

LITTLE HADHAM
PARISH NEWS
AUGUST 2008



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Letter from Jeanette “Thank you for the music...”

You may or may not recognise the source of the heading – the Abba song of some years ago. I have to confess the 1970s was my ‘pop’ era – I loved Abba (confession – still do!), and of course as a teenager was ‘in love’ with the Osmonds, Cliff Richard and so on! I still love to sing along to the ‘oldies’ – the familiar words, the good tunes, the memories. Your ‘era’ might be different – but I guess we could probably all name a few old favourites.

As I write, we’ve just had two ‘Songs of Praise’ services in the Team – at St Thomas’, Perry Green and at St Mary’s Braughing. For Braughing, it’s become an annual ‘event’ – and this year BBC Three Counties Radio came along and recorded it for broadcast on their early Sunday morning show – and they’ve promised to send us a CD of the recording (for those of us who find 6am just a little early to be awake and listening!). I don’t know about St Thomas’, but here in Braughing it was a great opportunity for people to come along who perhaps don’t come regularly to church, but who enjoy ‘a good sing’. A mixture of hymns old and new had been chosen, and some people spoke quite movingly about what the hymns meant to them.

I don’t know about you, but music touches me in places that words alone can’t – or don’t – reach. Hymns can touch me emotionally and enable me to enter into the words in a way that refreshes and renews my faith. Many of our hymns help us to learn the Bible too – they are based on verses or stories from the Bible. So, for example, last night we sang ‘Guide me, O thou great Redeemer’ with all its stirring references to the way that God guided his people following their exodus from Egypt towards the Promised Land. Apart from being a real favourite, it reminds us of God journeying with us through life – and sometimes such a reminder can be just what we need. Then there was the more modern song ‘As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you’, based on Psalm 42. A simple, gentle song of longing for God, acknowledging both his kingship and his friendship. A love song.

As one person left last night, she commented that the service had made her think: “What are my favourite hymns and songs – and why?” She was going home to thumb through a hymn book. “It’s a bit like Desert Island Discs”, she commented. So maybe this summer, if we get a moment of quiet, we could ponder: what hymns would we choose – and why? And whatever is in our top ten, perhaps at the end we’ll want to say to God ‘thank you for the music, for giving it to me’.

With my prayers and best wishes,
Jeanette (Team Vicar)

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Tributes to funny, adorable Caroline

Little Hadham has lost one of its brightest and happiest youngsters with the untimely death of 17-year-old Caroline Johnstone who lived with her parents, Lesley and Johnny, and brother Ross, in Chapel Lane.

Caroline, who had a history of heart problems, collapsed while out dancing with friends. She received emergency treatment but suffered brain damage and after several days her family took the agonising decision to turn off her life support. Caroline's funeral at St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, was attended by nearly 400 people.

Caroline had lived in Little Hadham for 14 years. Her circle of friends grew from the time she attended the Mothers and Toddlers group and Brownies and memorable swimming parties at the home of Christine Crace. She was a sixth former at Bishop's Stortford High School and was due to sit her A-levels. She worked on Saturdays at Monsoon in Bishop's Stortford and wanted to work in fashion journalism after studying for an English degree at Newcastle University this autumn.

In a tribute to her daughter in the local

Observer, Caroline's mother Lesley said she approached life with great enthusiasm and took everything in her stride. "She was very infectious, incredibly smiley, always happy – I used to call her my social butterfly. She was funny, adorable – she was just kind of perfect."

Her school friends held a thanksgiving service to celebrate her life and created a book of memories of 'Fairy Caz', the name she used for her email address. "I've been totally overwhelmed by the love, support and thoughtfulness of the whole community ... it's most definitely what's getting us through," said Lesley.

