

Little Hadham PARISH NEWS May 2008



Mike Smith, Liz Stockley, Mike Fairchild, Cty Cllr Mary Bayes, Revd Chris Boulton and Cllr Mike Tindale formed the panel at "Question Time" at the Parish Assembly on Thursday 17 April

Rector of Parish: Revd. Chris Boulton 01279 842609
e-mail: rectory@muchhadham.com

Team Vicar: Revd. Jeanette Gosney
01920 822619
e-mail: vicar@braughing.org.uk

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter
01279 844955
e-mail: cp.slaughter@virgin.net

Churchwardens: Don Gibson 01279 771325, Mick Crace 01920 821963

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Letter from the Rectory

I am trying to pack two months of my life into one back pack and a small hold-all. It is not easy. Once, when I was young, a few clothes and some extras seemed sufficient to travel for three months right across Europe. Now my medicine supplies alone take up that space!

I seem to need so much more today. It is testimony to the complex things that surround our 21st century lives . . . toiletries, mobile phones, cameras, documents and insurances, pills that guard us against disease, shoes for different terrains, and so forth. It is a testimony to the fact that I seem to need so much to sustain my lifestyle. I will be travelling from a very comfortable situation where food and daily needs are well provided, to parts of the world where so much of what I take for granted is not available. Of course as a visitor I will be very privileged: some of the people I shall meet in Southern Africa will be less so. I am nevertheless sure that they will be enormously generous and hospitable, even beyond their means. It is humbling to realise that the contents of my ruck sack represent for very many people in this world an unimaginable amount of wealth. In Swaziland, where I visit first, it is estimated that 70% of the population subsist on less than 50p per day, £3.50 per week. Certainly therefore I can manage for just two months with what I can pack. The people there have much to teach me about life and faith.

We are defined by who we are, rather than what we possess. We do carry a great deal of excess baggage in our lives; it is a good exercise to consider just what we really need, rather than everything we desire.

May 11 is Pentecost, the Feast of the Holy Spirit. When the Spirit came it enabled the early Christians to purify their hearts and minds and concentrate on what really mattered in the proclamation of the Gospel. They metaphorically packed their bags with what they really needed and went out in the power of the Spirit to build a new church: one that still stands and grows today.

Chris Boulton

Tough talking and a surprise variety show at 'best ever' Parish Assembly

Hard-hitting topics, lively questions, wine and snacks and some great entertainment combined to make this year's **Annual Parish Assembly** one of the best attended and most successful for years. Nearly 100 people packed the Village Hall to hear how the community can address the threat of a potential travellers' site, the success that the Police are having in fighting crime, and updates on our village school, the Parish Church, the Parish Plan and issues addressed by our

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Parish Assembly, continued

district and county councillors. A last-minute surprise was a rousing curtain raiser from The Young Ones with hits from their recent highly successful old time music hall. With only one rehearsal since their show, the cast brought off another polished performance and finished by getting the whole audience to join in a couple of choruses – a suitable pick-me-up before the more serious topics to follow.

In a review of parish council activities, chairman Mike Fairchild highlighted some of the main issues of the past year including the go-ahead for the Little Hadham bypass northern route with its flood prevention measures, completion of the main stages of the playground refurbishment, and a host of consultations covering airport expansion and proposed changes to flight paths. Another theme was collaboration between the council and the Parish Plan Group. Collaboration with

the Primary School enabled regular computer lessons to be organised for local residents. He referred to the intensity of work by parish councillors, especially in planning matters, and thanked them for the amount of voluntary time they gave to the community.

Bev Evans, parish clerk, explained the council's spending priorities in the past year. Richard Becket, who succeeds Max Ashley as one of the trustees of the Little Hadham Charity, explained the origins of the charity and reviewed its investments and expenditure.

Sgt Chris Hunt, who was accompanied by PC Neil Foote and PCSO Sandra Chrichton, said Little Hadham was served by one of the top performing community policing teams in the county and referred to the success of 'Operation Tarantula'. He gave practical advice, including how to avoid becoming a victim of car crime – one of the biggest offences in this

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Nature Notes: March

by Jonathan Forgham

Another month of variable climate; from bright sunny days and cold frosty nights to snow covered ground and sledging upon Brick Kiln Hill.

