the youngest village resident to be interviewed for Village People to date, and what drew me to chatting to him was not just his musical talent but his involvement in our local community. Last year, Kieran joined the St Lawrence Fair Committee and I was interested to know why. Replying passionately, he said: "I've lived in Hurst all my life and I know how much work is involved (in the Fair) but I'm not sure everyone knows how much hard work goes into it." His involvement has, unsurprisingly, used his musical talent in sourcing other bands for the Friday night pre-Fair gig on the green. This evening started a few years ago and has become the gentle, although not necessarily sober, easing into Fair day! Kieran is checking out sound systems – he has just purchased a massive pair of speakers which had pride of place in the dining room – and looking at the best site for the stage. He's looking to improve it and make it better for everyone, and of course he hopes we'll be blessed with good weather!

Kieran is using his contacts to influence the line-up



and as usual local young talent, of which there is much, will be showcased. Recently Kieran played in Brighton with Jamiroquai, having been asked to audition singing one of their songs, Virtual Insanity. "It was proper cool," he says, adding: "Although they won't be performing in Hurst, the line-up will be great!" Kieran describes his fellow committee members as lovely, saying that he has met new people. He said: "I feel respected as a young adult, by people I've grown up with." Adding: "It has helped being over 18 when it comes to enjoying refreshments at meetings!"

The immediate future is mapped out with studies for Kieran, and he'll be living at home, which he and his mum and dad all seem happy about. Kieran sees this as an opportunity to save for musical equipment and paying for his car. I ask him how he finds driving in the area and he raises his eyebrows and grins at the mention of the High Street. "Stuck in the High Street? Check out all the shops while you're sitting there waiting!" he suggests. His friendship group is local, often meeting at local pubs, although he misses friends currently travelling in New Zealand saying 'he wishes he could be there!'. I ask Kieran if travelling is on the cards, post degree? Wistfully he replies: "Possibly. I'd like to travel, using the world to influence my music."

If you've heard Kieran you'll be familiar with his style, although he says: "Local gigs affect the song choices. If the audience ask for specific songs then that's what I'll sing!" He feels that he's more of a soul/indie rock singer, influenced by the likes of Stevie Wonder. If you haven't heard Kieran yet, there'll be opportunities over the summer months, in addition to The Friday Fair Night on 1st July.

Kieran describes himself as confident, he enjoys meeting new people at college and chatting with customers at the Wine Bar, but he doesn't come across as arrogant. He is keen to name all those who have helped him so far in his singing career and quick to make suggestions of others from his peer groups who would make great candidates for future Village People features. He may be heading far, but he definitely won't be alone, as at the very heart of Kieran there is a strong sense of family and friends, which is why there is no doubt that he loves living in Hurst. I ask him if he sees himself living here in the future, to which he replies: "It's a lovely village, but I'll have to be really successful to buy my own place here!"

It is admirable that Kieran chooses to be involved in a central village event, giving back to the community that he loves. Kieran Murray is a name to watch out for. Even if he moves away, he'll be back, probably as a celebrity, opening a future St Lawrence Fair!



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Hurst Life



## Charley sent on her way

By Deb Hollywood

In January of this year, Hurst Life featured Charley Hill and her charity work in Sierra Leone. In addition to detailing her experiences, Charley asked for any donations of medical items, such as out of date but unopened bandages, to be made directly to her. Claudine Lower from the Sayers Common and Albourne W.I. was one reader who was touched by Charley's story and made contact on behalf of her W.I. branch to see

what they might be able to do. In addition to medical supplies, Charley says she either ships, or takes out in her own baggage allowance, 'anything and everything!' And so it was agreed that these W.I. ladies would make and collect toys for the children orphaned by Ebola. And boy, have they been busy!

