

Little Hadham Parish News July 2006



Yes! – there IS such a thing as a free launch ... see inside

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All articles for inclusion, sponsorship and payment for advertising in the next issue

(cheques payable to Little Hadham PCC) **must be received by the 18th of the month.**

Letter from Chris Boulton, The Vicarage, Much Hadham

I was caught in Tesco's car park; unable to get out of the car because the rain was coming down in torrents. It was like (I imagine) being in the middle of a tropical rainstorm: people could hardly see to drive; the roads became like small rivers. For a time even the section of the Ash River which is normally dry began to flow again. Water, much needed, but probably so plentiful that the ground could not take it in, made its presence felt, and I was very grateful for the sake of the garden. I even felt a little less guilty about taking a bath in this period of shortage. Only a week earlier, I was walking by the side of some marvellous Scottish Lochs, awestruck by their beauty. I had sailed across to Iona and looked towards Fingal's Cave, cutting deep into the Staffa rocks, with Mendelssohn's famous Hebridean Overture playing in my head; and was awestruck by the power of the sea; and my heart praised God.

"Sister Water, so pure and serviceable", wrote St. Francis of Assisi in his Canticle of the Sun. In the 12th century he saw how precious it was and longed to be in harmony with it. In the developed and sophisticated world we have come to take it for granted. We are polluting the seas at an alarming rate, and despoiling them of creatures. Now we are suffering rises in sea levels and are threatened by deadly fresh water shortages.

The importance of water has been recognised by Christians from the beginning. As the sea or raging river it was seen as powerful and awesome, even a symbol for death and hell. At the same time early holy sites were often near ancient springs. Flowing water became a symbol of the Spirit. That is why we use water as the main element in our sacrament of baptism. St. John speaks of Jesus as the water of life, the life of the spirit. In accordance with this, I shall be baptising another six people during the next few weeks, pouring water over their heads and praying that the water of the Spirit may flow into their lives.

From Sister Water therefore we learn something about the value of the ordinary and simple elements in a sophisticated environment. Through appreciation of water we can touch the deep springs of life itself. Through water as a symbol, we can come to Christ and know his ever-flowing springs of eternal peace in our lives.

Chris Boulton, July 2006

Record Collection for Christian Aid

What a generous village is Little Hadham! This year we had extra collectors, who gave up their time to collect envelopes so that we were able to cover the whole village. Thank you for responding so generously and cheerfully – even the Euros will be exchanged and another £15 will be added to the total. The collection raised £963.97 and with the Euros and the Government's "tax-back" scheme, it will be nearly £1,000. The money has been sent to Christian Aid to buy long-term aid for anyone in need; regardless of race, colour or religion. £35 buys 500 cocoa trees for South America – selling the cocoa beans provides a family with an ongoing income – sheep, goats, salaries for teachers in Bangladesh, wells for fresh water. All the things we take for granted will be provided – thanks to you.

LITTLE HADHAM CRICKET CLUB
and NEW EDITION

presents
SHOWSTOPPERS

featuring hit songs from West End shows

Little Hadham Village Hall

Friday 7th July

Doors & licensed bar open 7.30pm, Curtain Up 8pm

Tickets £9, concessions £6

from Neil Oxborrow, 506062, Eileen Booth, 771426

or

Little Hadham Post Office

Your ad here

for £5 per issue

or

£50 per annum

(12 issues)

Small ads 50p per insert

Keep the Parish News
in print – invest in your
magazine and reach nearly
500 homes each month
with your product or service

Cheques to the editor, made payable to Little Hadham PCC

The Young Ones Drama Group

Help!

The members want the show to go on! We may have found someone willing to direct a play, but we need adults to run the weekly rehearsals. Training and support will be given to anyone interested. We'll get by with a little help from our friends...

Contact Ross Barron, 771694

Nothing to advertise?

... but you still want
to help us keep The
Parish News afloat?

How about
sponsorship? We
would be delighted
to hear from anyone
who would like to
sponsor a page or
two, or even an issue
or two!

Just contact the
editor with your offer
– and get your name
in print!

See front cover for
details.

Little Hadham Primary School

'Believing and Achieving'

With the holidays fast approaching, we are really busy fitting in all the end-of-term activities.

Our 'Around the World' multi-cultural week was really successful and all the children (and Staff) especially enjoyed their trip to Aklowa, the African village in Takely, where they dressed up in Ghanaian clothing, played African drums, danced traditional dances and listened to a typical African tale. We focused on a different religious faith each day with visiting speakers and took a different continent each day as our focus.