The first walk of the month gave up a grey wagtail, on the roof of Ashford House at the junction of Chapel Lane. A lovely yellow and grey male was unfortunately camera shy; no sooner had I set the camera than it decided to depart overhead towards Muggins' Wood. Suspect I shall record this frequently as the season develops. Also of note on this day (1st) I spent 5 pleasurable minutes being amused by three boxing hares in a field just south of the ford. Mad as a March hare seemed most appropriate. Other new birds to the year list were: linnet (9th), cormorant, chiffchaff and grey partridge (all 27th). The cormorant was recorded high to the north from Muggins' Wood heading south. It began as a black silhouette that had me guessing, with long wings and elongated neck. For a moment I thought black stork, a real rarity, but then fortunately it came over and made itself known, albeit still at in excess of 1000 feet. Chiffchaffs began calling on the 27th and can now be heard daily in good numbers.

Other birds of note were 226 fieldfares in the snow at Ash Valley G.C. and a common buzzard on the 30th. Finally, thank you to Ian and Lorraine Winney who forwarded me some good photos of a local albino jackdaw. This strange and unusual bird can still be seen with local jackdaws. Interestingly enough, there is an exhibit similar to this bird in the Natural History Museum. The total of species increased to a creditable 60 for the year. Also, bright sunny days gave views of the first butterflies of the year. A small tortoiseshell,

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Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

It was good to meet with many of you recently at the Annual Parish Assembly!

The Easter holidays are already seeming a distant blur and we have an action-packed term ahead. With the 'National Year of Reading' starting on April 1st, we are busy planning a range of activities to extend opportunities for reading across the school. We are always grateful for any help hearing readers, if anyone has a spare hour or so.

*A date for your diary...**Saturday 7th June**...when the tribute band, 'Abba Girls' will be 'in town' so please contact the School Office if you would like more details.*

Again this year, our FRIENDS Association will be promoting our school at the Standon May Day on 5th May, so do come along and support us!

Liz Stockley, Head.

L H & A Social Club

At our April meeting a most interesting talk was given by Mr Richard Thomas on the history of the River Stort from approximately 1766 to the present day. The talk was accompanied by fascinating old photographs and their modern-day equivalent views – many places and names being easily recognisable from so long ago.

Trip to Highgate Cemetery

Tuesday 3rd June. *Some places are still available leaving Village Hall Car Park 8.30am. Tour of the west cemetery at 10.30am lasts approx 1hr 40mins and East cemetery can be toured at leisure. Total cost £25. The Cemetery is listed as a site of outstanding architectural and historical interest.*

For further information please contact Ennis Rogers on 658585.

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A Big Pat on the Back

On behalf of myself and the parishioners of Little Hadham may I pass on a big thank you to Mike Fairchild for his unstinting work behind the scenes in connection with the very well attended Annual Parish Assembly. Mike works very hard in the background on all sorts of matters relating to our community - Thank you Mike. May I also pass on our thanks to Pat Fairchild who worked so hard in getting the catering together for the meeting - Thank you Pat. Bev Evans also deserves a mention for the technical support at the meeting - Thank you Bev. Jon Fardell looked after all the sound effects in a very 'professional manner' - Thank you Jon. To all the speakers (too many to mention here but they know who they are!) - Thank you to you all. As for The Young Ones – what can I say? They were brilliant! Thank you The Young Ones. How about the rest of us? A BIG PAT ON THE BACK is well deserved – without us the meeting would have been pointless – Thank You Everyone!

Carmela Piccolo

Many thanks to Joan Ward for sponsoring this page

The Church Wardens would like to thank all those who attended St Cecilia's on Saturday 12th April and cut the grass, helped to clear the church yard, the tower and vestry, and dust round those awkward corners that get attention only once or twice a year. A special thanks also to the ladies who provided the delicious refreshments.

