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Exhibitions • Comedy • Food & Drink

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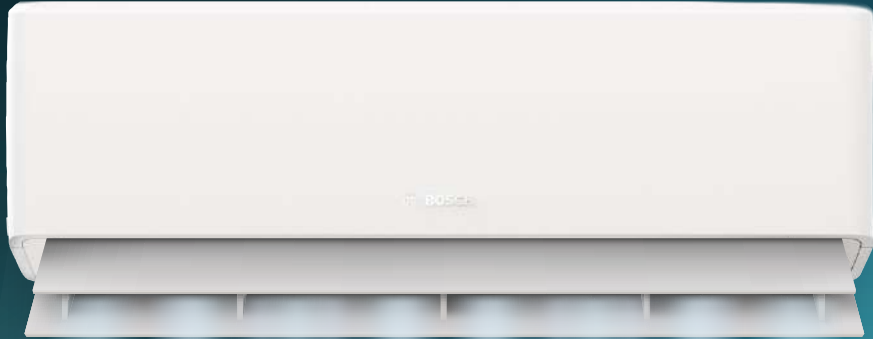
Workshops • Dance • Arts & Crafts

2026 Hurst Festival

Saturday 12th September
till Sunday 27th

Scan to view all events





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Welcome

to Hurst Festival 2026.

We are excited to share with you the events taking place over the 2 weeks of the Festival 12 – 27 September.

In this packed brochure you will find a great programme happening across Hurstpierpoint venues large and small.

You can book walks, talks and workshops, explore exhibitions, and enjoy comedy, theatre and live music. This year we are thrilled to partner with Cuckfield Book Festival to bring you an evening with author Zadie Smith.

The central brochure pull-out gives you the calendar; full details for each listing can be found throughout the numbered pages.

There are the always popular comedy nights on both Fridays, and big music shows each Saturday.

Join us at Super Sunday on 20th September at the Recreation Ground, a day for people to come together have fun, and be entertained.

The young people from Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics club will be sharing their talents by putting on a display.

Throughout the day, enjoy tunes from Mid Sussex Radio and live music from "Breeze In", a Hurstpierpoint-based band.

Independent vendors will offer a wide range of activities, food and drinks alongside the fully stocked Hurst Festival bar.



Your custom ensures the success of the independent businesses, while Festival bar sales enable us to continue to thrive and deliver the Hurst Festival two-week programme each September.

This year, with generous support from the Postcode Lottery, the Festival has invested in a new website and ticketing system. We hope this is going to make buying tickets online an easier and more friendly experience - do try it!

If needed you can call our ticketing helpline for advice, on 07579104299. This line will be manned on Saturdays: 9:30am - midday from 4th July until 26th September inclusive.

As always, we are indebted to our fabulous volunteers, there are many roles and ways to be involved - if you are interested in volunteering for the Festival, please contact

volunteers@hurstfestival.org

We can't wait to see you in September!

Genre Key



Hurst Open Studios

Date: Saturday 12th September
(13th, 19th & 20th)

Event Time: 11:00am - 5:00pm

Ticket Price: Free

Venue: Various venues



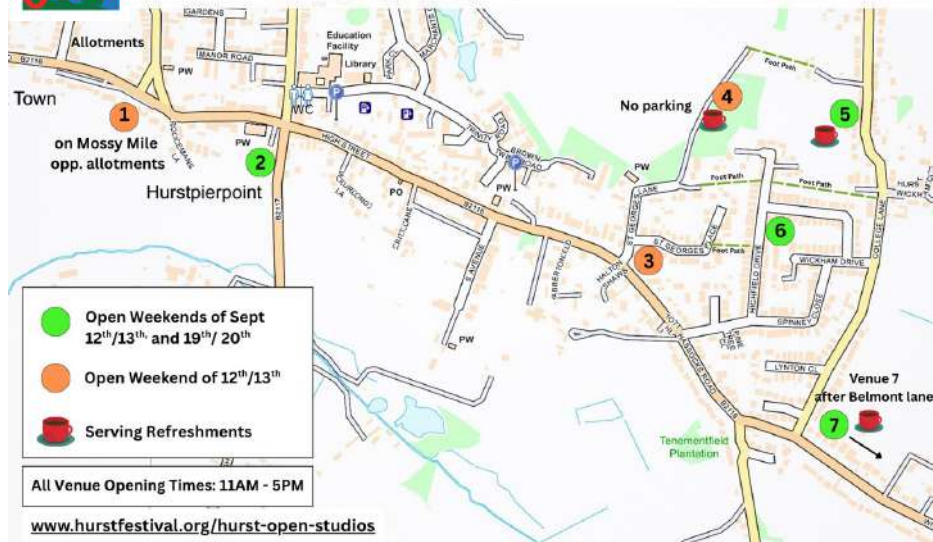
Hurst Open Studios is your opportunity to meet and discover the work of over 15 local artists offering paintings, ceramics, photography and much more. Follow the trail around the village and enjoy the art and delicious refreshments on offer. It is the perfect way to support local talent and perhaps purchase a unique gift or piece to take home. Remember, some locations are only open one weekend, so don't miss out.

See map for details.

"Creativity is intelligence having fun."
- Albert Einstein



Hurst Artists Open Studios



Micki Bennett



Kate Shanahan



Nick Warwick



Sacha Paisley



Sandra Spagnoli



Emmy van Deurzen



Issy White



Jackie Windels



Kate Harries



Natalie Avella



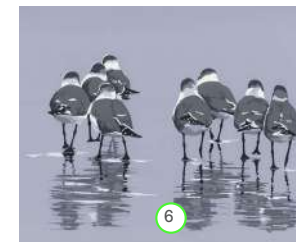
Rachel Wykes



Richard Barham



Jenny Hawkes



Lizzie Perkins



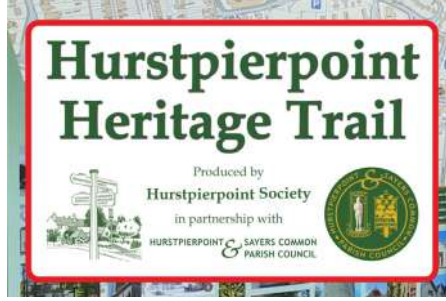
Magda Bullivant and
Letizia Prestiopino



Café in the Church

Date: Saturday 12th September
Event Time: 10:00am - 12:00pm
Ticket Price: Free
Venue: Holy Trinity Church

Come and join us for our 'Cafe in the Church' at Holy Trinity from 10-12pm, where you will find live music throughout the morning plus, a variety of local craft stalls, books, bric-a-brac, homemade cakes, raffle, tombola and freshly made coffee. Everyone is most welcome - no admission charge. All monies raised support Holy Trinity Church.



