

Little Hadham Parish News May 2006

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Churchwardens:

Don Gibson 01279 771325

Mick Crace 01920 821963

The "Way Inn" coffee morning
*Come along and meet friends and neighbours
over a cup of tea or coffee.*

Thursday 18th May

*10.30am until 12 noon in the Village Hall
(Rear entrance of village hall, by Post Office)*

We have a new editor – see inside for details

Letter from Chris Boulton, The Vicarage, Much Hadham

May is for me always an exciting month. For one thing, I always become a year older each time it comes around. For another, it is the time when spring really seems to come into full swing. As I write, we have hose-pipe bans, the Danube is flooding, Kenya is going through the worst drought in living memory, and part of the polar ice-cap is melting! Because of this I am made even more aware of how beautiful and fragile our natural environment is, and how intimately our behaviour affects it. I look out at my garden with the forsythia in yellow splendour, the daffodils showing their bright trumpets and the colourful tulips opening in the sun, and I echo the words of one of my favourite poets, Gerard Manley Hopkins:

*“And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things.”*

Hopkins, a Jesuit priest, had a theory that natural things had a mysterious inner life and force, which he called their “inscape”, that could be seen by the sensitive observer. It was what the living things were there for; part of their inner being and beauty. He also saw the hand of God woven into this “inscape” of life. For him it confirmed the Divine and in particular the Christ principle in all living things:

“The world is charged with the grandeur of God.”

In the Church, May is the time when we celebrate Rogation tide; a festival connected with prayers for the planting of crops and the coming abundance of harvest. “Rogare” in Latin means “to ask”. We ask that God will bless us with favourable weather and abundance. The roots of the celebration, as in so many other instances, are pre-Christian. In today’s world we are not so naïve as to think of God as the heavenly rain-maker or drought-creator; our prayer is more to ask Him how we can live in partnership with our environment; to ask how we can be at one with the “inscape” of all living things to preserve their grandeur.

Chris Boulton.

Albert Sage: Sculptures and Artwork Fund

A sale of sculptures by the late Albert Sage has raised the sum of £170 in donations, which has been presented to Dr. Colin Brookbank for the Jack May Trust Fund (Much Hadham Health Centre). Various sculptures have now found excellent new homes in the village, and many items are to be seen at the Forge Museum, Much Hadham, where they are waiting to be catalogued. Grateful thanks for everyone’s generosity. We hope that Albert’s sculptures will bring joy for generations to come.

Thank you, Debbie!

for all your hard work as
editor of *The Parish News*.

For the last seven years, Debbie has collected and typed up all the information, driven to and from the printer’s and dropped off bundles around the villages for delivery. In fact at one time she even had to photocopy the 460 copies herself, fold and staple them, and insert leaflets too. Only another editor will truly understand her tremendous contribution to our village!

Open Gardens in May

Brent Pelham House, Brent Pelham

Sunday 7th May 1pm - 5pm

Cockhamsted, Braughing

Sunday 14th May 2pm - 6pm

Moat Farm House, Kettle Green, Much Hadham

Sunday 28th May 2pm - 5pm

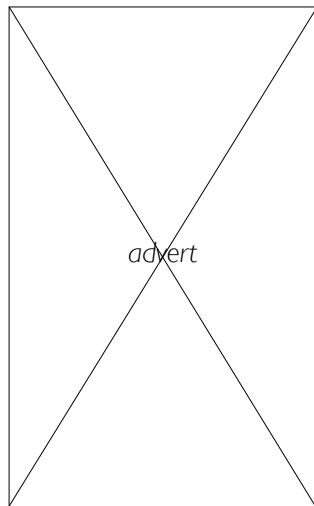
17th century moated farmhouse on island with ancient mulberry tree, mixed borders and orchard.

Fanhams Hall, Ware

Monday 29th May 2pm - 5pm

Formal gardens and ponds, with croquet lawn, Japanese gardens, ornamental lakes and wisteria walk.

All proceeds from the teas and refreshments will go to Isabel Hospice. For more details, contact Pam Shepherd, Fundraising, 01707 376782



Glorious Gardens Day 2nd May

Isabel Hospice invites you to Glorious Gardens Day on Tuesday 2nd May in the marquee at the Cricket Ground, Furneux Pelham. Coffee on arrival, browse 20 gardening stalls, then enjoy a buffet lunch. After lunch a National Trust speaker from Wimpole Hall, then Gardeners' Question Time.

Tickets, all inclusive, £40.