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Nature Notes, continued from page 4

(27th) was recorded near Bury Green, whilst a peacock was noted near Muggins' Wood (30th). A large white flew up Acremore Street (30th). Shouldn't be too long before the brilliantly coloured brimstone (male bright yellow, female, normally later in spring, being greeny yellow) appear in gardens. Suspect by the time this is published they will indeed be a common sight on warm, sunny days. Plants continued to bloom throughout the month with the following being photographed for the blog: greater stitchwort (*stellaria holostea*), germander speedwell (*veronica chamaedrys*), wood anemone (*anemone nemerosa*), primrose (*primula vulgaris*), red dead nettle (*lamium purpureum*), white dead nettle (*lamium album*), common field speedwell (*veronica persica*). By publication cowslips and bluebells will predominate in woods and hedgerow.

Finally, a side trip to Norfolk (26th) realized a particularly impressive 92 species in one day. Most worthwhile visit, with some good birds being recorded.

Please note: Sunday 4th May is National Dawn Chorus Day. Consequently I shall be out as from 5.30a.m. noting all the singing species. If anyone cares to join me, with coffee and bacon butties at Ash Valley G.C., then please email for further details, or check my blog at: <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com>. I shall be most happy to have company.

Jonathan Forgham

! If you could write an article for the Parish News everybody would be pleased to hear from you !

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**Muscular
Dystrophy
Campaign**

BARKWAY PARK
GOLF CLUB



CHARITY GOLF DAY at BARKWAY PARK GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2008

supporting

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Christian Aid Week, 11–17 May 2008

When you turned on the tap this morning what came out?

The answer is easy: good, clean water in which you did not hesitate to brush your teeth. Imagine what it would be like without this supply – would you wash in the river Ash knowing that everyone else north of the Albury Road also used it to wash their clothes, their pots and pans and themselves as well as using it as a lavatory? That's another easy answer.

We all know that in very poor countries the people have no option, no tap to turn.

The CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION this year is focussing on water supplies and the training of villagers in Bangladesh to harvest rain water for their communities. In the past Little Hadham has been so generous – imagine how many hundreds of people you have already helped. But the poor are with us always so when your collector calls, please, don't send them away but dig deep into your pockets so others can dig deep for water. Thank you so much.

Travellers' Site **Deadline for response is 16 May.**

Please respond to the GO-East consultation by e-mail using the online form at www.goeast.gov.uk or by post to: Barbara Bay, Panel Secretary, Planning Inspectorate, 4/02 Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN. Further advice on the issue will be given at the next meeting of the Parish Council on **Tuesday May 6 at 8pm** in the Village Hall.

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What to do in May . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

1, 15 Thu **Mobile Library** (See next page)

3 Sat 4 Sun Harlow Water Tower Abseil for St Elizabeth's (age 16+). If you would like the chance to abseil 110 feet from the top of the Water Tower, Church Langley, Harlow, get in touch with me straight away! All participants receive a certificate of recognition and a personal photo taken at the top of the tower! This event, arranged by the Rotary Club of Harlow Tye, uses Dukes Barn, a fully accredited and insured organisation, to train and supervise the participants in their descent. Information: Chloe Atkinson, 01279 844227 atkinsonc@stelizabeths.org.uk

4 Sun Duton Hill Funday, Three Horseshoes, Duton Hill, from 12 noon. The annual Mayday Funday with stalls, activities and children's parade held jointly in aid of SSE and the Friends of the Five Parishes. Free admission.

4 Sun Teas in Gardens, Pelham House. 2-5. On B1038 from Clavering, immediately past village sign. 3.5-acre informal garden plus a small formal area with ponds. For Isabel Hospice.

