

Little Hadham Parish News June 2006



The Parish Plan – we have lift-off!

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Churchwardens:

Don Gibson 01279 771325, Mick Crace 01920 821963

**CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH**

The next service at
Little Hadham
Congregational Church
will be on Sunday June 4th
at 2.45pm

Letter from Chris Boulton, The Vicarage, Much Hadham

I am looking forward to some friends coming to stay. They have a big family, so it will be beds to make up and lots of lovely disruption, I hope. Being a bachelor, I am used to having the house to myself and following my own routine – nevertheless I love company, and it is good for me to be shaken out of a self-centred existence. I guess some pressured families occasionally might be envious of the single life: conversely, single folk sometimes envy the companionship and “togetherness” of family life.

Just because I am single it does not mean that I should not practise hospitality. Indeed, being single may even give me more time to be so. I think that hospitality is at the heart of the Christian gospel. Did not Jesus go to stay with Zacchaeus and eat with sinners? Time and again in the New Testament we hear of the importance of welcoming and entertaining. There is a frequently-overlooked detail in St. Matthew’s Gospel in chapter 27, at the crucifixion, when a number of women who “had followed Jesus from Galilee and waited upon him” watched from a distance. Surely this is the earliest example of the ladies in a parish “mothering” the bachelor minister!!

More seriously, it is part of the Christian duty to provide hospitality; not only for friends and those who can return it, but for those who are strangers or outcast or who are too poor to return the favour. I have been disturbed recently by the growing tone in Press and public life of anti-immigrant language. It seems that aliens are to blame for everything from housing shortage to crime and pension shortfall. It strikes me as the language of a society not at ease with itself, and seeking a scapegoat. Certainly there are problems and issues with “foreigners”; but there are also benefits, and what is more, there are many more issues equally, if not more, pressing. True Christian values are what we need, and if they prove to be “British” so much the better. But for my part, the fact that they derived from a Galilean stranger and foreigner called Jesus makes them no less relevant.

...but now I must go and “make” the beds, ready for my guests.

Chris Boulton, June 2006

Good Neighbour Scheme

The CDA (Community Development Agency) for Herts is planning to set up Good Neighbour schemes in three parishes in East Herts.

Each scheme consists of a register of local volunteers willing to help with transport (e.g. lifts to doctor’s, shops), befriending (visiting lonely or bereaved), doing small jobs in the home, helping with domestic tasks like collecting prescriptions, tidying gardens and helping with form-filling.

If you would like to help with such a scheme or if you need help yourself in these areas, please contact Cllr Mike Fairchild, 771302.

Special delivery makes it all worth while

Eileen Booth, our local postmistress, gained well-earned recognition this month when she was presented with an award for ten years’ service at the village post office. For her first class record she received a framed certificate, a letter of thanks from Head Office and a lapel button. Keep us posted, Eileen!

Albert Sage

I feel I would like to pen my thanks to those of you in the Village who recently bought some of Albert's treasured artifacts. The sum of £170 was raised and donated to our Much Hadham Health Centre Charitable Trust Fund (Jack May Fund).

Albert had been particularly grateful to those at Much Hadham Health Centre who had assisted him some years ago when he had been seriously ill and on a number of occasions he wanted to make a gesture of his appreciation, so he would have been pleased.

Any monies given to the Trust are used to provide facilities, equipment, etc. to those patients of the Health Centre. It is currently significantly involved in the refurbishments being undertaken.

Thank you all once again.

Colin Brookbanks.

Volunteers wanted

The Volunteer Bus will be at Little Hadham Village Hall car park from 9am to 11am on Tuesday June 13.

Find your ideal way of helping in your local community and enter a quiz to win an iPod or an LCD TV.

More details from www.volunteeringherts.org

Play-money

The Parish Council has voted more than £8,000 to install new equipment in Little Hadham's two playgrounds. In the first phase of an ambitious plan to re-equip the playgrounds and improve safety, new swings with safety matting will be installed in the Ridgeway playground to replace worn-out equipment. Six-a-side goal posts will be provided, and repairs carried out to fencing and a new gate installed.