Donations in memory of Caroline are to the charity CRY – Cardiac Risk in the Young, CRY, Unit 7, Epsom Downs Metro Centre, Waterfield, Tadworth, Surrey, KT20 5LR, email: cry@c-r-y.org.uk



Parish Council News

Local views will be heard at Gypsy inquiry

Little Hadham Parish Council will apply to give evidence at the public inquiry into the need for additional gypsy and traveller sites in the East of England. The main issues to be dealt with at the inquiry, which is due to start around October 20, will be published shortly. Little Hadham Conservation Society (LHCS) has also applied to give evidence at the inquiry, taking place in Letchworth. Both the parish council and LHCS strongly objected to the fact

that two potential sites had been identified in Little Hadham.

Legal challenge:

The parish council has welcomed the decision by Hertfordshire County Council to mount a legal challenge to the government's East of England Plan. The county council expressed alarm at the scale and pace of the plan that requires it to provide over 80,000 new homes – in addition to 'Harlow North' – and over 60,000 new jobs. The parish council

continued on page 6

Local hero receives gallantry medal . . .



Local hero Staff Sergeant Douglas Leak receives the Queen's Gallantry Medal from Prince Charles at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace. The award marks his heroism in defusing a 550lb unexploded wartime bomb on a building site in Bethnal Green last May.

Dougie has lived at The Ash, Little Hadham, with his wife Danielle for eight years. They have twin boys, 2½-year-old Freddie and Albie. A proud Danielle, and Douglas's parents John and Nan, witnessed the ceremony.

At the time of the incident, Staff Sergeant Leak was serving with 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) at Carver Barracks, Wimbish. Since his promotion to Staff Sergeant, he has been posted to

Nottingham as a member of 528 Specialist Team Royal Engineers and can be called upon to tackle unexploded bombs anywhere in the country. He holds the regiment's record for defusing the most wartime bombs – six in just 12 months.

After being called to the site of the latest bomb in London's East End, his seven-man team had to build a defensive system to protect people and property from the risk of fragmentation had the bomb exploded. He drilled into the bomb in order to pour liquid solution on to the fuses and then cut into the bomb to attempt to gain access to them. It took four attempts to cut through the bomb, requiring him at one stage to put on breathing apparatus and walk 300m to re-set the equipment. "It was probably the longest walk of my life," he said. He then sat next to the bomb while the cutters made a second hole to enable the explosives to be removed. It was a four-day operation.

The citation says Staff Sergeant Leak is an inspiration to all and his display of courage and leadership was of the highest order. He received news of his award on his 33rd birthday. Said Dougie, "It was a fantastic experience to go to Buckingham Palace and be presented with a medal by a member of the Royal Family."

Parent & Toddlers' Group

We've had a fantastic few weeks up to the summer break, ending in a leavers' party for the children starting nursery in September. We now have a summer break and will start again on Wednesday 10th September. Thank you all the parents, grandparents, childminders and children who have supported the group and had fun. Have a good summer and hope to see you all in September.

Gail Ellis

and, for services to the Parish News?

Not to be outdone, it has to be said that Mike and Pat Fairchild also dropped in on the Palace last month. Along with seven thousand other heroes, they laid their lives on the line and drank tea with the Queen.



Marquee for your special event?

If you are having an outdoor event, why chance the weather when you can hire a top of the range marquee? Little Hadham Parish Plan Group has two marquees, each one is 10 feet square with optional side panels.

They can be linked to make a 20x10ft size. They are a robust 'pop-up' design, erected in minutes. £40 each for a week-end or up to three days. All funds go to re-coup purchase cost, thereafter village events organised by the Parish Plan. Phone Pat or Mike on 771302.

ALBURY
ART, CRAFT AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION
And works for sale!

SEPTEMBER 13TH AND 14TH
11.00AM - 4.00PM

REFRESHMENTS

FREE CAR PARKING



ADVERTS REMOVED

has supported opposition to the scale of development proposed, including the fact that it is predicated on the assumption that Stansted airport will expand.

By-pass amended:

The county council's transport panel has approved the route for the Little Hadham by-pass with amendments where it meets the A120 at either end. The county council says the amendments reduce the amount of land required and further minor adjustments may be made for access to farms and to accommodate flood storage proposals. The parish council had previously objected to not being consulted on the latest changes, which move the tie-in near the Albury End junction nearer the traffic lights. Following discussion at the July meeting, the parish council will re-examine evidence for the changes. It is unlikely that the by-pass would be built before 2015.