Claudine's husband gave the description of 'not being able to move for boxes of knitting!' at their home, and this must be true for the other ladies who have participated if the array of donated items shown here is anything to go by. Charley was able to visit a recent meeting to collect all these goods and it's clear that these W.I. members have, unsurprisingly, taken Charley and her work to their hearts. I say unsurprisingly, as Charley is an extraordinary young woman. For her last few visits she has been working with the London based charity Street Child, but she fundraises independently and travels alone. She has made a true friend in Martha, her contact who she works with when she arrives in West Africa, and at the time of writing she and Martha will be busy distributing the donated toys. Additionally, Charley will be running a 10K marathon to raise funds for Street Child, in temperatures tipping over 32C, and acknowledges she may not be able to keep up with the locals but will be able, hopefully, to take in the stunning scenery! Back here in the UK Claudine says: "We've decided to keep collecting and making for Charley throughout the year, and she'll be coming back to us, to give a talk in the future." Sierra Leone is now classified as Ebola free but there are many children orphaned or separated from their families by the disease and the country's civil war. Charley's motivation is, as she says, 'not to cure the world but help one child at a time', and having the support of the Sayers Common and Albourne W.I. does really seem to be making a difference.

If you, too, would like to support Charley, donations of children's clothes, small toys, writing materials and medical supplies can be made to St Peter and St John the Baptist Church in Wivelsfield, and Marathon donations can be made via [www.street-child.co.uk](http://www.street-child.co.uk)

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G3



# The best brûlée

FINE FOOD

Pete Hampson, who has provided us with many fine recipes in the last year or so, is hanging up his article-writing gloves sadly. He will be concentrating on his own range of cooking sauces called Dooley's Sauces in the coming months.

In this last peek into his personal recipe book Pete shows us how to make a fine White Chocolate & Passionfruit Brûlée.

Makes 6

- 8 ripe passion fruit
- 1½ tablespoons lemon juice
- 450ml double cream
- Approx 75g caster sugar for mix and extra for the burnt topping
- 125g white chocolate

**Method:**

Squeeze the pulp from the fruit into a blender, add the lemon juice and blitz for a few seconds.

Put the cream, sugar and chocolate into a pan and heat gently until the chocolate has melted, keep stirring. Add the blitzed liquor and stir well.

Sieve into a jug, rubbing the mixture through with a spatula and scraping any mixture from the underside of the sieve. Discard what is left in the sieve.

Pour into six small ramekins and chill for three hours. When ready to serve, sprinkle the top with sugar and melt with a blowtorch until bubbling and caramelised.

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# Former resident on 570 mile charity walk

Former Hurst resident Peter Smith, aged 73, is embarking on a 570 mile walk from Maggie's Cancer Support Centre in Swansea to the Maggie's Centre in Edinburgh in memory of his beloved wife Anne who sadly lost her brave two year battle with a rare brain cancer just before Christmas last year. The centre provided fantastic support to Peter and Anne during her illness, and the aim is to raise £10,000 as well as publicise the work of the charity which offers free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their families and friends.

Peter is planning to walk an average of 14 miles a day via Brecon Beacons, Offa's Dyke, Shropshire Way, Limestone Way, Pennine Way and the river Tweed. This will be a huge personal challenge which he is hoping to achieve with the support of his family, Nigel, Michelle, Matthew and Victoria who will join him for stints along the way.

Peter and Anne were at the heart of village life in Hurstpierpoint through the 70s and 80s, with Peter being the outdoor instructor for the Scout unit and involved in the St Lawrence Fair for many years, whilst Anne worked tirelessly in the Village Centre playgroup and helped set up the Windmills Opportunity playgroup in Burgess Hill.

Peter and the family would welcome donations from anyone who remembers them from their many happy years in Hurstpierpoint or if you are simply inspired by his challenge. [www.justgiving.com/Peter-Smith85](http://www.justgiving.com/Peter-Smith85)



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# Bowling Club extension plans start fundraising

Records show Hurstpierpoint Bowling Club on its present site as far back as 1747. Dr W. G. Grace, best known for his cricket, played bowls in Hurst and having lost, insisted on playing – and losing – again! Today, this thriving club has an ever growing number of members, who take part in friendly matches, county competitions, hold evening bowling sessions through the summer and open their doors during the St Lawrence Fair.