Heritage Trail (Hurst Society)

Date: Saturday 12th September (also 19th & 26th)
Event Time: 2:15pm - 4:30pm
Ticket Price: £10
Venue: Meet at Heritage Trail Map



Join The Hurstpierpoint Society for a guided historical walk of the village. Learn about the buildings and the people who lived here in the past. Easy walking for a couple of miles. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required, and bring water if needed.

Horticultural Show

Date: Saturday 12th September
Event Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm
Ticket Price: £1 on the door
Venue: Hurst Village Centre



The Hurstpierpoint Horticultural Society holds its Autumn Show from 2pm in the main hall at the Village Centre on Saturday 12th September. There will be exhibits of flowers, pot plants, vegetables and fruit, plus cookery, photography and children's classes. The show will include a sale of produce at 4pm. All welcome.



Lack of Commitments

Date: Saturday 12th September
Event Time: 8:00pm - 10:15pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £25
Venue: Holy Trinity Church

The Lack of Commitments is the UK's premier tribute to the iconic Dublin soul band, bringing the raw energy and authentic sound of The Commitments to life. With a powerful brass section, soaring vocals, and an irresistible rhythm, they deliver a show that transports audiences straight

into the heart of Roddy Doyle's beloved story. Known for their electrifying live performances, The Lack of Commitments promises an unforgettable evening of classic soul, Motown and pure grit.

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For brochure and to view, please contact Richard Burrows at:
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 West Sussex, BN6 9BB
 rburrows@dannyhouse.org.uk

01273 833 000
0777 616 1466
dannyhouse.org.uk



Hurst Open Studios

Date: Sunday 13th September (19th & 20th)

Event Time: 11:00am - 5:00pm

Ticket Price: Free

Venue: Various venues

Meet and discover the work of over 15 local artists offering paintings, ceramics, photography and much more. Follow the trail around the village and enjoy the art and delicious refreshments on offer. It is the perfect way to support local talent and perhaps purchase a unique gift or piece to take home. Remember, some locations are only open one weekend, so don't miss out.

See map for details.



Walk with U3A

Date: Sunday 13th September

Event Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Ticket Price: Free

Venue: Meet at Trinity Road car park

Join the u3a (The Third Age Trust) on a 5.5 mile walk to the south of Hurstpierpoint to enjoy wonderful views and an abundance of nature, led by Stephen. Allow approximately 3 hours for this walk. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required and bring water if needed.

UV protection isn't just for summer.

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Reading for Wellbeing

Date: Sunday 13th September

Event Time: 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Doors Open: 2:45pm

Ticket Price: £15

Venue: Nixons

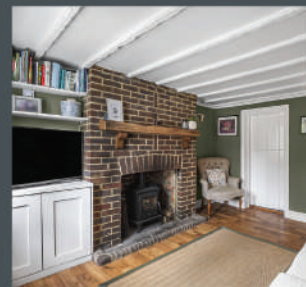
What is bibliotherapy, and how does it work? Come and find out at this fun, interactive event about the benefits of reading. Ella Berthoud will show how reading can support your wellbeing and both your mental and physical health. Discover how you can get more out of reading, find the perfect books, and share reading with others too.



Foster & Co had a hugely successful year last year selling homes in and around Hurstpierpoint and are well placed to help with your property search.



With branches in Brighton & Hove and Mid-Sussex, we have plenty of buyers and sellers looking to move home locally.



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An Evening of Wine Appreciation: Introducing the South Downs Cellars Wine School

Date: Monday 14th September

Event Time:
7:00pm - 9:00pm

Doors Open: 6:45pm

Ticket Price: £25

Venue: Hurstpierpoint Bowls Club

Taste five distinctive wines while learning systematic tasting, label-reading, and how wine is made. Our knowledgeable team brings decades of experience to this fun, educational evening, aimed at those who enjoy a glass of wine, and are interested to learn more about this delicious subject. We will also be hosting 3- and 6-week courses throughout the year.

See www.southdownscellars.co.uk/wine_tastings for more info.



Seven Poets Read

Date: Tuesday 15th September

Event Time: 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Doors Open: 7:00pm

Ticket Price: £7

Venue: The New Inn

This year, local poets David Roberts, Kevin Carey, Liz Young, Susan Skinner, Miriam Patrick and regular guest poet Wendy Klein are joined by Brighton poet Claire Booker. They welcome you to an evening of diverse and thought-provoking poetry in the back room of The New Inn. Publications by the poets will be for sale at the event.

www.hurstfestival.org



One Man, Two Guvnors

Date: Tuesday 15th - Saturday 19th September

Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm

Doors Open: 7:00pm

Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

A riotous, fast-paced comedy set in the criminal underworld of 1960s Brighton. Francis Henshall is a perpetually hungry, newly fired musician who becomes a servant to two different bosses simultaneously: a disguised gangster and her boyfriend. He spends most of his time desperately trying to prevent either of them from discovering the other, with predictably chaotic results.



