

LITTLE
HADHAM
PARISH
NEWS
SEPTEMBER 2009

Come to the
VILLAGE PICNIC

Sponsored by
ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

For ALL in Little Hadham

at Ash Farm, Standon Road
(near the traffic lights)
in the barn if wet

Sunday 6th September
12 noon onwards

BBQ, ice cream, fresh fruit & soft drinks
will be provided

children's games, tennis & swimming

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs Stuart Lennox

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, Tony Skidmore 01279 771688

Log on to www.thehadhams.com for issues dating back to May 2006

Letter from the Rectory

Two lively boys, aged 2 and 5, running around the house, delightfully causing chaos and noisily disrupting my serene routine. Indeed I have had to lock myself in the study to write this letter. What a joy it is to have my life lit up by their life affirming energy! It makes even the tantrums and tears acceptable (mine and theirs). The house will be quieter, but I will miss my great nephews when they are gone: honestly I will!

In the short time the boys have been with me I have come to appreciate CBeebies not just as a way of keeping them quiet; but also for the excellence of the programming, the skill of the presentation and variety of subjects tackled. It makes one realize what can be done with the proper resources to entertain and inform. However, although neither parents nor churches can hope to match this excellence, what we can do is offer one vital thing... good, positive and loving relationships that can teach the children so much about being valued and growing in ability, confidence and faith.

2009 is the 30th anniversary of the United Nations' International Year of the Child.

We will be marking it in the Team by holding an evening to discuss the place of children in the life of the church (Monday September 21st 7.30pm at St Andrew's School Much Hadham). The meeting is not only for parents and teachers, but for all who care about children and their welfare. In this way we hope to improve our ministry to children and schools; to learn from them as much as they need to learn from us.

In a way every year is a year of the child, for children are a very precious gift from God.

As a church we want to review our work with children and young people; celebrate their contribution to the life of the Church and of wider society; and be challenged to fresh vision and expression, inspired by the spirit of the child.

Time I think to unlock the study door and enter their world again.

Chris Boulton

All Welcome!

Pep and myself are leaving for New Zealand at the end of September for six months. We would be delighted if any friends and patients would like to join us at home for a drink at Westfield Lodge, Westland Green on **Saturday September 5th**, any time after 12 midday. We look forward to seeing you.

Colin Brookbanks

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Ruth Hughes

a letter from Don Gibson

In your April 2007 issue you gave front page prominence to the life of Ruth Hughes who died on 2.3.07. Since then I have been trying to get her nephew (William) to arrange the interment of Ruth's ashes at St Cecilia's in a spot which she had chosen as far back as 2002. (In the interim period Ruth's ashes had been sitting in a casket at Daniel Robinsons - two and a half years!)

Today I achieved my objective. However, the twist to the tale is that Ruth had been closely guarding, at her home in Bury Green, the ashes of her mother, father and step-mother who she wanted interred with her when she died! The nephew, William, (to make this mystery even more mysterious there are three William Hughes' in this story!) further informed me that he wished his father's ashes to be interred with the other four. It gets curiouser and curiouser as Ruth's mum died in 1940: 69 years waiting to be buried!

The Interment service was performed by Revd Jeanette Gosney in the presence of Ruth's nephew, William, a niece who flew in from Egypt, five local friends and me. We carried the five caskets in a line from the church, down the path to the chosen burial spot under the old chestnut tree (if only there had been a camera) and they were laid-out ready for the nephew to formally lay the caskets in the ground.

This is a story so unusual it could even be worthy of wider publication, but I would like everyone to know that Ruth and her family have been finally laid to rest, so these are the details that we have of those interred today:

Interment of Ashes at St Cecilia's on 26th August 2009

Ruth Gretchen Hughes, 95 years d2.3.2007 Bushes Crofte, Bury Green, Little Hadham

Daisy Constance Hughes, 62 years d18.4.1940, Oak Ridge, Bury Green, Little Hadham, mother of Ruth.

William Hughes, 91 years d15.4.1971, Oak Ridge, Bury Green, Little Hadham, father of Ruth and husband of Daisy.

Florence Iris Hughes, ? years, d ?, 20a Windhill, Bishop's Stortford, 2nd wife of William (above) and step-mother of Ruth.

William Hughes, 92 years d24.7.2003, 250 Trinity Road London SW18 3RQ, brother of Ruth.

Rise and Shine?

a letter from Eric and Ennis Rogers

'We understand that a complaint has been made regarding a cockerel crowing and waking someone up at 4a.m. We believe the complaint was made by someone living in the Green Street/Cradle End area. We live in Cradle End and have recently heard a cockerel crowing, and it has been good to hear it.

If you wish to live out of town we believe you should accept the conditions that the countryside is famous for, ie., farm and wild animals, field and woodland. If you are not prepared to accept these conditions, perhaps you should move and live in a city and discover what noises wake you up at 4a.m. there!

Yours sincerely, Eric and Ennis Rogers

cc: Little Hadham Parish Council

SSE update

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has called on the Secretary of State for the Environment, Hilary Benn, to intervene in BAA's draft Noise Action Plan consultation to ensure that correct figures are published which show the true extent of the noise impacts from Stansted Airport.