Future of land at Bury Green Farm:

Romehold, owners of the former Glaxo site at Bury Green, have told the council that they would like to retain ownership or leasehold use of land, polo fields, and the areas currently occupied by the Millennium Wood and the cricket club after the industrial site is sold to new owners – the current planning application is for a data centre. The parish council will sound out the community on the future of the Millennium Wood where a 10-year agreement runs out in 18 months. Houses in The Grove, Bury Green, will be sold by Romehold with covenants to preserve the rural setting.

Bin it!

The council has written to East Herts Council asking it to remove a litter bin wrongly sited on a grass verge at The Ford. It should have been put next to the bus stop opposite the

continued on page 8

ADVERTS REMOVED

Nature Notes: June

by Jonathan Forgham

Again, a month of contrasting weather, with certainly the hottest days of the year, mingled with some pretty dull, grey and wet days that have not helped my allotment tomatoes.

Many local wanders were taken on, with one new bird recorded for the month. A walk on the 9th, south along the River Ash, offered an unexpected bird in the shape of a sedge warbler. This was heard, singing, in the hedgerow near the footbridge leading across the fields to South Cottages. Although locally common (up to eight breeding pairs in Thorley Wash), I had not expected this species to appear locally. A search for 15 minutes or so only offered fleeting glimpses as it sang from the middle of the hedgerow. The clacking of two pebbles together gained an immediate singing response, but the male bird was not

inquisitive enough to pop up to investigate the noise. This method of encouraging warblers to sing is a strange but trusted method, so if you ever come across a chap banging two pebbles together you'll know there is a warbler bird close by. Other birds of note were regular sightings of common buzzards, especially on the 8th where my blog (<http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com>) shows a skirmish between a buzzard and carrion crow. With increasingly warm weather that day the buzzards were using the thermals to



drift over farmland whilst hunting. Yellowhammers were abundant along the ridge walk to Bush Wood, as shown here, a fine male. A willow warbler was heard on

continued on page 9

ADVERTS REMOVED

PC News continued from page 6

Nag's Head pub. Other much-needed bins have been requested by the bus stop opposite Lloyd Taylor Close and by the bus stop opposite the bus shelter on the A120.

'Leisure park' nears completion:

The final stages of the rejuvenation of the playing field next to the village hall are nearing completion. A new gate has been installed at the northern end of the field as part of the plan to open up this area and make it more of a 'leisure park' for the village. The basketball net and soccer shooting wall have been moved to this end of the field and new picnic tables will shortly be installed there. The council has also acquired a set of portable five-a-side soccer goals and is working with the parish plan group on plans to hold soccer matches in our new leisure park. The new area will feature a programme of free summer holiday activities for kids on Wednesdays until August 20 (See page 16 for details).

Post Office Closures?

NO – fingers crossed!

The Government has announced that 2,500 of the country's 13,500 post offices will be closed. In our part of Hertfordshire that means twelve post office branches. However, our Village Hall Post Office (together with three other local post offices – Braughing, Much Hadham and Standon) **is not included in the closure list.**

The closure consultation runs from 8th July to the end of August and our Parish Council would strongly oppose any move to include Little Hadham Post Office in the closure programme, and will closely monitor the consultation process.

Cllr Tony Skidmore, LHPC

ADVERTS REMOVED

Nature Notes continued from page 7

the 15th at Millennium Wood whilst the usual warblers (chiffchaff, blackcap and common whitethroat) were heard on most walks.

Plantwise, the undoubted highlight was photographing a bee orchid, (*ophrys apifera*) discovered on Ash Valley golf course. I had already been alerted to its presence and was walking to take some shots for the blog. However, before I reached the point to which I had been directed I discovered a single plant elsewhere. A super plant, with flowers that mimic a bee to the extent that male bees may try to "mate" with the flower, thus pollinating the flower.