Hurstpierpoint College Open Mornings

26 September
(11+)

10 October
(13+ and 16+)



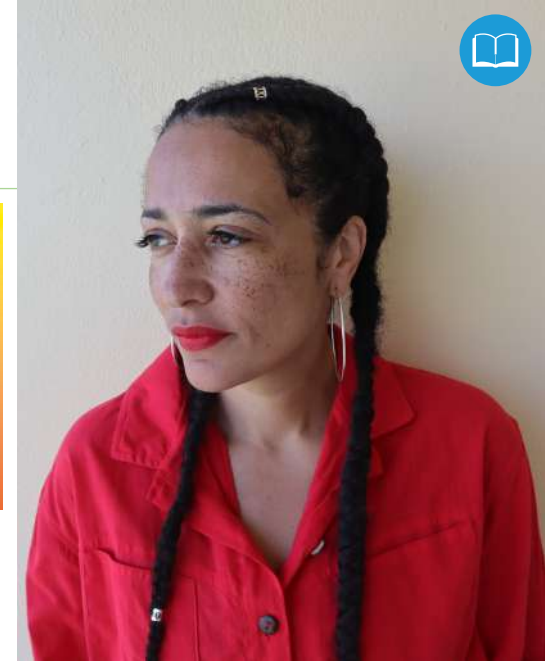
See our pupils inspired and engaged. Meet our teachers, explore our theatre and swimming pool, and discover how we nurture every child's joy and potential.

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Zadie Smith Talk

Date: Wednesday 16th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £14
Venue: Holy Trinity Church

Bestselling author Zadie Smith joins us to discuss her acclaimed first historical novel, set against the real-life Victorian scandal of the Tichborne Claimant. Spanning literary London and Jamaica's sugar cane plantations, *The Fraud* is a brilliant, witty exploration of truth, identity, class and who gets to tell their story, featuring Hurstpierpoint locations.



Credit Ben Bailey-Smith



Building Better High Streets Talk

Date: Wednesday 16th September
Event Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Doors Open: 6:30pm
Ticket Price: £5 **Venue:** Lyona Lounge

Join Rachael and Rob Fisher as they share their journey investing in Hurstpierpoint and their passion for building better high streets. Through local projects, they'll explore how thoughtful redevelopment can revitalise spaces, support independent businesses, and strengthen community-highlighting the vital role local people play in shaping a vibrant, thriving Hurst for everyone.

www.hurstfestival.org



One Man, Two Guvnors

Date: Tuesday 15th - 19th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

A riotous, fast-paced comedy set in the criminal underworld of 1960s Brighton. Francis Henshall is a perpetually hungry, newly fired musician who becomes a servant to two different bosses simultaneously: a disguised gangster and her boyfriend. He spends most of his time desperately trying to prevent either of them from discovering the other, with predictably chaotic results.



Tour of the College

Date: Thursday 17th September (also 24th)
Event Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Doors Open: 6:00pm
Ticket Price: Free (due to capacity must be booked in advance)
Venue: Main Entrance, Hurst College

If you have ever wondered what lies inside the historic flint-walled buildings that border Chalkers Lane and College Lane, now is your chance to step inside and find out! Tickets are free but please book online, as spaces are limited. Refreshments are available.



One Man, Two Guvnors

Date: Tuesday 15th - 19th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

A riotous, fast-paced comedy set in the criminal underworld of 1960s Brighton. Francis Henshall is a perpetually hungry, newly fired musician who becomes a servant to two different bosses simultaneously: a disguised gangster and her boyfriend. He spends most of his time desperately trying to prevent either of them from discovering the other, with predictably chaotic results.



The Jonny Hepbir Trio

Date: Thursday 17th September
Event Time: 7:00pm - 9:30pm
Doors Open: 6:30pm
Ticket Price: £20 **Venue:** Danny House

Following on from the success of their sell-out concert at last year's Festival, the Jonny Hepbir Trio return for another intimate performance celebrating the magic of Gypsy Jazz and the music of Django Reinhardt. Expect infectious rhythms, fiery improvisations and dazzling interplay between the musicians as they present an all-new repertoire of Gypsy Jazz and Swing Guitar classics.



Music Scholars Concert

Date: Thursday 17th September
Event Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Doors Open: 6:30pm
Ticket Price: Free (tickets must be booked in advance)
Venue: Hurst College, Music School

Come and hear the Hurst College Music Scholars perform a repertoire from across the centuries in a wide variety of musical styles in the Music School. The Music Scholars are all very talented and exciting young musicians with bright futures ahead of them. They will relish the opportunity to perform and will entertain with their polished playing and singing.

Proud to be part of village life and to support the Festival



Hurst Life

The community magazine just for Hurstpierpoint, Sayers Common & Albourne

Share your photos of the Festival with us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and via: photos@hurstlife.co.uk
 See www.hurstlife.co.uk for how to advertise and contribute to your magazine



Funny That Comedy

Date: Friday 18th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £20
Venue: Hurst Village Centre

Funny That Comedy takes their annual trip down the road from their Hassocks home, to bring the Friday Night Fun to Hurst Festival - over 10 years of sell-outs and laughs! Come and join one of our 2 nights with some of the best comics on the UK circuit. Line-up: MC Stephen Grant, Nina Gilligan, Michael Campuzano, Markus Birdman. Line-ups may change.

www.hurstfestival.org



One Man, Two Guvnors

Date: Tuesday 15th - 19th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

A riotous, fast-paced comedy set in the criminal underworld of 1960s Brighton. Francis Henshall is a perpetually hungry, newly fired musician who becomes a servant to two different bosses simultaneously: a disguised gangster and her boyfriend. He spends most of his time desperately trying to prevent either of them from discovering the other, with predictably chaotic results.

