

## Introduction

The village of Ewhurst and the nearby hamlet of Ellens Green sit just below the beautiful Surrey Hills. There are excellent amenities and many active village organisations, which foster a strong feeling of community. The total population is just under 2,400.

## More about the Church

### Communications

Information about church activities are publicised via the weekly pew sheet, the website, and Facebook. The pew sheet is published on the website and Facebook and e-mailed to 150 addresses. The quarterly magazine is delivered free to every house in the parish and can be read on the website. Posters for special events are displayed around the parish.

### Links with other churches

We have strong links with [Ewhurst Baptist Church](#), holding joint services over the Easter period and during the summer. We also join together for special village and national occasions. The two churches hold a joint coffee morning each week, open to everyone in the village



### The Wilson Room

The church room was built just seven years ago in the churchyard and has easy access from the church, the rectory and for passers-by. It consists of a large communal room, a kitchen, toilets and the Parish Office. The Wilson Room has allowed the church to broaden its ministry with less formal services, bible study, Sunday Treasure Seekers and the monthly SNAK youth group all taking place there. Refreshments are served here after Sunday 10.30am services.

Daily early morning coffee sessions and a weekly Baby and Toddler group in term times provide an important social function and it is used for many of our fund raising events both for the church and for our nominated charities.

See details of all the church activities in the [Activities](#) section.

### The Churchyard

The churchyard is closed for burials but ashes can be interred in front of the newly built Memorial Wall which will display commemorative plaques. Burials are in the Parish Cemetery, just below the church. The upper churchyard is maintained by a gardener and volunteers. The lower churchyard is a more "wild" area but is cleared and tidied by volunteers.

Both the church and the churchyard have been researched by the Chairperson of [Ewhurst History Society](#) who has published a [comprehensive guide book](#), on sale at the church.

## The Parish of Ewhurst and Ellens Green

The village of Ewhurst is 2 miles east of Cranleigh on the B2127 and is the more populated part of the civil parish of Ewhurst and Ellens Green. It is close to the heart of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with plenty of footpaths and bridle-ways to enjoy as well as an abundance of common land:

- The Downs Link runs along the disused Guildford to Horsham railway line and is available for walkers, cyclists and horses.
- Pitch Hill and the Hurtwood, to the north of the village, are popular with dog walkers, riders, joggers and off-road cyclists.
- By-roads in the area cater for post-Olympic competitive cyclists.
- The National Trust's Winkworth Arboretum is a few miles to the West.

Ewhurst village has a thriving village shop – Ewhurst Country Stores, which offers a wide range of provisions and facilities. The village pub, The Bulls Head, is also an important part of village life.



*The village shop in The Street*



*The Bulls Head*



*The School*

[Ewhurst CofE Infants School](#), has an outstanding OFSTED record.

[Rainbows End](#), pre-school, was rated good in all areas in its latest OFSTED report.

The village hall, in the care of the [Parish Council](#), is well kept and used by a wide range of organisations for many different activities. The Recreation Ground is well maintained with football and rugby pitches plus hard standing tennis courts. There is a new Sports Pavilion for visiting

teams and social events. The Rec also has a magnificent, newly refurbished children's play area which is a magnet for mums and carers with young children.



The village is very community minded with a range of societies, sports clubs and organisations. Every two years they join together for the Ewhurst Carnival providing stalls and activities. In the heart of the village is [Sayers Croft Rural Centre](#), owned by Westminster Council. The Centre offers days for village children to take part in the outdoor activities which they have on site. It is a common sight to see the groups of visiting children studying around the village.

In 2009 Ewhurst was proud to win the Surrey Community Village of the Year .

Owned by Ewhurst Parish Council, Ellens Green Community Hall is used by another pre-school group and The Ellens Green Badminton Club. .

Property in the Parish is largely privately owned. There is some provision for social housing, for the elderly, the disabled and those with links to the village. Nearby is The Glebe Centre, a community hall for the use of older residents.