Afternoon tickets to browse the stalls, £5, including cream tea.

Tickets and enquiries, Renee Friend 01279 777285

*Plant Sale!
overleaf...*

St. Elizabeth's Centre – Summer Events coming in June

Bromley Hall Open Gardens, Bromley Hall, Standon Sorry, no dogs.

Sunday 4th June, 2pm-5pm.

As part of the National Garden Scheme Mr and Mrs Robarts are kindly opening their garden. All the proceeds from the refreshments and sale of plants will go to St. Elizabeth's Centre. Come and enjoy a peaceful afternoon in this idyllic garden.

Much Hadham Open Gardens, Much Hadham Sorry, no dogs.

Sunday 18th June 12pm-4pm. £3.50 pp (under-16s free).

Opened on our behalf, this is your chance to enjoy 11 unique and varied gardens in the village of Much Hadham. With six new gardens taking part this year, it's going to prove a great charity opening! Tickets, garden guides and refreshments are available from the Village Hall.

Annual Summer Fayre, St. Elizabeth's Centre

Saturday 24th June, 1pm-4pm. 50p pp.

Bring your family and friends along to enjoy this popular annual event held in the beautiful grounds at St. Elizabeth's Centre, Much Hadham. This year we have a collection of Viking displays for all the family! You can have a go at being a Warrior yourself, pat our Viking Horse or just watch the fascinating Warrior Fighting Display! As well as our Warriors we'll have our traditional variety of stalls, entertainment and refreshments for everyone!

For any more information please contact Chloe Atkinson, Events Co-ordinator, St. Elizabeth's Centre, Much Hadham, SG10 6EW 01279 844227 atkinsonc@stelizabeths.org.uk RCN: 1068661

Little Hadham and Albury Social Club

At the April meeting we were given some light relief from a wet day with humorous verse from Brenda Harley.

In May, Bob Sewell is giving an account of his life in Cyprus. Do join us – only £1.50 including refreshments – Tuesday 9th May, 7.45pm for 8.00pm.

Boat Trip

At the time of writing we still have a few places for the Boat Trip on the River Stort, Tuesday 4th July.

For information contact 658585 or 771580

Annual Plant Sale

The Gardening Club will be holding its annual plant sale in Little Hadham Village Hall on Saturday 6th May, from 10.00am until 12 noon. As well as a wide variety of plants for sale at very reasonable prices there will be light refreshments and a raffle. Everybody will be welcome.

The next club night will be in the Village Hall on Thursday 18th May at 7.45pm. Our guest speaker will be Mr. R. Claydon whose subject will be “dahlias”.

For more information, please contact Frank Green, 771532 or Dennis Taylor, 771987

Activities

Little Hadham & Albury Gardening Club generally meets on the third Thursday in the month; contact Frank Green, 771532 or Dennis Taylor, 771987

Little Hadham Playgroup is held in the Nursery building at Little Hadham School on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1.00 - 3.30pm; contact Lisa Wilkins, 776275.

Badminton is played in the Village Hall on Monday evenings at 8 pm.

Little Hadham Parent, Baby and Toddler Group meets in the Village Hall each Tuesday morning from 9.30 - 11.30am.

The Brownie Pack meets each Tuesday in term-time in the Village Hall, 4.30 - 6.00pm; contact Brown Owl (Judi Wheeler) 654624.

Little Hadham Carpet Bowls Club: Social and League. Fridays 8-10pm; contact Eileen Booth, 771426, for details.

Little Hadham Post Office: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 - 11am., in the Doctor's Reception Room behind the Village Hall.

Farmers' Market: Last Saturday of the month; 9am - 12 noon, in the Village Hall; contact Brenda Kain, 771028

Whist Drive: Last Thursday of the month; contact Ross Barron, 771694

Village Hall Bookings: contact Mrs Fardell, 771697

Parish Club: Second Tuesday of the month, 7.45pm; contact Ennis Rogers, 658585

Mobile Police Station in Village Hall Car Park 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 9 - 11am

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• CALLING ALL BOOKWORMS
• I am thinking of setting up a book group
• to meet monthly over a glass of wine.
• If interested, please call me, David Stroud, on
771478
•

Hold the front page...

If you have anything you want to say in the Parish News; an interesting story about Little Hadham perhaps, a memory to share, or if you simply want to give vent to your feelings about that queue of traffic and its 'music', then write to or e-mail the editor, Jan Finn, at htfb@clocktower.co.uk, by the 18th of the month. If there's space, it'll go in.