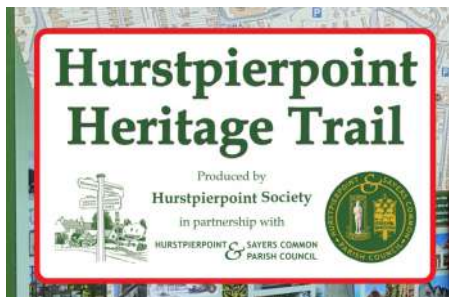


Hurst Open Studios

Date: Saturday 19th September (& 20th)
Event Time: 11:00am - 5:00pm
Ticket Price: Free
Venue: Various venues

Meet and discover the work of over 15 local artists offering paintings, ceramics, photography and much more. Follow the trail around the village and enjoy the art and delicious refreshments on offer. It is the perfect way to support local talent and perhaps purchase a unique gift or piece to take home. Remember, some locations are only open one weekend, so don't miss out.

See map for details.

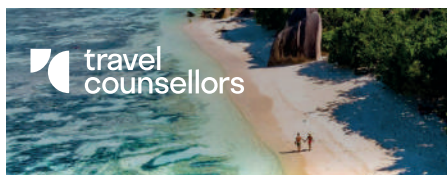


Heritage Trail (Hurst Society)

Date: Saturday 19th September (also 12th & 26th)
Event Time: 2:15pm - 4:30pm
Ticket Price: £10
Venue: Meet at Heritage Trail Map



Join The Hurstpierpoint Society for a guided historical walk of the village. Learn about the buildings and the people who lived here in the past. Easy walking for a couple of miles. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required, and bring water if needed.



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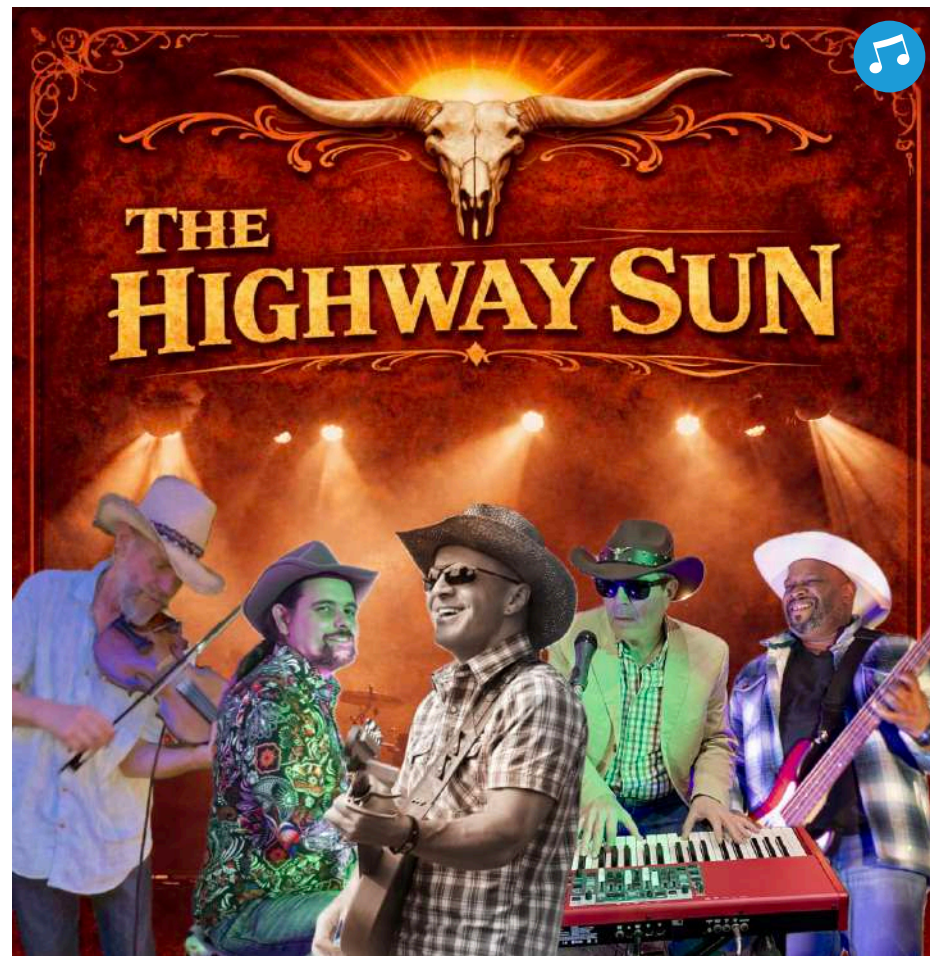
tracey.boverhoff@travelcounsellors.com



One Man, Two Guvnors

Date: Tuesday 15th - 19th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

A riotous, fast-paced comedy set in the criminal underworld of 1960s Brighton. Francis Henshall is a perpetually hungry, newly fired musician who becomes a servant to two different bosses simultaneously: a disguised gangster and her boyfriend. He spends most of his time desperately trying to prevent either of them from discovering the other, with predictably chaotic results.



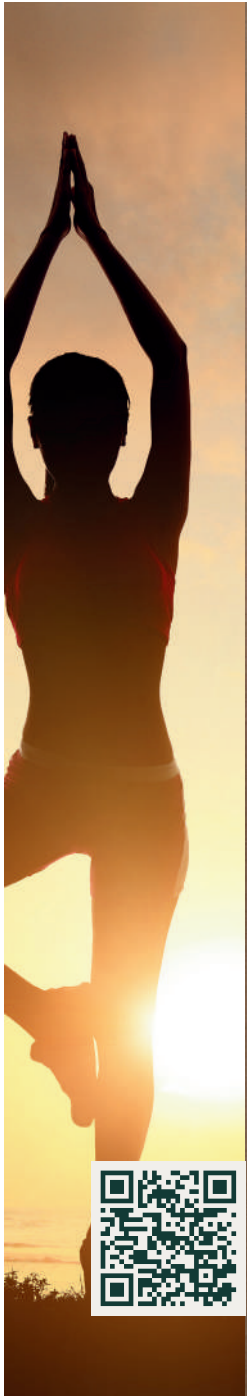
The Highway Sun

Date: Saturday 19th September
Event Time: 8:00pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15
Venue: Court Bushes Community Hub