I am confident that the children have gained a great deal from this week and we thank our RE and Music Subject Leader, Miss Salinger, for co-ordinating the event.

The Key Stage 2 production of 'Oliver' is in full swing and please remember that Senior Citizens are warmly invited to join us for the Dress Rehearsal at 9.45am on Monday 17th July, followed by coffee and biscuits. Please contact the School Office if you would like to attend.

The School fête on Sunday 2nd July promises to be a fun time and we hope to see many of you there!

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley (Headteacher)

"The Way Inn" coffee morning

10am - 12 noon
rear entrance of Village
Hall by Post Office

Thursday 20th July
Come and meet up over a
cup of tea or coffee.

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.

advert

What to do in July

Little Hadham JMI fête,

12 noon-3pm, 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)

Desktop & portable video magnifiers, door bells,
TV & radio listening aids, computer software etc.

Isabel Hospice Jumble Sale

2.30pm, Saturday 8th July
Thundridge Village Hall. 01920 462992

Garden Opera – Cosi fan tutte

Tuesday 11th July.

The Old Palace, Hatfield House.

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. To take part you must
be 18 or over (or 16+ with parental consent) and
weigh less than 15 stones. Each jump will be
undertaken with an instructor and training given
prior to the jump.

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. Listed partly-moated farm-house with
wild flower meadows designed by Julie Toll. Ponds
and borders created to attract wildlife. More
formal garden surrounds the house. Inspirational
planting by local designer whose nursery is on site.
Proceeds from home-made teas to Isabel Hospice.

Little Hadham & Albury Gardening Club

We have arranged with "Daisy Roots" to visit
their nursery on the evening of Thursday
20th July. The nursery is situated just outside
Hertford, on the road to Hertford Heath. If
you would like to join us for this visit (non-
members are very welcome) please come to
the village hall car park by 6.45pm, and we
shall then arrange to car-share.

The next Garden Club event will be an open
garden afternoon on Saturday 12th August,
hosted by Sue Isaac and Gill Booty. Further
information will be available in the August
newsletter.

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

Little Hadham School fête

Sunday 2nd July

12 - 3pm

Come along and support your local
school. We have lots of stalls including
Coconut Shy, Beat the Goalie,
Home-made Cakes, Ice Cream,
Beer Tent, BBQ and Go-Karts.
We look forward to seeing you!

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

The Forge Museum in Much Hadham
was the subject for our June meeting and
Christina Harrison, the curator, spoke
eloquently of the history of the buildings, the
wall paintings and funding projects.

We have provisionally booked 20 tickets to
visit The Rhodes Centre on 28th November,
when Pam Ayres will be performing. Tickets
are £16.50 and if you would like to attend
please could you pay for your ticket at
the July meeting, or contact me, Ennis, on
658585 if you are unable to attend.

We will have a social evening, with wine and
cheese, on Tuesday, 11th July, in Little Had-
ham Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. Only
£1.50 including refreshments.

That's the spirit!

Little Hadham's Parish Plan received a warm reception at the launch meeting in the village hall on June 22. Residents evidently liked what they heard about the need for stronger community spirit in a village that comprises several small hamlets scattered over a rural area of twelve square miles.

The Plan will provide the Parish Council with a 'road map' to help guide the village over the next five years and beyond. It contains a range of initiatives to address serious issues such as the need for a by-pass and an assessment of future housing needs as well as plenty of fun events including a village fête and what have been dubbed Little Hadham 'Safaris'. *"The distances between hamlets make it difficult to maintain a sense of community spirit,"* says Mike Fairchild, of the Parish Plan steering group, *"The idea behind the 'safaris' is for each hamlet to host an open day to which the whole village will be invited. It's an opportunity to discover more about the diversity of our village and to have a great day out."* There's also the promise of some novel means of transport to take people to each venue, including a former London double-decker bus.

Residents heard about immediate plans to re-equip both playgrounds and to link them more cohesively to the village hall in order to create a Village Centre. The idea is to make this a more dynamic 'hub' for community activities; starting with the summer fête immediately after the Farmers' Market on September 30.

In order to take advantage of Little Hadham's hook-up to broadband, there are plans to have our own website. To give us a foretaste of Little Hadham's

very own 'Internet Café', Denis O'Regan, who runs 'The Hadhams' website, gave the audience a demonstration of how easy it is to access the world wide web and to send e-mails.

Youngsters in the audience heard that they would be getting a 'voice' through their own Youth Council. Newcomers to the village and visitors will find life a lot easier with a printed Little Hadham Guide.