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Insects featured heavily as the month turned warm, with new records of several expected butterflies, namely: red admiral dingy skipper, large skipper and meadow brown, the latter being counted in hundreds in several fields towards Much Hadham. Also of note a four spotted chaser dragonfly was observed (15th) in the hedgerow leading towards Muggins Wood, a recently emerged male, resting and offering great views. Unfortunately,

I had no camera for what would have been super shots. A blue tailed damselfly was also recorded along the River Ash (9th). Many records of the highly invasive harlequin ladybird; a species that was only recorded for the first time in the UK in 2004 and now populates most of the south of England and will, unfortunately, soon be the most common ladybird in the country. This comes in three varieties with the diagnostic identification sign being creamy "eye patches". Locally, there is plenty of the black variety, showing just two areas of red. A white plume moth was also recorded along the ditch leading to Ash Valley G.C. (23rd) whilst a regular insect was the soldier beetle. This species is a pollen feeder found in large numbers amongst the florets of the parsley family. Again identification photographs on my blog. Just scroll down and click June in the archive section and then click on the appropriate photograph.



July is traditionally a quiet birding month, but I hope for warmer weather that will see an increase in insect activity as well as fire my tomatoes into life.

ADVERTS REMOVED

What's on in August . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

There is no **Garden Club** or **Parish Council** meeting this month.

12 Tue LH & A Social Club 8pm. Barry Kaufmann-Wright will talk about Jersey Zoo and the work of Gerald Durrell. Everyone is welcome, so do join us.

17 Sun Teddy Bears' Picnic and BBQ 12noon - 4pm in the SSE Wood, Broxton Hill. This year's Teddy Bears' Picnic takes place in the SSE Wood which Members planted to demonstrate opposition to second runway plans. As usual, bears and their families will be treated to magic shows and balloon modelling, face painting, fun and games. Fancy dress (Disney theme) encouraged with prizes for best costumes and, of course, best teddies in the following categories: best campaigning, best loved, best dressed, most cuddly, biggest and smallest, plus best drawing of a teddy brought to the event. Entrance by donation. Marquee cover if wet. Further information – contact SSE.

7, 21 Thur Mobile Library. Details above. Many apologies for last month's incorrect information.

21 Thur The Way Inn 10-12noon, rear of village hall. Have a cuppa and make friends.

22 Fri LH & A Social Club trip to The Woodman, Nuthampstead. There will be a talk about the local airfield and memorials then lunch. We do need to have numbers for catering purposes. If you are interested, please contact 658585 for details.

27 Wed Ladies' Charity Golf Day at Brocket Hall Golf Club in aid of Isabel Hospice at the Palmerston Course. Costs £130 per pair, includes coffee, golf and a summer buffet lunch. This event is sponsored by family-run local printing company, Hertford Offset. If you would like to put in a team contact Isabel

Hospice Fundraising on 01707 330686.

30 Sat Farmers' Market. Fresh produce, lively company and a cooked brekkie.

31 Sun The Village Picnic, Ash Farm, Standon Road, from 12 noon. See front cover.

7th & 21st August Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.45 - 14.05

The Smithy from 14.10 - 14.30

Bury Green from 14.45 - 15.05

A fortnightly service.

. . . and beyond

6 Sept **LH & A Garden Club Show** (back page)

10 Sept **Parent and Toddler Group** reopens

13 Sept **SSE Runway Ramble,** Molehill Grn. See article on page 15

13 Sept **Isabel Hospice Jumble Sale,** 2.30 Thundridge 01920 462992

13,14 Sept **Art, Craft & Photography Exhbn** Albury, 11 - 4pm Refreshments, free parking.

16 Sept **Garden Club** village hall meeting replacing the outing to Aylett Nurseries.

19 Sept **Charity Golf Day** in aid of Muscular Dystrophy. (See poster on next page)

21 Sept **Isabel Hospice Chain Walk.** Seventeen fantastic sponsored walks Contact Pam Shepherd for details on 01707 376782.