6 Tue Glorious Gardens in Furneux Pelham 10.30-5. **Lunch Event** (£40) starts 10.30 with coffee and stalls, then Gardeners' Question Time and lunch. **Cream Tea Event** (£5) starts at 1.30. Browse the stalls, then cream teas at 3pm. For full details of the day and for a ticket application contact: Barbara Doherty 842140 or: barbara.doherty@tiscali.co.uk

6 Tue Parish Council, 8pm Everyone welcome. See how your village is run.

9 Fri Barn Dance, Presdales School, Ware 7.30-11.30pm. £12.50 includes f&c supper. Tickets 01992 304337 or 07960 115809

10 Sat Garden Club's Coffee Morning & Plant Sale, 10-12.00 noon. A wide variety of plants and garden bric-a-brac will be available all at very reasonable prices.

11 Sun Sponsored Horse Ride across 10 miles of unspoilt countryside in memory of Norman Paul, long-standing hospice supporter. Details: Laura, e-mail isabelhospiceride@hotmail.com (See poster, page 8)

11 Sun Teas in Gardens, Jenningsbury, 2-5. From A414 take B1197 to Hertford Heath. After 1/2 mile garden is on right. Listed, partly-moated farm house (not open) wide flower meadows, ponds. Formal garden, inspirational planting. Proceeds from home-made teas to Isabel Hospice

13 Tue LH & A Social Club, Nick Croome, with Alfie, will be talking on "Hearing Dogs for the Deaf." Do join us for a pleasant evening. £1.50 inc. refreshments.

15 Thu The Way Inn coffee morning, 10-12. (See details next page.)

15 Thu 11th Isabel Hospice Golf Day, WGC Golf Club. Buffet lunch, entertainment in the evening. Bookings: Pam, 01707 376782

18 Sun Teas in Gardens, 2-5, Cockhamstead, Braughing. Two acres of informal planting. 14thC moat with island. Proceeds from home-made teas to Isabel Hospice.

22 Thu LH & A Garden Club, 7.45pm Speaker John Southcott, "Tapestry of Sight and Sound."

25 Sun Teas in Gardens, White House, Dane End, 2-5. Proceeds to Isabel Hospice.

26 Sun Teas in Gardens, 2-5, Fanhams Hall, Ware. 27 acres, Eastern influence throughout. Wisteria Walk, fountains, waterfalls, bridges, lakes, trees. Plants, books, collectables, tombola. Entry £3, all proceeds to Isabel Hospice.

31 Sat Farmers' Market, 9-12 noon. Support your local producers.

31 Sat Jumble Sale, Thundridge Village Hall 2.30pm. 01920 462992. For Isabel Hospice

31 Sat Barn Dance, 8pm details page 16.

... and coming sooner than you think

1-30 June **Tea at 3** Info. pack 01707 376782

1-30 June **Wine at 9** Info. pack: as above

1 June **Mary Gethin Walk**, 10.30-12 Furneux Pelham. Details Cheryl Cusack 01707 330686

3 June **Social Club outing** to Highgate Cemetery, details page 5

15 June **Open Garden**, Henry Moore Sculpture Park, Perry Green. 10-4pm

19 June **Tea Party**, Little Wynches, MH £5 Details Michael/Helen Lock: 01279 842279

22 June **The Marriage of Figaro** by the Diva Opera Company, hosted by Hertfordshire Red Cross in a marquee to be held at the Lordship, Much Hadham, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs C Radley. Tickets £75 pp available from Joyce Morris, 01279 842530

22 June **Fritch Way Family Fun Cycle Ride**, Old Station, Takeley. Further info – contact SSE

17 Aug **Teddy Bears' Picnic and BBQ** in the SSE Wood, Broxted Hill. Details - contact SSE

13 Sept **2008 Runway Ramble**, Molehill Grn. Further information - contact SSE

17 Sept **Charity Golf Day** in aid of Muscular Dystrophy. (See poster, page 8)

1st & 15th May Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.45 - 14.05

The Smithy from 14.10 - 14.30

Bury Green from 14.45 - 15.05

This is a fortnightly service.

The 'Way Inn'
Come and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee. Rear of village hall, 3rd thursday of the month, 10 - 12 noon

St. Elizabeth's Centre Summer Events

Bromley Hall Open Gardens, Bromley Hall, Standon Sunday 1st June

As part of the National Garden Scheme Mr & 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 & enjoy a peaceful afternoon in this idyllic garden. Open from 2pm- 5pm. Sorry no dogs.