Club members give their time every year to paint and maintain the club house, but it is now starting to show structural wear and tear and has come to the point where a lick of paint and a nail here and there will not do any more. Hurst Bowling Club have already raised substantial funds, but there is some way to go. They would like to construct a new Club House in keeping with the environment and rural setting. The club is already hired for coffee mornings and quiz nights by other local groups and once extended the clubhouse will be used all year round, providing sporting and social activities for young and old.



Fundraising events are to include a Village Barn Dance on Saturday the 9th July in the Village Centre. Dancing to Touchstone Barn Dance Band, there will be supper and a bar. Tickets priced at £12 each.

Tickets on sale now from Mishon Mackay and Feathers.

For more information about this project visit [www.hurstbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.hurstbowlingclub.co.uk)

## Sponsored Walk coming up on the Beacon

reMEmer, The Chronic Fatigue Society, is holding its next fundraiser which will be a sponsored walk from Clayton Windmills to Ditchling Beacon and back on Sunday 3rd July starting at 10.30am. Bill Kent says: "This walk is only about 10 kilometres – so you don't have to be an athlete to take part. Why not come and join us? Get your friends and colleagues to sponsor you and raise money for a good cause. You can get lunch in the Jack & Jill pub afterwards if you wish."

Over the years reMEmer has been able to help hundreds of ME sufferers through its fundraising. It is now campaigning for a proper service for children with the illness and continues to support research. Its last fundraising event, a rock and roll evening led by singer Michael Gverney, raised £1,200 and reMEmer is grateful to all those who helped at the event. It's looking forward to returning to Danny House in November when Lou Beckerman and friends will be performing.

In the meantime, if you can't take part in the sponsored walk, you can sponsor Bill who will be walking to celebrate his 77th birthday. Sponsor forms are available from Bill at reMEmer, PO Box 1647, Hassocks, BN6 9GQ, tel 01273 831733, email: [me\\_cfs@hotmail.com](mailto:me_cfs@hotmail.com). Or you can sponsor Bill online by going to the following: [www.justgiving.com/BillKent](http://www.justgiving.com/BillKent)

## Cream Tea Garden Party 19th June

By Jo Kaddish (chairman)

Come along and join the Hurstpierpoint & District Branch RNLI on Sunday 19th June at 'Blue Haze', 50 Hurst Road, Hassocks between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

Do come and have a wander around the garden and enjoy a delicious cream tea. There will be a raffle, sales of homemade cakes and produce as well as Lifeboat souvenirs.

Tickets at £5 per person for a cream tea are available from Mishon Mackay or the Pet Shop, Hurstpierpoint, Orion News Hassocks or at the door on the day.

All proceeds in aid of the RNLI – do please come and support us.

## And a thank you...

A sincere thank you to Gwen for her brilliant organisation and to all our collectors and contributors during our recent house-to-house and street collections in Hurstpierpoint and Hassocks.

With your help and support we raised the magnificent sum of £2,929 for the RNLI.

For more information you can contact Jo Kaddish on 01273 843857.

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## HURST VILLAGE CINEMA

By David Saitch

Last month saw us come to the end of our 2015/16 film programme, our fifth year of operation and, in many ways, our most successful.

We have had wonderful turnouts for all our films, and the Live Broadcasts, which we put on in association with Hurst Players, have gone from strength to strength. We are particularly pleased with the terrific success of our Sunday film season, which has played to largely full houses and expands our efforts to make sure we try to make superb cinema of all kinds available to all. Membership numbers have reached a new high and we are very grateful for all your support and the terrific feedback we receive and hope that everyone who has visited the cinema has enjoyed it.

We now take a break from film screenings until we return in the Festival in September, but our NT Live and Kenneth Branagh Live continue in June and July,

and on Thursday 9th June, we have the NT Live encore broadcast of the Olivier Award winning production of **The Audience**.

The Audience sees **Helen Mirren** reprise her performance as Queen Elizabeth II, following her Oscar win for the same role in *The Queen*. This encore screening of the original West End production of *The Audience*, features an exclusive Q&A with **Stephen Daldry** and **Helen Mirren**.