Although some are employed locally, a significant number of people commute to London from here. There is pressure on the local authority to implement substantial housing development locally. This will surely impact on the local infrastructure. A number of plans for new housing developments have recently been submitted in Ewhurst, but none have yet been approved. The main employers within the Parish are [The Duke of Kent School](#), [Sayers Croft Rural Centre](#) and The Old Rectory Nursing Home. There are a few other smaller businesses along the main street of the village and at the Brookside Rural Retail Park in Ellens Green.

The large village of Cranleigh is nearby, with supermarkets, high street and independent shops, a main post office, Health Centre, dentists, the Library and Leisure Centre and number of banks. There are also a number of places to eat out and a popular weekly market.

The City of Guildford, with its cathedral and university, lies 10.6 miles to the North East of the village. Here there are many large West End stores, The Royal Surrey County Hospital and the Yvonne Arnaud theatre which regularly hosts pre-London runs. There is an Odeon Cinema Complex in the town and the GLive Centre hosts a variety of events and music styles.

The market town of Dorking is 9.5 miles to the east and Horsham 9.8 miles to the south.

### **Public Transport**

Ewhurst is not particularly well served by public transport. There is an hourly bus to Cranleigh and Guildford with occasional buses to Dorking and Horsham. Cranleigh offers a wider bus service.

The nearest train stations are:

- Gomshall 5.6miles 1hr 20mins journey time to London Waterloo
- Shalford 9.4 miles 1 hr journey time to London Waterloo
- Dorking 9.5 miles 1 hr journey time to London Waterloo or Victoria
- Guildford 10.6 miles 40 mins journey time to London Waterloo  
1 hr 10 mins journey time to London Victoria

### **Village Organisations**

The wide range of well-supported activities in Ewhurst help to give the village its strong community feel. Details of all the organisations can be found on the [Parish Council Website](#) and the specific activities offered by our church can be found in the [Activities](#) section of the church website.

Many organisations have both junior and senior sections:

Brownies  
Bowling Club  
The Bulls Head Pub  
Cricket Club  
Ewcare  
Ewhurst Carnival  
Football Club  
Glebe Coffee Mornings  
History Society  
Horticultural Society  
Leap Conservation Group  
Monday Club  
Players  
Rifle Club  
Stoolball Club  
Surrey Hills Choirs  
Village Club  
Village Society  
Wildlife Club at Sayers Croft  
Youth Club

### **Church-Village Activities**

In addition to our services and inter-church events, our active members organise and run a considerable number of major fund raising events each year. These are open to all and raise money for our nominated charities or for our own church funds. Our charities benefit from events which include Summer Teas, Lent Lunches, Winter Warmer Lunches, a very popular annual quiz and at least one major event which in the past, has been drama, magic, music and a Murder Mystery evening.

Funds for the church are raised with the annual Easter Market and Autumn Rectory Fete and the biennial Ewhurst Big Day and Night Out, held at the Hurtwood Park Polo Club. In the years when this does not take place there have been Race Nights, Dinner Dances, Auctions and most recently a French Evening complete with CanCan dancers. These special events are always well supported and usually sold out.

### **The Parish Schools and Wider Educational Links**

As mentioned previously, the village has an excellent pre-school and Infant School. Once children reach the age of seven, they have the choice of two junior schools and a secondary school in Cranleigh and from there, can continue at the Sixth Form College in Godalming. Also in the parish is the Duke of Kent Independent School, which admits boys and girls from pre-school age to GCSE level. The church has links to each of these schools in the parish, giving both assemblies and special services as needed. Children can maintain their links with the church after leaving the

village schools by coming to Treasure Seekers, the SNAK youth group and the Junior Choir. Confirmation classes are offered whenever needed.

All our local schools hold events which are open to the whole village such as fetes, quizzes, musical events and various sales. There is always plenty going on.