Following last year's highly successful country evening featuring The Highway Sun, we're delighted to bring you an even bigger and better event this year. Not only will The Highway Sun be returning, but we're also welcoming Faith Fallon from Dance The Line UK, a fun, inclusive line dancing school for all ages and abilities. Get ready for a hoedown-style evening as we bring a

taste of Nashville to Hurstpierpoint with fantastic live country music and plenty of chances to try out your line dancing moves. Faith will guide you through the steps while The Highway Sun perform a mix of classic and modern country favourites, guaranteed to get you on your feet. So dust off your cowboy boots, grab your hat, and come on down, y'all!

www.hurstfestival.org



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2026 Hurst Festival
Saturday 12th September till Sunday 27th

Venues

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Hurst Village Centre | 10. Nixons Music and Books |
| 2. St Lawrence School | 11. Hurstpierpoint Bowls Club |
| 3. Rectory | 12. Hurst College, Music School |
| 4. New Inn | 13. Hurst College, Reception |
| 5. Players Theatre | 14. Lyona Club |
| 6. Court Bushes Community Hub | 15. Bearstakes |
| 7. South Avenue Recreation Ground | |
| 8. Holy Trinity Church | |
| 9. Danny House | |

P1. Trinity Road Car Park
P2 & P3. Hurst College Car Parks





| Saturday 12th September | | Pages 2-5 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  Café in the Church Holy Trinity Church | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Open Studios See website for full listings | 11am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Horticultural Show Hurst Village Centre | 2pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Heritage Trail (Hurst Society) Meet at Heritage Trail Map | 2:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Lack of Commitments Holy Trinity Church | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Sunday 13th September | | Page 7 |
|--|------|--------------------------|
|  Walk with U3A Trinity Road Car Park | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Open Studios See website for full listings | 11am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Reading for Wellbeing Nixons | 3pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |





| Monday 14th September | | Page 9 |
|--|-----|--------------------------|
|  An Evening of Wine Appreciation: Introducing the South Downs Cellars Wine School Hurstpierpoint Bowls Club | 7pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |





| Tuesday 15th September | | Page 9 |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
|  Seven Poets Read The New Inn | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  One Man, Two Guvnors Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |



| Wednesday 16th September | | Page 11 |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
|  Building Better High Streets Talk Lyona Lounge | 7pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Zadie Smith Talk Holy Trinity Church | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  One Man, Two Guvnors Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Thursday 17th September | | Pages 12-13 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  Tour of the College Main Entrance, Hurst College | 6:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  The Jonny Hepbir Trio Danny House | 7pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Music Scholars Concert Hurst College, Music School | 7pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  One Man, Two Guvnors Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Friday 18th September | | Page 13 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  One Man, Two Guvnors Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Funny That Comedy Hurst Village Centre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |






| Saturday 19th September | | Page 14-15 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  Open Studios See website for full listings | 11am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Heritage Trail Meet at Heritage Trail Map | 2:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  One Man, Two Guvnors Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  The Highway Sun Court Bushes Community Hub | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Sunday 20th September | | Page 21-23 |
|--|------|--------------------------|
|  Walk with U3A Trinity Road Car Park | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Open Studios See website for full listings | 11am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Super Sunday South Avenue Recreation Ground | 12pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Gershwin's Porgy and Bess Danny House | 3pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Monday 21st September | | Page 25 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  Clarinet Duo – Classical Soiree Bearstakes | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  The Informers: Brighton's Best Live Soul, Blues and Funk Band The New Inn | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |



| Tuesday 22nd September | | Page 25 |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
|  Festival Ceilidh Hurst Village Centre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Close Encounters of the Third Kind (PG) 137 mins, USA 1977 Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Wednesday 23rd September | | Page 27 |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
|  Art Masterclass Art Dept, Hurst College | 6:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Ghost Stories Theatre Players Theatre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Thursday 24th September | | Page 28-29 |
|--|-------------------|--------------------------|
|  St Lawrence School Tour St Lawrence School | 9:30 & 10:30am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Cake at the College Hurst College, Music School | 4pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Tour of the College Main Entrance, Hurst College | 6:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  The Captain's Beard The New Inn | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Rectory Soiree The Rectory | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Friday 25th September | | Page 31 |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
|  SOE Special Operations Executive – Churchill's Secret Army Court Bushes Community Hub | 2pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Funny That Comedy Hurst Village Centre | 7:30pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Saturday 26th September | | Page 32-33 |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
|  Nature's Tapestry Art Exhibition Danny House | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Flow (U) 85 mins, Latvia 2024 Players Theatre | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Heritage Trail (Hurst Society) Meet at Heritage Trail Map | 2:15pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Always 4 - Take That Holy Trinity Church | 8pm | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| Sunday 27th September | | Page 35 |
|---|------|--------------------------|
|  Nature's Tapestry Art Exhibition Danny House | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|  Walk with U3A Meet at Trinity Road car park | 10am | <input type="checkbox"/> |



General Info

Tickets can be purchased online at www.hurstfestival.org

If you need support you can contact our ticketing helpline for advice on: **07579 104299** This service will be manned on Saturdays 4th July - 27th September 9:30am - midday.

A £1 administration fee will be charged when purchasing tickets. This is to cover rising administrative costs. The fee will only be charged once per transaction, no matter how many tickets are purchased.



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Hurst Open Studios

Date: Sunday 20th September
Event Time: 11:00am - 5:00pm
Ticket Price: Free
Venue: Various venues



Meet and discover the work of over 15 local artists offering paintings, ceramics, photography and much more. Follow the trail around the village and enjoy the art and delicious refreshments on offer. It is the perfect way to support local talent and perhaps purchase a unique gift or piece to take home. Remember, some locations are only open one weekend, so don't miss out.