Much Hadham Open Gardens, Much Hadham Sunday 22nd June

Opened on our behalf, this is your chance to enjoy several unique & varied gardens in the village of Much Hadham. This year you can also visit the free sculpture exhibition at Hopleys Nursery! Tickets, garden guides & refreshments are available from the Village Hall. 12pm – 4pm. £4 pp (under 16s free). Sorry no dogs.

Annual Summer Fayre Saturday 28th June

Bring your family & friends along to enjoy this popular annual event held in the beautiful grounds at St. Elizabeth's Centre, Much Hadham. We have our traditional variety of stalls, crafts, entertainment & refreshments for all the family!
1pm-4pm. 50p pp.

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

Parish Assembly, continued from page 3

area. One of the main topics of the evening was how the community should respond to the possible threat of a traveller site in the village. Don Gibson and Graham Farrant, representing newly formed Little Hadham Conservation Society, urged every member of the community to respond to the East of England Regional Assembly consultation and challenged the logic of the publication of potential sites before the Government had approved 'need'. By a unanimous vote, the meeting gave the Society a mandate to oppose a traveller site. **Note: a leaflet with guidance on how to respond is included with this edition of the Parish News. More detailed advice will be given at the parish council meeting, May 6 at 8pm in the Village Hall.**

In a panel session, Mrs Liz Stockley, head of our Primary School, recounted the inventiveness of her pupils when given the challenge to 'grow' a pound coin. The Revd Chris Boulton, Rector of the Parish, introduced his team and said they were always at the service of the local community. A barn dance (Sat May 31 in the Village Hall) will be one of the highlights of the year organised by the Parish Plan Group, said its chairman, Mike Smith. Cty Cllr Mary Bayes provided an update on the by-pass and Cllr Mike Tindale said he supported the case against a traveller

site in the village and updated the meeting on the district council's recycling scheme.

Playground project nominated for Awards

The project to completely re-equip and generally improve the playground next to the Village Hall, which was awarded a major grant under the Biffaward scheme, has been nominated to take part in a national competition. Little Hadham's entry in the original Biffaward has been entered for the Biffaward Awards 2008 with the chance to win a further £2,000 in the outdoor recreation category or a top prize worth £5,000. Latest work on the playground includes installation of new oak gates and trimming back of the hedge to make it safer for children to play there unsupervised. Proposals to complete the project, including the possibility of a five-a-side soccer pitch, will be discussed at the next meeting of the parish council on May 6.

Three apply for parish council vacancy

Three local residents have applied for the vacancy on Little Hadham Parish Council. This is excellent news at a time when neighbouring parish councils are having problems filling all the seats.

The successful applicant will be selected in a ballot among existing councillors and the result announced at the next meeting on May 6.

Lord Kitchener appeals for volunteers

'Your Village needs You' was the appeal for volunteers at the Parish Assembly to help with Parish Plan activities. Accompanying the famous poster of Lord Kitchener's appeal for recruits was a request for local people to spare a little time or lend their experience to forthcoming events in the parish plan calendar. Mike Smith, chairman of the Parish Plan Group, recalled some of last year's successful events including the Teddy Bears' Picnic, and

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Planning for the Villages – Rural Community Meeting

On 25th March members of the East Herts District Planning Department came to the Village Hall to sound out the village on what should go into the Local Development Framework. About a dozen people turned up; no doubt the rest of you thought you had heard it all before, and you would have been right. Representatives from other villages were there, from Parish Councils in Aston, Hertford Heath, Hunsdon – all with exactly the same sort of problems as Little Hadham.

We were treated to a shortish talk on how the Development Framework came together and then split into two groups. “What do you like about the Rural Area? What do you dislike, and what are the Issues and Opportunities facing the Rural Area?” Both groups made their answers very plain indeed and we compared notes only to find, of course, that we all agreed with one another! We all loved our villages for the same reasons – their friendliness, the countryside, farms, schools . . . the list was endless.