For sixty years, Queen Elizabeth II has met with each of her twelve Prime Ministers in a private weekly meeting; this meeting is known as *The Audience*. No one knows what they discuss, not even their spouses. From the old warrior Winston Churchill, to the Iron Lady Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair right up to today's meetings with the current incumbent David Cameron, the Queen advises her Prime Ministers on all matters both public and personal. Through these private audiences, we see glimpses of the woman behind the crown and witness the moments that shaped a monarch.

*The Audience* is written by Peter Morgan (**The Queen**) and directed by the Oscar nominated director Stephen Daldry (**Billy Elliot, The Hours**).

Tickets for Live Broadcasts are £10 members/£14 non-members. Doors/Bar 6.30pm. Performance 7pm.

Tickets can be bought online at [www.hurstfilms.com](http://www.hurstfilms.com), at Mishon Mackay on Hurstpierpoint High Street, or if you can't use either of those methods, do call us on 01273 835875. Meanwhile, have a great summer!

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5 MINUTES WITH...

**Mike Thatcher**

**How long have you lived in Hurstpierpoint?**  
Eight years.

**What's the best thing about being here?**  
The friendliness, warmth of community and a  
good school which we can walk to.

**Favourite ice cream flavour?**  
Vanilla, of course.

**How many houses have you lived in?**  
Four.

**Favourite holiday destination?**  
Loch Awe, Argyll.

**Your most enjoyable event in the village?**  
St Lawrence Fair.

**Do you share your home with anyone?**  
Yes, my wife Anna, Oliver 10, Ella 8 and Mia 6.

**Song you play the most?**  
The Brute Choir by Bonnie Prince Billy.

**Mac or PC?**  
Mac everytime.

**Your most frequented village shop?**  
Butcher and Chemist, although the two are  
not related!

**What's your proudest moment?**  
Getting 50% discount on Anna's  
engagement ring!

**Coke, juice or water?**  
Water.

**Your advice for life?**  
Never bet £7,000 on Young Musician of  
the Year just because your mate's sister is  
competing.

# The Fun Run Short Course – 2nd July

By Benny Coxhill

The short course is a mile and a half along footpaths and through Danny Park. It is well marshalled and signposted and keeps well away from the roads.

The race is open to adults and children, and there are prizes for under 16s. Tom Roberts has been the fastest boy for the last three years with a record time of 11:23 in 2015, the same year that Jessica Emerson set the course record for girls with a time of 15:58.

This year we would love to see more families in the short race, so there is an amazing discount rate of only £5 if you book in advance, going up to £10 on the day. That covers any number of adults and children per family. There will be a fantastic prize of a set of four hoodies, donated by Aspire Fitness. It's not for the fastest family; we will draw the name of one of the families that finish out of a hat but you need to be in it to win it.

Here is the route for you to get practising. (1) We start in the fair arena in South Avenue, run along the road at the back of the houses on the High Street, then left by the toilets and head south on Pitt Lane down the path. Keep going over the private drive, through the trees and across the little bridges, the wooden one then the metal one. (2) Turn left as you come to the drive to



Little Washbrook, go past the buildings and follow the footpath signs. Cross a stile and pass the nursery on your right, then another stile keeping left around the side of the field and into the woods. This short stretch has lots of tree roots so be very careful. Carry on to the south as you come out of the trees, past the stile and over the field until you reach the woods.

(3) On Fair Day there will be a marshal here to send the long and short course runners in different directions. For the short course you turn left on the course of the Roman road. Follow the path that leads through the trees, across another field then over the new bridge with metal gates. This brings you through the tunnel of trees and as you emerge in Danny Park turn sharp right until you reach the drive by the cattle grid (4).

Turn left along the drive until you come to (5) the big fallen tree on your left, where you turn left to follow the footpath through the new metal gate and straight on to the gate by the farm track. (6) The race route doesn't go to Tott Farm just ahead of you, but it turns left, over another stile then you turn right at the metal gate (7) to go up the slope north towards Little Torch ahead of you. (8) When you climb over the stile on to the footpath you are nearly there. Watch out as you cross South Avenue, although on Fair Day it will be closed to traffic and full of food stalls. The finish is straight ahead at the back of the bowls club.