Little Hadham Primary School

'Believing and Achieving'

As the Summer Term begins we have a great deal to look forward to. With Interactive Whiteboards in every classroom now, our teaching and learning takes on another dimension. Similarly, with the new Trim Trail in place, our children are becoming more and more healthy as they push themselves to complete the circuit. In order to promote fitness further, the School Council is, once again, organising their Sponsored Physical Challenge later this month, so watch out for those Sponsor Sheets!

As May approaches it is time to brush the cobwebs off the school maypole and start dancing again! Hopefully, parents and friends will be able to join in with us on the last day of half term. It is really important to keep these old traditions going.

Lastly, having given up trying to get a permanent caretaker for our school, I am hoping to employ a 'handyman/woman' for a couple of hours each week for minor maintenance. This may include jobs such as putting up the odd shelf or varnishing some garden furniture, etc., so if you are interested, please give the school a ring on 771285.

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley (Headteacher)

The Young Ones

Ross and Sue have taken a leading role in the direction of *The Young Ones* Drama Group productions for the past three years, but due to other pressures now need to resign.

If *The Young Ones* group is to continue, new leaders are required to run it. If you are willing to volunteer to take on this role, or know someone who is, please contact Ross Barron, 771694, or Sue Clarke, 842822, as soon as possible.

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday May 2nd** at 8 pm in the Village Hall. If you are interested in what goes on in your village, please come along to the meeting.

Everyone is welcome

FARMERS' MARKET

The next market will be on **Saturday 27th May** in Little Hadham Village Hall
9am - 12 noon

MOBILE LIBRARY

a fortnightly service

The mobile library will visit **Bury Green** on Thursdays 4th and 18th May, stopping on the green from 1.40 - 2pm, and **Little Hadham** on Mondays 8th and 22nd May, at The Nag's Head from 2.30 - 2.50pm, then going on to The Smithy for 2.55 - 3.15pm.

Church Notices

'Resurrection Rock'

SUNDAY May 7th at 3.00pm, St, Andrew's, Much Hadham

Adults and children from St Andrew's Much Hadham and St Mary's Albury are presenting a musical play telling the Easter Story.

ENTRANCE FREE Come along and enjoy the fun. It will be followed by a picnic in the Church grounds. (Bring your own) All welcome

Confirmation

Ascension Day, May 25th at 7.30pm

We are greatly privileged to have the Bishop of St Albans, Christopher Herbert, coming to take a confirmation service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham.

There are candidates from Much Hadham, Albury and Little Hadham, from Furneux Pelham and Braughing, and two from outside the Team.

Please pray for:

Hilary Neill, Joanne Taylor, Ingrid Williams, Cathryn Mitchell, Eleanor Mitchell, Karen Cope, Frank and Karin Green.

From the Registers:

Baptism at St Cecilia's:

Samuel James and Lottie Louise Burke of the Old Dairy, Cradle End, on Sunday May 7th at 12.45pm

Funeral:

Lillian Helen Wright on Tuesday April 18th, followed by cremation.

FIT 'N' FUN

For pre-schoolers (2½ - 5 years)

'Fitness' sessions in Little Hadham Village Hall on FRIDAYS throughout term time. We open at 1.00pm for a 1.10pm start and the sessions usually last about 40 minutes. The emphasis of the sessions is on fun: teaching the children from an early age that exercise can be both enjoyable and beneficial at the same time.

The sessions incorporate general fitness work, appropriately aimed at the pre-school age group, together with yoga/karate-based exercises and stretching, and with a relaxation/meditation exercise to end the session. Children should be accompanied by a parent/carer.

The price for an initial taster session is £3.00. Subsequent sessions are charged on a half-termly basis. Places are limited, so please telephone me, Catherine Petch, to book your child's place or to discuss these classes further.

I look forward to hearing from you on 01279 771636 or 07946484498.

KYOKUJITSU KYOKUSHIN KARATE CLUB

meets every Wednesday in Little Hadham Village Hall. As from 3 May, we will be slightly altering our training times. Training will be at 5.00pm until 6.00pm, and for those interested, there will be the opportunity to continue training for a further hour until 7.00pm. The emphasis of this second session will be on fight training, incorporating more fitness, bag work and sparring. Students are welcome to attend either or both sessions.

We currently have a very friendly, thriving club but our adults especially would welcome some more sparring partners! Karate provides excellent all-round fitness as well as teaching vital life skills and improving confidence. Please give me a ring if you want any further information – or just turn up for training!