The dislikes were equally predictable with roads and the threat of overwhelming development heading the bill. The “Issues and Opportunities” should have been split up but the gypsy sites, unelected EERA and helplessness in the face of imposed changes were all aired. And the outcome? The Planners were sympathetic, blaming EERA, the Government, lack of money etc., as usual, and to some extent this is true. They promised to take our views into consideration and ticked another public consultation box but will they DO anything? Only time will tell.

Angela Fardell

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Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

I've lived in this village twice. The first time, around 40 years ago, we had two thriving shops, one of which was also a sub-post office, three pubs and, the year I moved in, terrible floods.

Nearby Big Brother Much Hadham, had about nine shops, including the most wonderful ironmongers where everything was kept in higgledy-piggledy fashion in old drawers.

Now Little Hadham's amenities have declined. We are down to one pub, no shop and a four-hours-a-week post office. And, if the government has its way, our very part time post office will cease to exist shortly. We should know any time now whether we have to wave it a sad farewell. Do you mind? Did you write to the powers-that-be to try and change their plans? I know I didn't. Past experience has taught me that the general public don't stand a chance against those faceless London bureaucrats.

It's a bit like the Stansted airport expansion" they" said we should voice our opinions. But where did it get us? I have lived through three enquiries on Stansted's possible expansion. And as far as I can see "they" just kept having another enquiry until they got the decision they were after. If we lose our Post Office, I for one, will mourn its going.

Talking of mourning, if pig farming continues on its current downward track we'll be mourning their demise too. British pig farmers are currently losing around £26 on every pig they produce...and more and more farmers are giving up the unequal struggle. Pig feed costs have doubled recently but most supermarkets refuse to pay the farmers a realistic price for their pork. It is, I'm sure you will have noticed, unbelievably cheap compared with other meats. So, if you want to save our bacon, then go to the www.pigsareworthit.com website. Click on 'Stand by your Ham' and sing along to "Hammy" Wynette's old hit, complete with new words. It's a fairly ropey rendition sung by Brit farmers, but brings home just what a terrible state that industry is in. And when you buy pork, buy British and remember to look for the Quality Mark.

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reminded the audience about the forthcoming Barn Dance in the Village Hall on May 31. If you would like to help your community – as well as attending the Parish Plan events! – please contact Mike Smith on 771568.

Parish Council News

Travellers and noisy aircraft – don't ignore these major threats!

To protect Little Hadham from the threat of a traveller site and more noise from aircraft using Stansted Airport, residents have got to take matters into their own hands. That will be the message at the next meeting of Little Hadham Parish Council on Tuesday May 6 at 8pm in the Village Hall. The meeting will use the main hall as a large crowd is expected. "This is the most important meeting for years," says Cllr Mike Fairchild, chairman. Responses to consultations on the possibility of a traveller

site in the village, plans to build a second runway at Stansted and proposals for new flight paths in our skies will be at the top of the agenda. "Reading about the threats in the local press, having a moan or even leaving it to the parish council is not the answer. We need every household in the village to respond to each of these responses unless we want our way of life to change radically and irreversibly," he said. Articles in the national press claim that property prices have halved in one area where an illegal traveller site has been set up. The council will debate the issues and hand out copies of the council replies as well as guidance on the issues that residents can refer to in their individual responses. "Letters from local people will have much more impact on the decision-makers than signing a petition or simply sending a standard letter," he added.

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Dozy-Doe your Partners!

Yi-Hah!

The Country & Western music is tunin' up, the beer is coolin', the hot dawgs are ready for the griddle.

So, dust off those stetsons, spangled jeans

and red chequered 'kerchiefs. Yes, the biggest Barn Dance this little old town has seen in years is comin' to Little Hadham Village Hall on Saturday 31 May at 8pm.

Book the date now! Absolutely NO experience necessary. This will be a fantastic evening for the whole family with Country and Western music and square dancing, led by Peter Skiffins, one of the best callers on the barn dance circuit. There'll be delicious food and great drinks in an evening that will out-Fun our very own Fun Day, the best-attended event in years.