Entry forms are on [www.stlawrencefair.org.uk](http://www.stlawrencefair.org.uk) and you can enter online via this link: <http://bit.ly/1To4sBU> and for a family entry choose the adult rate on the short course.

You can look up the January 2016 edition of Hurst Life online for a description of the long course. [www.hurstlife.co.uk](http://www.hurstlife.co.uk)

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# Tom's taking this year's run in his stride

By Deb Hollywood

Local lad Tom Roberts is one, for sure, who will enter this year's St Lawrence Fair Junior/Family Fun Run.

He is looking to beat the record, set by Charlie Townsend, of three consecutive wins! Tom, aged 13, has entered the Fun Run for the last five years. In the first year he came in unplaced, running with Kate Beesley, having taken a detour into a resident's drive! (There is no excuse for that this year, if you take a look at Benny Coxhill's map!) Tom says he decided not to run with Kate, a family friend, again and has gone from strength to strength!

He enjoys sport generally, playing rugby, football – with Hurst Colts – and tennis, but finds running rewarding as he can do this in the autumn and winter months. Tom likes running in the village, particularly in Danny Park, up the hill - where the crowds stand on Bonfire night - and then repeats a few of these laps. I asked Tom if he feels under any pressure this year, as he aims to win the trophy for a fourth time. "Not really," he replied, "I like running, and have taken part in the procession in previous years and then taken part in the Fun Run." Tom's mum, Emma, says that his love of running started at St Lawrence Primary School, under the encouragement of Mrs Hampson. This is true for many, and the St Lawrence Fair Committee are hoping that both primary and secondary school students and family members, will join Tom in running this year.

Tom is relaxed about the run, which seems to encompass the true spirit of it. As for Tom, he thinks he'll be running alone, although his dad may join him (no pressure there, then!). Tom will probably enjoy a meal of chicken and pasta the night before, making sure he warms up and stretches properly on the day and post-race.

He'll enjoy his favourite tippie of grenadine and lemonade, whatever the result!



## SOS from local Rainbows group

Hurstpierpoint will be less bright at the end of the summer term unless more help can be enlisted to help run the existing Rainbows group (aged 5-7s, part of Girlguiding UK) which currently meets on Mondays in the village. If you are able to help then please contact Lynne Thomas on: [lynnethomas1@hotmail.com](mailto:lynnethomas1@hotmail.com)

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## Wedding Night by Sophie Kinsella

### BOOK REVIEW

By Clair Stanton

The heroines of *Wedding Night* are sisters; Fliss, who is editor of a prestige travel magazine, and Lottie, who works in HR for a pharmaceutical company. The sisters are very close and Fliss has always been protective of her younger sibling.

Kinsella cleverly splits the narrative so that the point of view switches between Lottie and Fliss, this allows the reader to engage with both sisters and know more about what is happening than they do. By the end you will be rooting for them both to get their happy ending.

As the story begins Lottie is convinced that her boyfriend Richard is about to propose; he has booked a special lunch, asked whether she likes his surname and wants to ask her a 'big question', so Fliss is shocked to hear that they have broken up. Lottie usually reacts badly to break-ups and makes 'unfortunate choices' but Fliss is determined that this time will be different and will go to any lengths to secure her sister's happiness.

Fliss has troubles of her own. She is in the middle of a messy divorce and trying to make sure her problems don't affect her work, but soon finds herself abusing her position to keep Lottie from making the biggest mistake of her life.

The plot moves along at breakneck speed and it is packed with humour and farcical situations.

*Wedding Night* is 'Book of the Month' at Hurstpierpoint Library; pick up a copy on your next visit.