This, say the group, is essential to allow public consultation to be conducted on the basis of accurate and consistent data before the deadline for responses of 2 October.

Analysis by SSE has revealed that BAA's consultation misrepresents and understates the number of people affected by overflying associated with the airport.

BAA's draft Noise Action Plan claims to provide the results of noise mapping carried out in 2006 but this is untrue. BAA has published lower figures for the numbers of people exposed to aircraft noise than the official figures published independently by the CAA, who carried out the 2006 noise mapping in accordance with the requirements of the EU Environmental Noise Directive (END).

BAA has provided noise data based on an entirely separate methodology, which does not comply with the END and could well result in the public being misled as to how much they are affected.

Reconciliation with the official CAA figures is impossible for four out of the five sets of figures given by BAA in the draft Noise Action Plan. In the one case where it is possible to reconcile the two different sets of figures, BAA's figures significantly understate the number of people affected compared to the independent CAA figures.

This inconsistency is not specific to Stansted Airport. There are similar inconsistencies in BAA's draft Noise Action Plans for Heathrow and Gatwick Airports, which also understate the number of people affected by aircraft noise, compared to the official CAA data.

Critically, BAA's error undermines the objective of the END which requires a common approach across EU Member States to measuring and then reducing the noise impacts of airports upon local communities.

Writing to Hilary Benn, the Government Minister responsible for implementing the END, SSE Chairman Peter Sanders said: "The misrepresentation and understatement of noise data in the Stansted draft Noise Action Plan is unacceptable and is another example of what can only be described as a casual approach towards implementation of the END by the Government and BAA alike."

SSE is nevertheless urging all members of the community affected by noise from overflying to respond to BAA's consultation and has issued step-by-step guidance with an overview and background briefing to assist those without specialist knowledge of the issues. As well as being concerned about BAA's misrepresentation of the data, SSE considers the draft Noise Action Plan to be mostly a wish list rather than representing a meaningful plan to reduce Stansted's noise impacts.

The SSE guidance is available online or on request from the SSE Campaign Office on 01279 870558.

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. Hotline number: 771113

Parish Council News

Business Plan:

The Parish Council will adopt a business plan at the September meeting to help it to become more proactive, provide a clearer direction and prepare the ground for the possibility that the government will give greater authority to local councils.

New development sites?

The result of East Hert Council's 'Call for Sites' will be discussed at the September meeting of the Parish Council. Fifty suggestions have been made for development sites in East Herts and these will be revealed at an EHC meeting on 27th August. The Parish Council will consider any that affect Little Hadham.

An invitation:

There is now an opportunity for residents to comment on agenda items or to ask questions about any local matter at the start of both the Parish Council and the Planning Committee. All residents are welcome to attend and take part.

The next meeting, the first after the August break, will be at 8pm on **Tuesday September 1** in the Village Hall.

Adverts removed

Fancy a lift?

Is there support for a car-share scheme?

Our Parish Plan questionnaire confirmed that there is very high car ownership in Little Hadham, but also that a lot of residents are dependent on buses. Some bus services are infrequent and their pick-up points and destinations don't suit everyone. This pattern occurs in other rural villages.

With this in mind, the Community Development Agency (CDA) for Herts is exploring the idea of a car-share scheme. This is one of the ideas that emerged from our Parish Plan discussion groups.

The service would be free, although some initial set-up costs would be incurred by local councils or organisations. One suggestion is that a website would be set up to enable people to link up with others going in the same direction to the shops, to hospital, to education facilities or to work.

The idea would save time and money, cut congestion and enable people to make new friends.

If you think this would be a good idea, let us know what sort of journeys you would envisage, whether you or a friend have access to the internet or how else you would like to access the scheme, and also whether you would be willing to take part as a driver. If this would be of interest, contact the Parish Clerk, Bev Evans 842803, or clerklittlehadham@homecall.co.uk.

We'll summarise the response in the next Parish News.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, July and August

by Jonathan Forgham

Never predict the weather! My statement regarding oak before the ash (in for a splash) does not appear to have convinced certain villagers as the recent rains do appear to have been on the heavy side. Maybe a warm and sunny autumn awaits!! However, I digress; as I managed to fit in many good, long rambles around the parish recording several new species as I did.

Bird wise, a trip east from Hadham Hall gave me my first parish views of both tufted duck and little egret, taking the bird total to 91 species since Jan 2008. The century approaches. Other good birds came in the shape of a common gull (2nd record only on the 27th and then again 7th), lesser whitethroats (7th), grey partridge with young (7th and 14th), little owl pair (10th), bullfinch (10th) and 3 juveniles (18th), migrating sand martins (10th and onwards) and 3 lesser black backed gulls heading south (18th).



Butterfly numbers are now beginning to dwindle from the June high, but still plenty to observe. A recently emerged male brimstone was recorded on the 9th along with further sightings of purple hairstreaks near Muggin's Wood. All other species were seen during the period (18th July – 18th August) with large numbers of newly emerged speckled woods being seen on the 18th August in Hoecroft Lane and many common blues east of Hadham Hall on the 10th. A female shown here. Confusingly, the female common blue is brown.