Organised by our Parish Plan committee, tickets are £10 for adults, which includes a complimentary glass of wine, and £3 for cowboys and cowgirls under 16. All profits to community funds. There'll be competitions and prizes, and just about the best evening since the Sheriff left town!

There'll be a big demand for tickets, so order yours now by calling: Kirsty (771002), Ross (771694) or Carmela (466331). See y' all there!



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Mrs Brett and
Howard Swallow

Memories of Little Hadham, 1900 -1914,
written in 1966 by Mr Fredk. George Harris, aged 70)

In Bury Green Standing back Thatch House Mrs G Brett, her husband dieng early. Felica was quite a character working to Stortford most day bringing home goods for other people who was to old to walk there. With a half pint at the Robin Hood, she could be seen loaded with goods on the Stortford Road, sometimes up to six women would be seen. Sometimes if the roads were muddy they would use Pattons they were on the bottom of the boots  made at the local Black Smith were about four inches high but what a clatter on the pavements when shopping. But who cared in those days. Any way they were not seen as the skirt were to long

Howard Swallow The Ford working at Home Farm, age 15 years. The Farmer Mr J Symons asked him to go to westland Sharpes Farm to get a iron roller. Taking the horse he went off. Mr Fred Harris Cowman at Home farm was then at Sharpes seeing to cattle, and seeing the boy off telling him not to ride. Howard when half way, sitting on the roller lighting his pipe Fell forward the roll passing over him. Mr Fred Harris later found him lying in the road, the horse having gone to the Farm, Mr Symons getting on his horse found Harris with the body His clay pipe full, just ready to light was in his mouth. He was buried Little Hadham Church with his clay pipe.

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PC news, continued from page 15

Rat running: The parish council has told Herts Highways that it will explore the possibility of finding third party funding to pay for a feasibility study into a solution to the problem of rat running through Cradle End and Bury Green. However, it has also sought an undertaking that if a solution is found, Highways will put the scheme into operation. A reply is awaited.

War memorial wall:

Costs and health and safety rules mean that plans to repair the surroundings of the village war memorial have hit the wall – literally. Because of the narrowness of Ford Hill at that point and its proximity to the main road through the village, a traffic management scheme may have to be used. The cost of this, plus the cost of the work to replace the now dilapidated York stone wall may put the job beyond the means of the parish council.

‘C15’ – What’s in a name?

The main road through the village from the A120 traffic lights towards Much Hadham rejoices in the very unglamorous official title, ‘The unnamed C15’. Most other roads in the village have a name – but not always a sign, which keeps parishioners tending their front gardens very busy giving motorists directions.

The idea was mooted at the parish assembly to have a competition to find a suitable name for the C15. The road runs parallel to the Ash river, passes the Village Hall and contains many historic houses and focal points such as the Nags Head and the village pump. One interesting suggestion has already been made, to name the road after John Hammond, the original benefactor of what today is known as the Little Hadham Charity. What would your choice of name be? Send your suggestions to the Parish News (details on the back page) and let’s lift this

popular thoroughfare out of the indignity of anonymity!

Little Hadham BARN DANCE

Have you got your tickets yet? What promises to be a memorable and hilarious evening’s entertainment is only four weeks away. **Details on page 16.** This is the latest event organised by your local Parish Plan Group and follows the highly successful Fun Day and last year’s Teddy Bears’ Picnic at Bury Green. The whole village is invited, especially families. The good news is that Peter Skiffins, the well-known caller on the square dance circuit, who will be in charge of proceedings, is brilliant at helping even absolute beginners to take part.

A dozy-doe with your partner is one of the best ways of building community spirit – and a thirst. A free glass of wine or soft drink comes with the tickets, which are only £10 for adults and £3 for coyboys and cowgirls under 16. There’ll be prizes for the best-dressed dude and his ‘gal’!

If you haven’t already got your tickets, please call one of our ticket-sellers now: Kirsty (771002), Ross (771694) and Carmela (466331). Why not make up a party with neighbours or friends? See y’all there!