27 Sept **Quiz & Supper** for St Elizabeth's. Details and tickets Chloe Atkinson 844227

4 Oct **Bingo Night,** LH Village Hall

5 Oct **Great North Run** in aid of Isabel Hospice. Information on 01707 376782.

12 Oct **Open Garden** Moor Place 2-5pm details Renee Friend on 01279 755320

22 Nov **LH & A Garden Club Supper**

Regular events

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

Badminton: 8.00pm Mondays

Brownies: 4.30 - 6pm Tuesdays, term-time.
Judi Wheeler 654624

Carpet Bowls Club: *Social and League*,
8-10pm Fridays, Eileen Booth 771426

Farmers' Market: 9.00-12 noon, last
Saturday of month. Brenda Kain 771028

Karate: 5-6pm Wednesdays,
Catherine Petch, 771636

Mobile Police Station: 9 - 11am first and
third Tuesday, in the car park.

Music Makers: For under-fives. 1.15 - 1.50
& 2.10 - 2.45 on Thursdays in the Nursery
at LH School. Fern Oliver 506369

Parent & Toddler group,
9.30 - 11.30am, Wednesdays, term-time.

Playgroup: 1.00pm - 3.30pm Mondays,
Tuesdays, Wednesdays in the Nursery at
LH School. Lisa Hale 505194

LH Post Office: 9.00 - 11am Tuesdays and
Thursdays, rear of the Village Hall in the
Doctor's Reception Room.

The "Way Inn": third Thursday of month

Whist Drive: Last Thursday of month.
Ross Barron, 771694

The 'Way Inn'

Come and meet friends and
neighbours over

a cup of tea or coffee.

Rear of village hall,
third thursday of the month,
10 - 12noon

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE
IN THE PARISH NEWS PLEASE
CONTACT THE EDITOR. E-MAIL
HTFP@CLOCKTOWER.CO.UK
DEADLINE FOR COPY AND PAYMENT
IS THE 18TH OF THE MONTH.
TWELVE MONTHS FOR THE
PRICE OF TEN.

**Muscular
Dystrophy
Campaign**

BARKWAY PARK
GOLF CLUB



CHARITY GOLF DAY
at BARKWAY PARK GOLF CLUB
FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2008

supporting
THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CAMPAIGN

Main sponsor



18-hole Stapleford in teams of four
Cost £128 per team to include
Coffee or Tea before play and Buffet
after the Golf.

Team Prizes + Individual Winner's Trophy
Nearest the Pin + Longer Drive Prizes
Putting Competition

CHARITY AUCTION

>>> **SPONSORS REQUIRED** <<<

Entry forms available from
ALAN, 01279 505147

Little Hadham Cricket Club News

Little Hadham Cricket club played three matches over the past month, with one further match being cancelled. The first match was against Potter Street, and batting first Hadham managed to score 175 for the loss of 8 wickets. Frank Jaynes top-scored with 43. This score was never enough on Hadham's small ground with the visitors achieving their target for the loss of 6 wickets. The next game at home to Ardleigh

AUGUST FIXTURES all at 2.00pm

Sunday 3rd	Manuden	Away
Sunday 10th	Furneux Pelham	Away
Sunday 17th	Sheering	Home
Sunday 24th	Little Hallingbury	Away
Sunday 31st	Hatfield Heath	Home

Green saw the visitors post 206 for 9, with David Barnes, just one month short of his 70th birthday, taking 4 wickets for just 32 runs. In reply Little Hadham cruised home achieving the target for the loss of just one wicket. Alan South (76 not out) and Gary Spicer (90 not out) shared an unbroken second wicket partnership of 182. High Beach were to be the club's next opponents and batting first High Beach scored 143 all out. Despite the fact that the wicket was fairly slow and damp it seemed to be a fairly achievable total; however some fine bowling from High Beach skittled Hadham for just 82, with village resident Martin Hallmark top-scoring with 22.

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 are available from Neil Oxborrow 506062 (mobile 07769 850827) or Martin Hallmark 771033 (mobile 07917 425076) so please give us a call and help maintain the Village Cricket Club.

No 4 Chapel Lane
and Houghton's shop.