New netball practice and goal-shooting areas will be some of the first improvements in the playing field adjoining the Village Hall. Other plans include the creation of a proper soccer pitch, better seating, pathways and access. More exciting playground equipment for older children is also in the pipeline if funding can be secured

The Parish Plan (launch details on page 5) is being used to support a bid for nearly £50,000 to the Biffaward community funding scheme to pay for further major playground improvements. The first phase will be paid for out of donations and fund-raising by our Parish Council. Details of the improvements were announced at the May meeting of the council. Why not come along, meet your councillors and have your say about what matters in Little Hadham? The next meeting is at 8pm on June 5 in the Village Hall.

Sam Ward

Joan Ward recently wrote to me saying that donations to the R.N.L.I. came to £961.50 and this has been forwarded to the R.N.L.I. in Sam's memory. Joan is very grateful for the donations from the village and to those who attended Sam's funeral, and has asked me to add that she is so proud that he was so highly thought of.

Tony Skidmore, Chair LHPC

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Keep the Parish News
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Cheques to the editor, please, made
payable to Little Hadham PCC

Watch out, there's a thief about...

- As summer approaches we tend to leave windows and doors open; this is an open invitation to enter and steal your property. So please be observant and shut your windows and doors when going out. This will discourage the thieves. If you have any problems please do contact your local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator, or myself, E. Oliver, on 771124.
- We also supply stickers for windows and doors.

Lt Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our May meeting we were entertained by Bob Sewell, who spoke of his time working in Cyprus during the early 1970s. It was interesting to hear how a civilian works within the military. He also spoke of visiting the ancient sites on the island and of other countries he and Pam visited.

For the June meeting, Christina Harrison will give us details on progress at The Forge Museum, Much Hadham. You will be very welcome.

Admission is £1.50, including refreshments.

June 13th, 8pm in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Do you play badminton?

If so please come and join us on Monday evenings at the Village Hall. We are a mixed-ability club and we play right through the year (except Bank holidays and the month of August). We are one of the original clubs in the village and have now been running for over twenty years. We are hoping for some new regular members to join us so that we can keep our club going in the future. Mondays, 8 - 10pm, Village Hall.

Lt Hadham & Albury Gardening Club

There is no meeting of the club in June. However, we have arranged an outing to Marks Hall Estate near Coggeshall on Saturday 10th June. The coach will be leaving the village hall at 9.45am and there are still some seats available. If any non-members would like to join us, they will be very welcome.

The cost of the trip to non-members will be £10.

For any further information, please contact Frank Green, 771532 or Dennis Taylor, 771987.

Village Activities

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

Village Hall Bookings: contact Mrs Fardell, 771697

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

“The Way Inn” coffee morning

Come and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee.

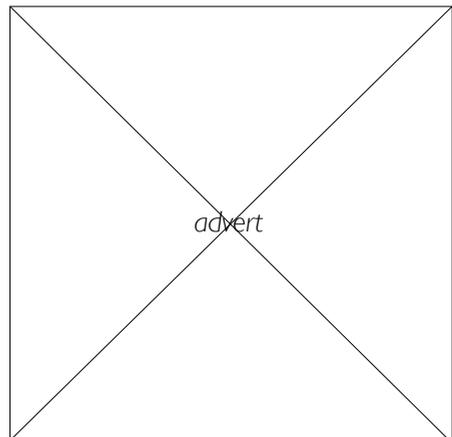
Thursday 15th June.

10am until 12 noon in the Village Hall.

(Rear entrance by Post Office)

*Come on, all you budding journalists!
Let's have something exciting to put
in the next issue. Get writing!*

(Nasty stuff won't get printed, because I won't print it -Ed.)



Little Hadham Primary School

'Believing and Achieving'

Half way through the Summer Term already!

With the SATs tests now a fading memory, we can enjoy the rest of the summer with much to look forward to.

Firstly, our Key Stage 2 children on 7th June will be participating in a 'K'NEX' Challenge where they will be asked to design and make a particular creation using the construction equipment. This not only aids their creativity but also develops teamwork as well. 12-16th June is our 'Multi-Cultural' Week, where a range of activities, visitors and trips is arranged to widen the children's appreciation of other cultures, traditions and religions. We have Guide Dogs visiting the school as part of our Charity work for the Blind as well as our ongoing fund raising for our pen friends' school in Uganda.

Rehearsals have begun for our Key Stage 2 Summer Production; this year we are performing our version of 'Oliver'. The children have really taken well to the songs and auditions are proving highly competitive. The performances are in the last week of term and Senior Citizens are warmly invited to our Dress Rehearsal at 9.45 a.m. on Monday 17th July. Refreshments will also be provided. A great morning's entertainment!