The meeting provided an opportunity for people to 'sign up' as volunteers to help with a busy programme of activities. *"This is a real opportunity to turn the Plan into reality,"* says Mike. *"There's a lot of work to be done but we're going to have fun doing it."*

Each household at the launch meeting collected a free copy of the Parish Plan. Those not able to attend the meeting will be able to obtain a copy of the Plan from the team that distributes the Parish News or by calling Parish Plan steering group member Tom Feather (771095).

A fuller version of the Parish Plan is also available for a nominal charge.

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 3rd July at 8pm in the Village Hall. Everyone's welcome!

Farmers' Market

The next market will be on Saturday 29th July in the Village Hall from 9am – noon.

Something to say? *Let us hear it!*

“ / say... ”

Charity – not!

I don't know about you, but I am very good at clearing out my old clothes, and very good at bagging them up for the charity shop: but not so good at getting them there. They start off in the bedroom; then when I can't bear to look at them any more they move out onto the landing. After a few weeks they travel to the hall, and finally, after months, they end up in the garage. Somehow, actually taking them to the shop is expected to happen by itself. So you may imagine how delighted I was to get a flyer through the letterbox last week offering to take away these bags for charity. By giving them my bags I would be creating jobs for hundreds of people it claimed – so I made the effort, got them from the garage to the front path the night before the collection, and went to bed well pleased with myself. Three days later they

were still there. Then came the cloudburst. Not amused, I unpacked all of the clothes and hung them up to dry. Then I e-mailed the company and told them what I thought of them. Only then did it occur to me to look them up on the internet. What an eye-opener! I found that the company (Seabeach Ltd., also known as Orellana Ltd.) is a **profit-making concern** and has NOTHING to do with charity. So please be warned:

DO NOT leave your bags out for these people. They've been flooding the country with leaflets, and there's a long list of complaints about them to be found at <http://www.northlancing.com/Comments/Comments%20page.htm>.

Next time I will definitely be checking up before I pack, and I hope you will do so too. (Oh, and the bags are now firmly back in the garage where they belong.)



“ YOU say... ”

Traffic Calming or Not – Judi Wheeler writes:

I recently called the Highways Dept. (01438 737320, Chrissy Jacques, Asst District Mgr) about being run off the road in Bury Green just 50 ft. from my home with my 30 month old grandson in my car.

I was shocked to hear that only **three previous calls** had been logged about the speed and volume of vehicles using this route off the A120 at the present time. When phoning you **must** get a call number or the call is not logged in the system. It appears that no definitive time frame is set for a solution – investigations and one survey will be carried out at some point. The Highways Dept admit the lights are a problem at the current time and they are looking at the timing of the traffic lights; however unless we lobby the Highways to ask for urgent consideration, stating accidents and incidents, nothing is going to happen for us. Ideas like time-restriction as in Barwick or Much Hadham; single-track road signs; speed humps; or anything that you consider could help need to be voiced. You can also e-mail the dept. (www.hertsdirect.org)

Remember, no voice no help.

July diary for Little Hadham and Albury

(part of the Ash and Quin Valleys' team)

2 Sunday Trinity 3 (Proper 8)

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book), St Thomas's, Perry Green
9.30am Matins (Prayer Book), St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham
11.15am Special Family Service, St. Mary's, Albury
6.30pm Youth Service, Braughing

6 Thursday

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

9 Sunday Trinity 4 (Proper 9)

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

16 Sunday Trinity 5 (Proper 10)

- 8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book), St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham
9.30am Family Service, Village Hall, Little Hadham
6.00pm Evensong, St. Mary's, Albury

23 Sunday Trinity 6 (Proper 11)

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

30 Sunday Trinity 7 (Proper 12)

- 9.15am United Benefice Communion, St. Andrew's, Much Hadham

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

LAWN MOWER

Does anyone have an old but serviceable lawnmower they would like to donate to St Cecilia's Church? The mowers we use at present are well past their 'sell by' date and are frequently in need of attention. The volunteers who cut the grass are not getting any younger either, and would dearly like a 'sit-on' to speed up the work. Is there a good Samaritan out there who can help? Please contact:
Peter English, 842094 or Don Gibson, 771325.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The next service at
Little Hadham
Congregational Church
will be on Sunday July 2nd
at 2.45pm

*Autumn's nearly here! This year's Harvest Supper will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 7th October. Please make a note in your diary as tickets will be limited!
More details nearer the time.*