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

Mr Edward Fox (Stumpie) or Ted. Wife Son and Daughter. Ted being a very heavy man 20 stone work first at the Brewery then on the Road making the roads up etc later Farm Worker Kiln Farm Standon Rd. He once came home for Breakfast shouting his way down the road "Fire, Fire", The people coming out to see said where Ted just said In every bodys House bar mine. the wife still in bed. Another time going by Mrs Smith door He said to her The Parsons giving 10/- notes away today. Mrs Smith falling for it said "What ever for Mr Fox" "For people who mind their own bissiness."

Mr Joseph Houghton and Sons. The shop selling most needs for the village. The shop standing well back and House. Joseph worked with his sons and daughters in the shop which was also the village Post Office untill 1914. The children leaving and Josephs wife, his wife dying the shop closed down during the war. The Roundsmen and Bakers worked very long hours, two bakers and two roundsman going miles each day, Horse and Carts with goods, getting home at 10.0pm Saturday night some times 12.0am. no half days for them.

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

The last few weeks of term, although hectic, went really well.

We recently enjoyed playing host to a Debating Morning for some talented Year 5/6 pupils from local primary schools. This was led by debating teams from The Bishop's Stortford High School, who are renowned nationally for their success in debating competitions. From listening to their arguments, we certainly have some budding politicians in our midst!

Our KS2 Presentation of 'Pepys Show', a musical based on the diary entries of Samuel Pepys, played to packed audiences in the last week of term. The children performed with amazing confidence, with many of the older children singing solo parts. Well done to everyone in KS2!

Finally, we say 'farewell' to our sixteen Year 6 leavers as they move on to Secondary education and wish them lots of luck for the future. We also say 'goodbye' to Mrs Lesley Murdoch after ten years in our Nursery Class. She has provided many of our children with an excellent start in their schooling and she will be greatly missed.

Enjoy the summer!

Liz Stockley, Headteacher

Many thanks to The Garden Club for sponsoring this page

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Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

The joys of farming...if it is not rain when we are trying to make hay or wind knocking down the growing crops or even the price of fertiliser now making growing any crop non-viable, then it is the rooks and the pigeons eating away our very livelihood! Right now around 300 rooks have decided our barley is the tastiest meal they have had in years, and they are systematically polishing it off. 'Shoot them,' I hear some of you say...but rooks are devious creatures and just the slightest peek at a man with a gun means they fly off and stay away until the coast is clear. Hubby, sons and friends all try their hand at shooting the dratted birds...but so far the Hitchcock Birds are winning the day!

Did I mention that we had a broody hen? A month ago she decided to sit tight on some eggs and nothing would get her off. So we found her some fertilised eggs, popped her on them and left her to it. Having sat on her brood of eight eggs for three long weeks, only four managed to make it to the outside world, and now she is the proud mum of four multi-coloured chicks. And what a mum - she fights off any of the adult chickens who dare go too near. She carefully breaks up any bits of bread into small crumbs, more suitable for her hungry brood. And, wherever the chicks venture, she is right there, protecting, educating, bossy, caring and utterly devoted. Around 7pm she ushers her quads into the mini henhouse we made and there they stay until we let them out the following morning. Trouble is, we think three of the four are going to be cockerels. There is no way we want to add cockerels to our menagerie, and equally, the thought of coq-au-vin fills me with horror.

So, will any of you require a cockerel in the near future?

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STOP STANSTED EXPANSION www.stopstanstedexpansion.com.

**Runway Ramble 2008 – Walking to Win –
Saturday 13th September at 10am**

Join Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) for the 7th annual Runway Ramble on the morning of Saturday 13 September to show your opposition to the second runway plans for Stansted Airport that would make it bigger than Heathrow today.

Choose from one of three walks as follows:

- 2 mile circular walk from the Three Horseshoes, Molehill Green (suitable for those with very small children and those with reduced mobility)
- 5 mile circular walk from the Three Horseshoes, Molehill Green
- 5 mile linear walk from the Three Horseshoes, Duton Hill, to Molehill Green.

All walks end at Molehill Green with a giant fête and BBQ from 12 noon.