Arrangements are in full flow for our Summer Fete on **Sunday 2nd July** and we hope that many of you will be able to join us on the day. Keep your fingers crossed for good weather!

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley (Headteacher)

Useful phone numbers:

Stansted Airport Noise Complaints:
0800 243788

Road or Pavement problems. call
Highways on 01438 737320

Water/Sewage problems. call Thames
Water on 0800 376 5325

Environment Agency Incident Line:
0800 807060

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

**Police non-emergency phone
number** (local rate) 8045 3300222
PC Anna Jermain/PCSO Cooke 01992 533165,
07736 225378, 07876 391064

MOBILE LIBRARY

a fortnightly service

The mobile library will visit **Bury Green** on Thurs 1st, 15th & 29th June, stopping on the green from 1.40 - 2pm, and **Little Hadham** on Mondays 5th and 19th June, at The Nag's Head from 2.30 - 2.50pm, then going on to The Smithy for 2.55 - 3.15pm.

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday 5th June** 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 24th June** in Little Hadham Village Hall
9am - 12 noon

We have Lift-off...

The Little Hadham Parish Plan will be launched at a public meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday June 22 at 8pm.

Everyone in the village is warmly invited to attend the meeting where copies of the Parish Plan will be available. It will be the culmination of three years of discussion and planning following a packed community meeting that voted unanimously in favour of a Parish Plan.

Publication of the Plan signals the start of big improvements to life in the village, including the creation of a Village Centre to encourage greater community spirit. Other innovations include re-equipping the village's two playgrounds with new sport and leisure facilities; a new guide to the village; plans for a website; a bigger say for young people and a programme of community events, starting with a polo match and a summer fête.

The Parish Plan has some surprises in store including a 'Little Hadham Safari' and some crystal ball gazing by our school children. You can test your local knowledge and win £80 in book tokens and, on the night, take part in a fund-raising raffle with major prizes generously donated by Tesco.

With the setting up of the new Dept. for Communities & Local Government (DCLG), the Government has sent the strongest signal yet that it wants communities to have more influence in local affairs. With that in mind, the Parish Plan lays the groundwork for residents to have a bigger say in issues such as housing and road improvements – the plan is the first step in a campaign to persuade the authorities to back a Little Hadham by-pass.

It also meets head-on the changes taking place in and around the village and seeks

ways to foster community spirit in a village comprising several scattered hamlets. It provides answers to questions posed by our Parish Plan questionnaire, which most households completed, including how to make Little Hadham an even better place in which to live.

To learn how the Parish Plan will affect you and your family, come to the meeting on Thursday June 22, at 8pm in the Village Hall. You will be able to collect your household's copy of the plan, talk to the team who put the plan together and explore the activities that most interest you. This will be a friendly village occasion with a welcome to newcomers and a chance to chat to friends and neighbours over free refreshments.

...they want Lift-off

Oppose 'world's busiest single runway'

BAA's plans to expand the use of Stansted Airport's existing runway has serious implications for Little Hadham, which lies under the busiest flight path. It could mean an increase in flights of 48 per cent and an extra quarter of a million people travelling to and from the airport every week if BAA were granted permission to increase passenger numbers from today's 22 million a year to 35 million.

"If BAA were to be allowed to use the runway to maximum capacity, passenger numbers could eventually grow to 50 million a year," says Cllr Mike Fairchild who deals with airport matters on the Parish Council, "it would mean not only more noise and pollution from planes but also road- and rail-congestion and pressure on already scarce resources like water. The plans would make Stansted the busiest single runway airport in the world." He is urging residents to object to the plans.

Even though Little Hadham is outside the area covered by Uttlesford District Council (UDC), which is considering the planning application, Little Hadham Parish Council will urge UDC to vigorously oppose the expansion. The Parish Council has already strongly opposed the building of a second runway.

To make your views known, write to UDC before 30 June. For contact details and for more information about the plans, visit the Stop Stansted Expansion website (www.stopstanstedexpansion.com)

Charity events in June

Charity Golf Day, Great Hadham

Sunday 18th June, 9.15am-7.30pm, in aid of Isabel Hospice.

There are two competitions: a 9-hole Texas Scramble in the morning, and an 18-hole Stableford in the afternoon. For details call Neil Popham, 843558 or e-mail Ian, ian@ghgcc.co.uk.