Senpai Catherine Petch
Kyokushin Karate Black Belt Instructor
01279 771636 or 07946484498

Need some cash?

If you have a Lloyds, Barclays or Alliance & Leicester bank account with a card

and PIN you can now withdraw cash from

Little Hadham Post Office.

Tuesdays and Thursdays,
9 - 11am., in the Doctor's Reception Room behind the Village Hall.

Village Hall News

The Management Committee has decided to go ahead with a project to replace the existing tables at the Village Hall with modern lightweight folding ones, as it has been felt for some time that the existing tables are too heavy for people to move and stack safely.

The proposal for new tables was put forward by Albert Sage at the last meeting he attended, and the project will be dedicated to his memory. The total cost will be approximately £3,000 and the money collected at Albert's funeral will be put toward this. If anyone would like to make a contribution it would be gratefully received by the Management committee.

The existing 3'x3' tables are available to anyone willing to collect them. There are 37 tables, and a small donation toward the cost of the new ones would be appreciated. Please contact Jon Fardell, Village Hall Management Committee, on 771697.

Christian Aid Week 14th - 20th May 2006

Christian Aid Week is seven amazing days of fundraising, prayer and action against global poverty. Christian Aid works in some of the world's poorest communities in more than 50 countries. They act where the need is greatest, regardless of religion, helping people to tackle the problems they face and build the life they deserve. At home and overseas they campaign to change the structures that keep people poor; challenging inequality and injustice.

This is **your** chance to make a difference to the lives of those people we see on our television screens: the starving; the sick; the homeless; the neglected. We in the West have everything we need; they have nothing. When your collector knocks on your door, don't turn them away, please share your wealth with the needy and you will save someone's life. Thank you very much.

Editor: Jan Finn

Ash Cottage, The Ashe, Little Hadham (771113)

e-mails to htfp@clocktower.co.uk

All articles for inclusion and donations for advertising in the next issue of The Parish News must be received by the

18th of the month

Diary for Little Hadham and Albury

(part of the Ash and Quin Valley's team)

| | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 4 | Thursday | 9.00am | Holy Communion, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham |
| 7 | Sunday | Easter 4 | |
| | 8.00am | | Holy Communion (Prayer Book), St. Thomas', Perry Green |
| | 9.30am | | Matins, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham |
| | 11.15am | | Parish Communion, St. Mary's, Albury |
| | 12.45pm | | Baptism, <i>Samuel James and Lottie Louise Burke of Cradle End</i> |
| | 3.00pm | | The Musical Play, 'Resurrection Rock', St. Andrew's, Much Hadham |
| 9 | Tuesday | 8.00pm | Albury Parochial Church Council meets |
| 11 | Thursday | 8.00pm | Ash and Quin Valleys Team Council meets |
| 14 | Sunday | Easter 5 – Christian Aid Week | |
| | 9.30am | | Shared Communion, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham |
| | 5.00pm | | Taizé-style service, St. Andrew's, Much Hadham |
| 18 | Thursday | 10.30am | 'Way Inn' coffee morning, Little Hadham Village Hall |
| 21 | Sunday | Easter 6 – Rogation Sunday | |
| | 8.00am | | Holy Communion (1662), St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham |
| | 9.30am | | Family Service, Village Hall |
| | 6.00pm | | Evensong, St. Mary's, Albury |
| 24 | Wednesday | 8.00pm | Little Hadham Parochial Church Council meets |
| 25 | Thursday | Ascension Day | |
| | 7.30pm | | Confirmation Service, St. Andrew's, Much Hadham, led by the Bishop of St. Albans |
| 28 | Sunday | Easter 7 | |
| | 11.15am | | Shared Communion at St. Mary's, Albury. (Celebrant, Jeanette Gosney) |
| | 6.00pm | | Evensong, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham. (Officiant, Jeanette Gosney) |

- There is a service of Holy Communion every Wednesday at 10.30am at St Andrew's •

S.O.S. *The future of your Parish News is at stake!*

For the last three issues, *The Parish News* has been photo-copied for us *free of charge* by Cliff Green of Cradle End, and we are truly indebted to him for this. Thank you, Cliff. Now, however, we need to find someone else to do it as Cliff and his family is moving out of the district. If you know anybody who would be prepared to help us in any way, please contact the editor, Jan Finn, 771113, as soon as possible. Please help us to keep going!