The walks from Molehill Green will start with a photocall with Lord Hanningfield, Leader of Essex County Council and Shadow Transport Spokesman in the House of Lords.

The event takes place just two weeks before the consultation on BAA's second runway plans end (on 26 September), for which Uttlesford District Council needs your views by post or email to show the overwhelming concern about the proposals ahead of the public inquiry. Write to UDC (Planning), London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER, or email planning@uttlesford.gov.uk. SSE is asking that where possible participants make their efforts even more worthwhile by raising sponsorship to help contribute to the cost of independent expert reports and legal representation which the campaign group will need for the inquiry.

Further information and sponsorship forms are available from SSE on 01279 870558

ADVERTS REMOVED

Summer fun for kids – and it's FREE!

Summer holiday activities for kids are being provided in Little Hadham Village Hall playing field every Wednesday – and it's FREE! A whole host of outdoor activities are being offered including sports, arts and crafts by East Herts Play Rangers, a unique partnership between Child UK and East Herts Council.

'Out2Play' activities are aimed at children aged 8 to 11. Siblings aged 7-12 can join in too. The best bit is that the fun is absolutely FREE and parents and guardians can come along to watch or help out.

The lead Play Rangers have specialist training in play and all staff have qualifications from sports national governing bodies. All coaches are CRB checked and emergency aid certified. Kids just need to bring drinks, trainers, sports kit and waterproofs.

The activities, which started in Little Hadham on July 23, run **every Wednesday from 1pm to 2.55pm in the Little Hadham Village Hall playing field until August 20**. Look out for posters and leaflets advertising other local venues (some listed on next page). This is another great way in which our playing field (not just revamped but now being extended, see Parish Council News, page 8) is being used to create more activities for our youngsters.

Watch out for more activities to come - no excuses for being bored this summer!

ADVERTS REMOVED

Some other 'Out2Play' venues in the area are:

Puckeridge	Playing Fields, Station Road,	Tuesdays	4pm - 5.55pm
Much Hadham	Recreation Ground, Tower Hill,	Wednesdays	10am - 11.55am
Furneux Pelham	The Old Common, Barleycroft End,	Wednesdays	4pm - 5.55pm
Bishop's Stortford	Parsonage Lane Playing Fields,	Thursdays	1pm - 2.55pm
Bishop's Stortford	Thorley Park (Nr Sainsbury's)	Thursdays	4pm - 5.55pm



Are you up to the challenge?

**East Herts Citizens Advice Service needs more
volunteers to become advisers.**

Training is free and travel expenses are paid.

Located in Bishop's Stortford, Hertford, Buntingford & Ware
<http://www.ehcas.org.uk/>

To find out more about being a CAB adviser, visit
www.citizensadvice.org.uk/joinus
or call our Volunteer Hotline: 08451 264 264



ADVERTS REMOVED

Polyclinics 'no immediate threat' to GP services

A plan by the Government to introduce 'polyclinics' poses no immediate threat to GP services in Little Hadham.

Polyclinics – offering minor surgery as well as a range of other medical services – are being rolled-out over a ten-year period and, initially, will be situated in cities and big towns. Dr Colin Brookbanks, who heads up the Much Hadham health centre that serves Little Hadham, points out that polyclinics are an additional service funded out of extra funds, not from the existing GP budget.

"The intention is that polyclinics will open eight-until-eight, seven days a week as an additional service to the patient and not as an alternative to established GP practices, at least for the time being," says Dr Brookbanks. "The government has stated that it is not encouraging patients away from their GP practices, so there is no worry for the area served by the health centre based in Much Hadham."

Surgeries three times a week in Little Hadham will continue for the foreseeable future.

He adds that a potentially greater threat is a government White Paper on the provision of pharmacy services. "We don't know the outcome of the government's deliberations yet but if Much Hadham were to lose its dispensary, the practice would be in a weaker position financially, quite apart from the inconvenience to patients," he says.

The Parish News will bring you a further update when more details are known.

Legs eleven . . . and all that jazz!

Supple those fingers and listen well . . . for **Bingo!** returns to Little Hadham this autumn.