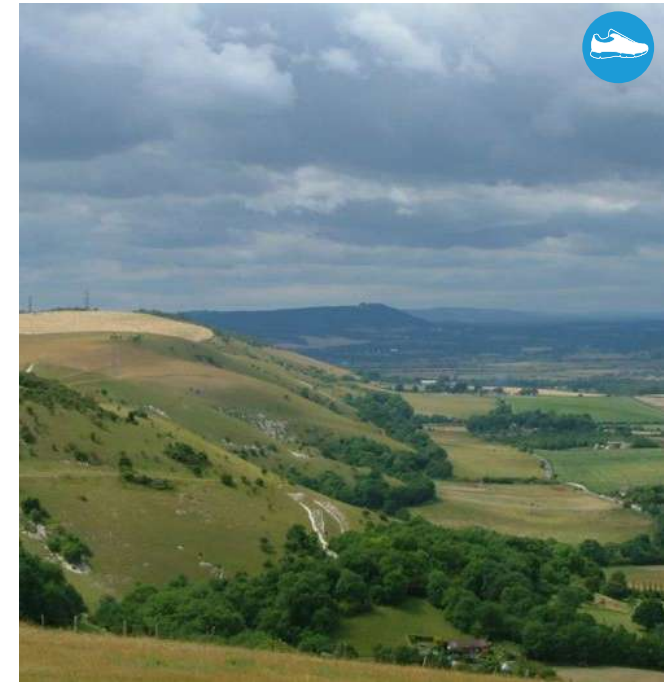
See map for details.



Walk with U3A

Date: Sunday 20th September
Event Time: 10:00am
Ticket Price: Free
Venue: Meet at Trinity Road car park

Join the u3a (The Third Age Trust) on a 5.5 mile walk to the west of Hurstpierpoint to enjoy wonderful views and an abundance of nature, led by Graham. Allow approximately 3 hours for this walk. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required and bring water if needed.



Gershwin's Porgy and Bess

Date: Sunday 20th September
Event Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm
Doors Open: 2:30pm
Ticket Price: £20 **Venue:** Danny House

A new jazz suite from trumpeter Chris Coull, featuring award-winning vocalist Imogen Ryall. Listen to songs from Porgy and Bess as part of an engaging and enthralling love story, which features instantly recognisable songs (*Ain't Necessarily So*, *I Loves You*, *Porgy* and 'of course' *Summertime*) as well as unhackneyed and rarely heard gems from the famous opera.





20th September
12 noon till 6pm

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Hurstpierpoint Gymnastics Club will be celebrating the talents of the young people who attend their sessions with a dynamic display.

“Breeze In”, a Hurstpierpoint-based band, will play rock, pop, funk and soul from the 50s to present day – they aim to get you up on your feet and having as good a time as the band is.

Mid Sussex Radio will be spinning discs throughout the day.

While being entertained, you can enjoy great food and drink offers from independent stallholders.

The Hurst Festival Bar will be fully stocked, serving a wonderful selection of drinks.

Please support the bar; the revenue helps to fund the packed programme each year.

Please check the website for performance times and vendors' details.

We look forward to spending the day with you.





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Clarinet Duo – Classical Soiree

Date: Monday 21st September

Event Time: 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Doors Open: 7:00pm

Ticket Price: £20 **Venue:** Bearstokes

Laurence Cuttriss, a graduate of Trinity Laban and the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Frankfurt, and Steve Dummer, conductor of the Horsham Symphony Orchestra, play dazzling and lyrical music for two clarinets. Featuring music by CPE Bach, Poulenc and Richard Rodney Bennett, the concert demonstrates the range and versatility of the instrument.



The Informers – Brighton's Best Live Soul, Blues and Funk Band

Date: Monday 21st September

Event Time: 8:00pm - 10:00pm

Doors Open: 7:30pm

Ticket Price: £14 **Venue:** The New Inn

The Informers' repertoire combines soulful acoustic material influenced by the classic sounds of Van Morrison, J.J. Cale and Marvin Gaye with driving blues inspired by legends such as Stevie Ray Vaughan and John Lee Hooker. Their set is complemented by selections from some of the great soul and funk artists of the 60s and 70s, including Gil Scott-Heron, Roberta Flack and William DeVaughn. The 5-piece band also draws inspiration from artists such as Little Feat, Steely Dan, Bill Withers, Robin Trower and John Mayer.



Festival Ceilidh

Date: Tuesday 22nd September

Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm

Doors Open: 7:00pm

Ticket Price: £10 **Venue:** Hurst Village Centre

Joyful, happy and energetic sum up the Mid-Sussex Scomsh Country Dancers' Festival Ceilidh. Enjoy foot-tapping music from the Unreel Ceilidh Band and a selection of simple dances that are expertly called, quickly learned and guaranteed to make everyone smile. Wear your softest-soled shoes. No experience or partner is required. "What a night – people are still talking about it." www.msscd.org.uk

www.hurstfestival.org



Close Encounters of the Third Kind (PG) 137 mins, USA 1977

Date: Tuesday 22nd September

Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm

Doors Open: 7:00pm

Ticket Price: £8 **Venue:** Players Theatre

Spielberg's classic is well worth revisiting on the big screen and has lost none of its wonder and suspense. The director was always reluctant to call it a sci-fi movie, seeing it as much a conspiracy thriller as a science-fiction film, exploring how humans might react to the possibility of there being intelligent life out there.



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Art Masterclass

Date: Wednesday 23rd September
Event Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Doors Open: 6:00pm
Ticket Price: Free (due to capacity must be booked in advance)
Venue: Art Dept, Hurst College

In this masterclass workshop, you will be exploring a wide variety of approaches, from single-line drawing to more traditional techniques. No previous experience necessary; just come along and get stuck in.