Annual Summer Fayre, St. Elizabeth's

Saturday 24th June, 1pm-5pm 50p pp.

Bring your family and friends along to enjoy this popular annual event 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 –'Hello, Pat'– or just watch the fascinating Warrior Fighting Display. There'll be a traditional variety of stalls, entertainment and refreshments for everyone.

Madrigals at Amwell Pool

Saturday 24th June, 9.00pm

This magical event has been happening now for an incredible 66 years. Singers from Haileybury Choral will entertain a large crowd. Collection in aid of Isabel Hospice.

Coming soon...

Little Hadham JMI fête, Sunday 2nd July

Low Vision Exhibition, 10am-3pm

Monday 3rd July at The Manor House, 21 High Street, Buntingford

(Hertfordshire Society for the Blind together with Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service)

Garden Opera – Cosi fan tutte

The Old Palace, Hatfield House, Tuesday 11th July.

In aid of Isabel Hospice, gates open 6pm for picnics before the 7.30 performance. Tickets: £37.50

Hertfordshire Hospices' Sky Dive

Sunday 16th July.

This is a Tandem Sky Diving Event at Chatteris, near Cambridge. Cost is £375 of which Isabel Hospice will receive £140. If you wish to take part you must be 18 or over (or 16+ with parental consent) and weigh less than 15 stones.

Contact Philomena Roche, 01707 376782 for details, or e-mail philomena.roche@isabelhospice.org.uk

Open Garden, Jenningsbury, Hertford

Heath, Sunday 16th July 2pm-6pm

1 mile SE of Hertford. From A414 between the A10 and Hertford, take the B1197 to Hertford Heath and Haileybury College. After half a mile the garden is on the right at the post and rail fencing.

Open Gardens in June

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.

The Old Vicarage and The Hall, Furneux Pelham

Sunday 11th June, 2pm-6pm. Admission (includes both gardens) £3.50 (children free). Proceeds from the home-made teas to Isabel Hospice.

Car parking in field by the Hall gardens.

The Old Vicarage is in the centre of the village by the historic 13thC church, containing ancient sycamores, yews and later specimen trees, with shrub and herbaceous borders. There is also a herb garden and a woodland walk.

Open Gardens, Much Hadham

Sunday 18th June 12pm-4pm. £3.50pp

(under-16s free). Sorry, no dogs.

Opened on behalf of St. Elizabeth's, this is your chance to enjoy eleven unique and varied gardens in the lovely 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, Much Hadham.

“you say...”

Brenda & Brian Kain write:

“We live at the war memorial end of the village. Since the A10 was improved, with the resulting A120 traffic jams towards the traffic lights, the road from Cradle End through Bury Green and down Ford Hill is being used increasingly as a rat run. Not only that; when the cars turn into the main road to cross to Chapel Lane and then on to Standon, it seems obligatory that they try to reach the maximum speed. It is becoming a boy racers' paradise and very dangerous. Fifty-plus cars, vans and lorries use this rat run morning and night, thanks to sat. nav. Can the parish council instigate talks with East Herts or Herts County Council to do something about it?”

June diary for Little Hadham and Albury

(part of the Ash and Quin Valleys' team)

4 Sunday Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

- 9.30am Sung Communion (Prayer Book), St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham
5.30pm Songs of Pentecost Praise, St. Mary's, Braughing

8 Thursday

- 9.00am Holy Communion, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham

11 Sunday Trinity

- 9.30am Shared Communion Service, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham
5.00pm Taizé-style service, St. Andrew's, Much Hadham

18 Sunday Trinity I

- 8.00am Holy Communion, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham
9.30am Family service, Village Hall, Little Hadham
6.00pm Evensong, St. Mary's, Albury

25 Sunday Trinity 2

- 11.15am Shared Communion Service, St. Mary's, Albury
6.00pm Evensong, St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham

July

- 1 Saturday** Albury School Fair (time TBA)

2 Sunday Little Hadham School Fête (time TBA)

- 11.15am Special Family Service, St. Mary's, Albury,
followed by refreshments in the school

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

Medley of Meals

*The next in the Medley of Meals series will be held on Saturday 1st July at 7.00pm at Priors Cottage, Albury Road, the home of Mags and Don Gibson.
Tickets £7.50, contact church wardens.*