Those who enjoyed the prize-laden evening last year asked for a repeat - and so, eager to please, we're doing just that.

Please note the date, **Saturday October 4, at the village hall**. And, just as last year, you'll only have to part with £5.00 which entitles you to six games, each with three prizes on offer.

The prizes, many donated by local businesses, are superb and the whole evening is set to be a lot of fun.

The event is in a good cause - to help pay for the printing of the long-awaited Welcome Pack for new (and not so new) residents of our village. It will contain masses of information and will make the transition for newcomers a much happier one.

Tickets go on sale later this month, but we are hoping you'll note the date, **October 4**, in your diary now.

PS Any "unwanted presents" which you might have stashed away in some cupboard, would be very welcome. Contact Cherry (771283) who'll collect.

Little Hadham and Albury Social Club

At our July meeting we had a great time discussing future speakers and outings. It was good to get feedback in order to be able to make popular decisions for future events, plus it was good to socialise. The trip to the Woodman Inn at Nuthampstead, has been arranged for Friday, 22nd August. There will be a talk about the local airfield and memorials then lunch. We do need to have numbers for catering purposes. If you are interested, please contact 658585 for details.

Community to once again come to the fore in overturning second runway plans

In an unprecedented move, the Government has started the clock running for a Public Inquiry on BAA's plans for a second Stansted runway before the outcome is known of BAA's 2006 planning application for unlimited passenger throughput on the existing Stansted runway. Commenting on this controversial news, SSE Campaign Director Carol Barbone said: "It beggars belief that the Government has decided to move the process forward on BAA's second planning application before it has even decided BAA's first application – all the more so because BAA's application for a second runway assumes permission for its earlier application has been approved. The Government is now proceeding on the same basis." A key part of the SSE campaign is to encourage responses to the application to Uttlesford District Council and SSE has produced guidance on key points about the application and where to write, accessible at the Second Runway page at www.stopstanstedexpansion.com or from the Campaign Office on 01279 870558

SU DOKU no.23

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

RAMBLINGS

Only one solution, no need to guess

L	G			S	M			B	
R	B			N	I			S	
				G		R	I		
	L			R	B				
I	A						B	M	
				M	A		R		
	N	S		M					
A				S	I			M	G
M				A	B			N	R

F I R E W O R K S

A reminder to all those planning to let off fireworks to let the editor know in advance. This is so that those with nervous dogs can be warned in time to administer tranquillisers to save them from unnecessary distress.

ADVERTS REMOVED

Your advert here?

August diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

3 Sunday

Trinity 11 (Proper 13)

NO MATINS

11.15am

Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury

10 Sunday

Trinity 12 (Proper 14)

9.30am

Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

17 Sunday

Trinity 13 (Proper 15)

8.00am

Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Family Service in Little Hadham Village Hall

NO EVENSONG

24 Sunday

Trinity 14 (Proper 16) NO SERVICE AT ALBURY

6.00pm

Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

31 Sunday

Trinity 15 (Proper 17)

9.15am

Benefice Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

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

Little Hadham and Albury Garden Club

We all enjoyed a good evening out in June when we went to the warehouse of EW King & Co, Seed Merchants and had a tour round accompanied by a very informative talk by Mr Miller, a director of the company and their seed buyer. We all now know what we should be doing to get the best from our seeds. The outing was all the more enjoyable as our transport was a Double Decker old RT London Bus, driven by Geoff Williamson. I might add there was a race for the top seats at the front.



PLEASE COME AND ENTER THE LITTLE HADHAM AND ALBURY GARDEN CLUB SHOW.

Our Annual Show is on the 6th September in the Little Hadham Village Hall. All residents of Little Hadham and Albury are welcome to enter. We have many different classes covering produce, cooking, craft and children's classes. The schedule and entry forms are available from the Post Office or from Frank and Karin Green, Gouldburn Cottage, 771532.

All entry forms and fees must be delivered to Barbara at 'Fair Oaks', The Ford, Little Hadham 771987, by Tuesday 2nd September

Do enter even one class as it is good fun, and you never know, you could win.

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