Ghost Stories Theatre

Date: Wednesday 23rd September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** Players Theatre

Experience the chilling thrill of Ghost Stories Theatre. Born from a shared fascination with the tales that linger in the shadows – whispers passed down, stories told by firelight and unexplained moments that live on in our collective memory – this hauntingly captivating theatrical evening brings storytelling to life. No two shows are ever the same, making this a truly gripping event, perfect for the longer evenings. Be enthralled, captivated and left shivering in your seats as Peppercorn and NYX Theatre take you on a scintillating adventure through classic tales, new stories and, ultimately, the unknown. Intrigued? Find out more at www.ghoststories theatre.co.uk



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Cake at the College

Date: Thursday 24th September
Event Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Doors Open: 3:30pm
Ticket Price: Free (due to capacity must be booked in advance)
Venue: Hurst College, Music School



Cake at the College has become an annual fixture in the Hurst Festival. While the College's Big Band are playing, the audience will enjoy afternoon tea and cake, served by the Prefects. Guests will hear a variety of music, from popular standards to contemporary jazz. Solo turns will intersperse with band numbers to ensure that this concert has something for everyone.



St Lawrence School Tour

Date: Thursday 24th September
Event Time: 9:30am - 10:30am and 10:30am - 11:30am
Doors Open: 9:30pm
Ticket Price: Free **Venue:** St Lawrence School

St Lawrence C.E. Primary School is a creative and bustling school serving our village community, with hardworking, engaged pupils and a dedicated and inspirational staff team. We are delighted to invite members of our community to come and visit the school during Hurst Festival. Please arrive promptly. Tour lasts for 1 hour.



Tour of the College

Date: Thursday 24th September
Event Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Doors Open: 6:00pm
Ticket Price: Free
Venue: Main Entrance, Hurst College

If you have ever wondered what lies inside the historic flint-walled buildings that border Chalkers Lane and College Lane, now is your chance to step inside and find out! Tickets are free but please book online, as spaces are limited. Refreshments are available.

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The Captain's Beard

Date: Thursday 24th September
Event Time: 8:00pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:30pm
Ticket Price: £15 **Venue:** The New Inn

The Captain's Beard are a pirate folk-rock band from Brighton blending the spirit of The Pogues with Tenacious D. Formed in 2012, they're known for energetic sea shanties and humorous songs about beards, dodgy vans and mischievous mermaids. Their hit version of "John Kanakanaka" has amassed more than 3.5 million streams and was featured in the film *Operation Taco Gary's*. Their latest album, *Cannonballs Deep*, won Best Album of 2024 at the Celtcast Awards in the Netherlands.



Rectory Soiree

Date: Thursday 24th September
Event Time: 8pm - 9:30pm
Doors Open: 7:30pm
Ticket Price: £20
Venue: The Rectory

An evening of passion, drama and elegant harmony, this recital brings together two contrasting sopranos in a vibrant journey through opera, musical theatre and art song. From soaring melodies and characterful theatrics to playful charm and folk-inspired favourites, the programme weaves moments of temptation, wit and intrigue with a touch of gypsy vengeance. Performed by singers Marion Tinkler and Melodie, with pianist Simon Gray.

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SOE Special Operations Executive – Churchill's Secret Army

Date: Friday 25th September
Event Time: 2:00pm
Ticket Price: £2 on the door (card preferred)
Venue: Court Bushes Community Hub



Gillian's talk honours the brave SOE agents who served their country during World War II. It is a fascinating account of the training and preparation the agents underwent and also stories of a few of the missions, some of which achieved amazing success, whilst other agents were betrayed.



Funny That Comedy

Date: Friday 25th September
Event Time: 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £20
Venue: Hurst Village Centre

Funny That Comedy takes their annual trip down the road from their Hassocks home, to bring the Friday Night Fun to Hurst Festival - over 10 years of sell-outs and laughs! Come and join one of our 2 nights with some of the best comics on the UK circuit. Line-up: MC Caroline Mabey, Andrew Maxwell, Jack Henry, Nick Page. Line-up may change.



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Nature's Tapestry Art Exhibition

Date: Saturday 26th September (also 27th)
Event Time: 10:00am - 5:00pm
Ticket Price: Free **Venue:** Danny House

Returning to the Hurst Festival for the fifth year, Nature's Tapestry will bring together 10 professional Sussex artists exhibiting a rich mix of paintings in the beautiful surroundings of the Great Hall at Danny. Exploring the nature and landscape of our lovely county in styles ranging from abstract to representational, all work is for sale.



Flow (U) 85 mins, Latvia 2024

Date: Saturday 26th September
Event Time: 10:00am - 11:25am
Doors Open: 9:30am
Ticket Price: £8 **Venue:** Players Theatre

This tale of a cat finding safety after a devastating flood, won the Oscar and Golden Globe for Best Animated Feature in 2025. A future classic, it is dialogue-free, but uses real animal noises and follows a cat who must learn to cooperate with an unlikely group of other animals to survive. For all ages, especially cat lovers.