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# What's on this month

## AT THE VILLAGE CENTRE

### Regular events

- Sun **Sunday Afternoon Cream Tea Dance** – 2-4.30pm, nearly every Sunday
- Mon **The Sanctuary** – 9.30-11.30am, weekly (term time only) – a welcoming place where friendships can form over coffee and cake
- Tues **Afternoon Club** – 2-4pm, 1st Tuesday  
**Wolstonbury WI** – 7.30 pm, 3rd Tuesday  
**Scottish Dancing** – 7-10pm, weekly
- Fri **Star Dance School** – from 6.45pm, weekly
- Sat **Hurstpierpoint Dance Club** – 8pm, 3rd Saturday Ballroom and Latin dance, any skill level welcome

### June

- 2nd **Parish Council Planning Committee Meeting** 8pm
- 4th **New Sussex Opera Chorus present... King Arthur** – 7pm (www.newsussexopera.org)
- 9th **Parish Council Finance & General Purposes Meeting** – 8pm
- 11th **Midsummer Ball** – 8pm – 1am  
In celebration of the Queen's 90th Birthday, doors open at 7.30pm. Organised by Star Dance, in aid of The Rockinghorse Appeal and Breast Cancer. Tickets £10pp (Tel 01273 719500)
- 18th **Gardenalia Sale** – 2.15pm  
at **Hurstpierpoint Horticultural Society's Summer Show**. Many antique and old garden items for sale plus all the usual flowers, fruit, vegetable, cookery and children's exhibits. Grand auction at end of show. Home-made cake and tea all afternoon. If you would like to exhibit simply pick up a self-explanatory schedule from Gibsons in the High Street.
- 21st **Wolstonbury WI Monthly Meeting** – 7.45pm  
Gongoozling for beginners... life on the canals by Neil Sadler. Visitors welcomed. (01273 834421)
- 23rd **Voting for EU Referendum** – 7am-10pm
- 30th **Parish Council Meeting** – 8pm

## AND ELSEWHERE

### June

- 1st **Art Talk by Edward Saunders** – 2pm  
Danny House, Hurstpierpoint. 'Catherine the Great's Art collection for the Art Fund' (Tel: 01273 833000 www.dannyhouse.org.uk)
- 5th **Hurst Community Charity Celebration Service** 4pm, Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint
- 11th **The Midsummer Strings Concert** – 2.30pm  
St John the Evangelist Church, Newtimber BN6 9BT  
Followed by Strawberries & Cream in Newtimber Place Gardens. (Tickets, £20 each, from Lucy Dalrymple 01273 831877)
- 11th **A night of Opera, Jazz, Musicals and Poetry** 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Church, Hurstpierpoint  
Maria Jones and soloists from The Royal Opera House performing (Tickets from Mishon Mackay 01273 834602)
- 12th **Village Street Party** – The Queen's 90th Birthday from 12noon Hurst High Street will be closed for the celebrations (see page 13 for more details)
- 17th **Celebration of Sussex Day** – 8pm  
Albourne Village Hall. In conjunction with the Albourne Pop Up Pub, Sussex beers, wines and platters of Sussex cheeses with music. (Tickets £5 from Ann at 01273 835 655)
- 18th **Hurst's Got Talent** – 3.30pm, Morley's Bistro
- 18th **Sussex Chorus concert** – 7.30pm  
Hurstpierpoint College Chapel (BN6 9JS)  
'Music for a Summer's Evening' (www.sussexchorus.org)
- 18th **Albourne School Summer Fair** – 2-4.30pm  
Albourne School, Albourne
- 19th **St Lawrence Fair Pet Show** – from 12.30pm  
Guide Headquarters, Hurstpierpoint
- 19th **RNLI Fundraising Cream Tea** – 2.30-4.30pm  
Blue Haze, 50 Hurst Road, Hassocks  
(Tickets £5 from Mishon Mackay and Pierpoint Pet Supplies)
- 23th-26th **TheEquestrian.com Hickstead Derby**  
Hickstead Show Ground (www.hickstead.co.uk)
- 25th-26th **Flower Festival** – 11am-5pm  
St Martin's Church, Westmeston B2116
- 25th **Seven 'secret' Gardens in Twineham** – 2-5pm  
Start at St Peter's Church (Fanny Jones email: fntjones@btinternet.com)
- 25th **Downlands School Summer Fair** – 12noon-4pm  
Dale Avenue, Hassocks

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