OK, we confess!

Attendance at the special meeting to declare independence for Little Hadham, planned to follow the parish council session on April 1, was sparse to say the least!

One reason may have been lack of interest in breaking free of the UK; another possibility is that people noticed the date. Either way, we hope the story in the last edition raised a smile or two. Oh, and by the way, the BBC say they don’t need any more extras for the ‘Dr Who’ episode being filmed in the village (applications by April 1) following a sighting of the Tardis in someone’s front garden.

A resident's letter

"I'm sure I can't be the only resident of Green Street who is devastated at the havoc caused by lorries driving without care. Starting from the Millfield end:- there are copious amounts of mud on the road, a constant trickle of water (apparently from a pipe) running from one side of the road to the other, the grass verges have been annihilated – this continues up the road. Verges have been mounted continuously, causing untold damage. Garden walls have been damaged and this carries on from Millfield Road right through to Cradle End. Who is going to own up to being responsible for all this damage – more importantly is it all going to be put right – and by whom?"

Name and address withheld.

SU DOKU no.20

Complete this grid so that each row, column and block of 9 squares contains the letters of the words

MAY FLOWER

Only one solution, no need to guess

E	L					Y		
	Y	O	W	A		R	M	
A			O	E				W
		L	M	R	O			
R								Y
			Y	A	W	M		
M			F	R				L
W	A		E	L	F	Y		
		F					M	E

Red Cross Appeal Week 4th-10th May 2008

Anyone have a couple of hours to spare to help collect money in the village?

If so, I'd love to hear from you. Please phone Sandra on 771639

Log onto www.redcross.org.uk to find out how the money you raise could be used.

adverts removed

May diary for Little Hadham and Albury

(part of the Ash and Quin Valleys' team incorporating Much Hadham, Braughing, Furneux and Stocking Pelham.)

- 1 Thursday Ascension Day**
8.00pm Team Communion at St Mary's, Braughing
- 4 Sunday Sunday after Ascension**
9.30am Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham
11.15am Parish Communion and Sunday School at St Mary's, Albury
- 11 Sunday Pentecost (Whit Sunday)**
No Service at Little Hadham
9.30am Benefice Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham, Celebrant, the Bishop of Hertford
5.00pm Taizé service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham
- 18 Sunday Trinity Sunday**
8.00am Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham
9.30am Family Service in Little Hadham Village Hall
6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's, Albury
- 25 Sunday Trinity I**
11.15am Shared Communion at Albury
6.00pm Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

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

Cricket Club News

With all the cold and wet weather the season has been slow to start for Little Hadham Cricket Club, with the first three matches being cancelled.

From May onwards the club will be playing in Division 5 of the Herts and Essex Cricket league on Saturdays with friendly matches on Sundays. In addition the club will play a number of evening 20/20 cup matches and friendly games throughout the season.

As always the club is looking to attract new members and whether you have played before or would just like to give cricket a try then you will be made very welcome. Further details from either Andy Yarwood on 01799 540041 or Martin Hallmark on 01279 771033

MAY FIXTURES

3rd	Little Munden	League	Away	1.30
4th	Stocking Pelham		Away	2.00
5th	Ardleigh Green		Home	2.00
10th	Newport 11	League	Home	1.30
11th	Manuden		Home	1.30
17th	Buntingford 11	League	Away	1.30
18th	Takeley		Home	2.30
20th	Thorley	Davies Cup	Home	6.00
24th	Hotfield Heath	League	Home	1.30
25th	Albury		Home	2.30
26th	Thorley		Home	2.30
31st	Theydon Bois 11	League	Away	1.30

Editor: Jan Finn, Ash Cottage, The Ashe, Little Hadham, SG11 2DX (771113) e-mails to htfp@clocktower.co.uk

All articles for inclusion; sponsorship; and payment for advertising in the next issue **must** be received by the **18th** of the month. (cheques payable to **Little Hadham PCC**)
Little Hadham Parish News is distributed free by St Cecilia's church