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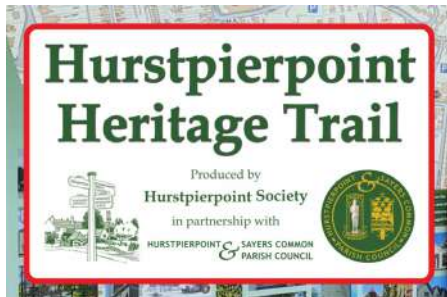
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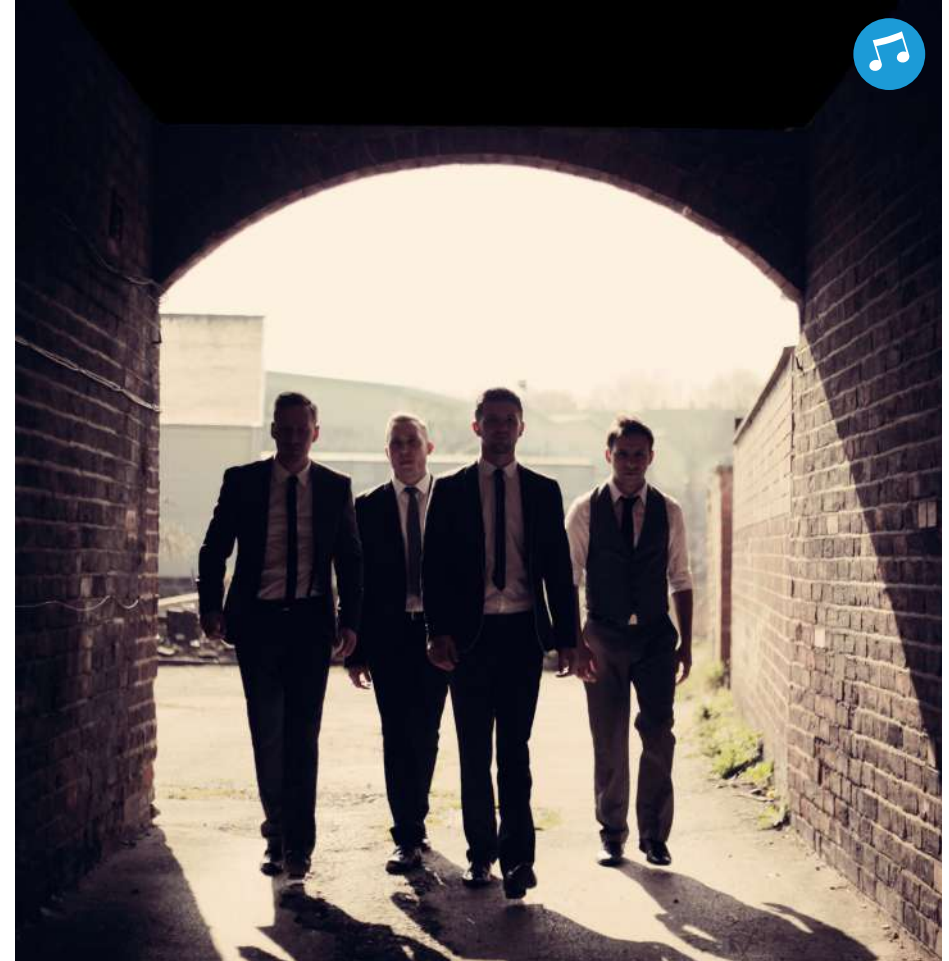


Heritage Trail (Hurst Society)

Date: Saturday 26th September
Event Time: 2:15pm - 4:30pm
Ticket Price: £10
Venue: Meet at Heritage Trail Map



Join The Hurstpierpoint Society for a guided historical walk of the village. Learn about the buildings and the people who lived here in the past. Easy walking for a couple of miles. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required, and bring water if needed.



Always 4 - Take That

Date: Saturday 26th September
Event Time: 8:00pm - 10:15pm
Doors Open: 7:00pm
Ticket Price: £25
Venue: Holy Trinity Church

This vibrant tribute by Always4 brilliantly recreates the thrilling spark and energy of Take That at their very best. With impressive attention to detail, they deliver lively, high-impact choreography alongside pitch-perfect performances of timeless hits such as *Back for Good*, *Rule the World*, and *Patience*. Every moment of the show is packed with nostalgia, excitement, and crowd-pleasing charm.

What truly sets Always4 apart is their genuine passion and unwavering dedication to putting on an unforgettable performance every time they step on stage. Their commitment shines through in every note and move, making this an unmissable experience and a must-see tribute for any Take That fan.



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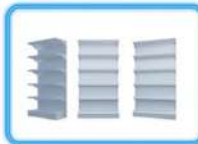
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Nature's Tapestry Art Exhibition

Date: Sunday 27th September (also 26th)

Event Time: 10:00am - 5:00pm

Ticket Price: Free **Venue:** Danny House

Returning to the Hurst Festival for the fifth year, Nature's Tapestry will bring together 10 professional Sussex artists exhibiting a rich mix of paintings in the beautiful surroundings of the Great Hall at Danny. Exploring the nature and landscape of our lovely county in styles ranging from abstract to representational, all work is for sale.



Walk with U3A

Date: Sunday 27th September

Event Time: 10:00am

Ticket Price: Free

Venue: Meet at Trinity Road car park

Join the u3a (The Third Age Trust) on a 5.5 mile walk to the north of Hurstpierpoint to enjoy wonderful views and an abundance of nature, led by Alison. Allow approximately 3 hours for this walk. Please check the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing/footwear/sunscreen as required and bring water if needed.

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Thanks and Sponsors

We are hugely grateful to our sponsors and to the many Friends of Hurst Festival and our wonderful volunteers, without whom Hurst Festival would not be possible.

Festival Manager: Susan Eskdale

Festival Administrator: Nichola Campbell

Committee: Guy Lovegrove, Julia Kirby, Joe Vasayaporn, Daryn Buckley, Roland Phillips, Ryan Gayler and Katherine Cole

Trustees: Michel Olszewski (Chair), John Barry, Belinda Sharp, Margaret Carey, Shaughan Parish, Bob Sampson, Simon Anckorn Julia Kirby and Ian Deeley

Volunteer coordination: Belinda Sharp

Company Secretary to the Trustees: John Barry

Accounts: Julia Kirby

Other Thanks:

- Heide Hughes for helping to organise the brochure distribution
- Huge thanks as always to Ian, Guy, Daryn and Roland for their voluntary help with production
- Lucy Driver
- Shaughan Parish
- Hurst and Sayers Common Parish Council
- Fosters and Co for roadside advertising
- Hurst College including Head of College: Dominic Mott, Deputy Head Co-curricular: Ellie Calver, Director of Music: Neil Matthews, Director of Art: Richard Cuerden, Director of Co-curricular Drama: Alex Ward and all Administrative staff
- St Lawrence School Including Headteacher and staff
- Mid Sussex Radio
- Richard Burrows and the residents at Danny House
- Refresh Designs for brochure design and print
- Richard Howard richtech.co.uk for Festival website
- All Venue Hosts
- Rector, Rev Dr Richard Coldicott
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- Colin Matthews: Artistic Directorship of the Festival from 2018 until 2025
- Dave Sharp: IT support for 15 years, managing previous website and Box Office platform

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