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Stop Stansted Expansion Forthcoming Events

Heritage Hike Sunday 20 September, BBQ from 1pm, 2pm photocall / walk starts. Molehill Green, nr Stansted Airport.

SSE's runway ramble this year takes the form of a Heritage Hike in association with the Society of the Protection of Ancient Buildings. The four-mile circular walk passes many of the 35 historic properties – including listed buildings, homes and countryside – threatened with damage, decay and demolition by BAA's second runway plans. There'll be a sizzling BBQ (1pm to 5pm) on Molehill Green by kind permission of Takeley Parish Council. The event is free but forms for sponsorship are available from the SSE Campaign Office on 01279 870558.

Race Night and Supper Saturday 3 October, 7.30pm for 8pm start Broxton Village Hall, Broxton, nr Dunmow. If you've never been to a Race Night before, try this one – it'll be great fun! Films are shown of horse races and you have the chance to bet on a Tote to win money.

There'll be eight races, with eight horses in each. Entry by advance ticket - £7.50 per head to include a buffet. You can also sponsor a race for £25 or 'buy' a horse for £3 (with prizes for winning owners), whether attending the event or not. Licensed bar. Contact Roger Clark on 01279 850638 or the SSE Campaign Office on 01279 870558.

Sunday Lunch with Terry Waite 29 November, 12.45pm for 1.30pm, Memorial Hall, Little Easton, nr Dunmow.

SSE Patron Terry Waite CBE will be the guest of honour at a special lunch to be held by the Little Easton SSE team this year. He'll be mingling with diners before the event and will give an after lunch address on his views about the proposed second runway and the impact on the community. Tickets £17.50 for a two-course roast lunch with coffee and mints. Licensed bar. Contact Shirley Holden on 01371 872361 or the SSE Campaign Office on 01279 870558.

Adverts removed

Dragonflies, although not common, are showing in better numbers than last year, with common darter, ruddy darter, brown hawkler and southern hawkler all being seen on several walks along with common, blue tailed and azure damselflies.



However, having stated in the last issues of PN that I had yet to witness a grass snake, I received a most welcome phone call on the 13th from Steve Mardell informing me as to where several could be seen. I headed off, arriving too late to witness one large female devour a young moorhen chick whole. The large swelling along the side of the snake was testimony to its recent meal. A few photos were taken, one shown here, whilst others can be viewed at littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com. Thank you to Steve for the call and also to other villagers who have contacted me with news.

Angela informed me of southern hawkler dragonflies laying eggs in moss adjacent to her pond whilst Jan needed confirmation of evidence of nocturnal activity within her garden. Conclusion, although not definite, was an evening visitation from an incontinent badger!

As autumn continues to creep in, I thought it maybe time for a midday ramble from The Ford, via footpaths round Westland Green and Broken Green, returning after a break at The Star in Standon. If anyone would care to join in, please let me know on 0780 5571551. More the merrier. A round trip of about 6 leisurely miles, I have planned this walk for a 10.30 start from the village hall on **Sunday 20th September**. I shall look forward to some good company and hopefully some interesting observations en route. That is if the weather remains fine, Bill!

Adverts removed

music@stansted

Our new season will be starting in October and now is the time, if you are an existing member and have not already done so, to renew your subscription. If you are new to the village and might like to consider becoming a member, then perhaps a preview of the concerts we have for this season may tempt you.

Saturday, October 10th at 7.30pm sees the former Royal Harpist, Catrin Finch, make a return visit.

Sunday, 13th December at 3.00pm the Cambridge Choral will be performing a pre-Christmas Concert.

Sunday, 17th January at 3.00pm, guitarist Andrew Booth will be playing for us.

Our final concert will be on **Saturday, 6th March** when the well known Coull String Quartet will be entertaining us.

All the concerts take place in St John's Church, Stansted.

Membership costs £32, (Concessions £30), for the season, while tickets for individual concerts are £12 each. Accompanied children are most welcome and for them the cost is £1 on each occasion. If you would like to join, or renew your membership, please send a cheque for the appropriate amount, payable to "music at stansted" with your name(s) and address to The Membership Secretary at 105 Cambridge Road, Stansted, CM24 8BY.

For more information about music@stansted visit our website – www.musicatstansted.com

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Little Hadham & Albury Social Club.

We had a delightful and informative talk from Lynne Garner of the Hertshogline Charity, at our August meeting. Lynne had brought a 5 week old orphaned hog with her, who was so cute, and one young lady was able to cuddle it during the talk. The babies are often brought into Lynne's care when only a few days old and weighing about 2 ozs. She will take 24 hour care of them until they are about 6 weeks old and then fostered until they are old enough to be returned to the wild, or until the weather conditions are appropriate for a hedgehog to be out and about. Whilst in the charity's care they are fed, cleaned and given basic medication (de-wormed, de-ticked and de-flea-ed). If an injured hog is taken to them requiring veterinary attention this is done. Hedgehogs are often injured by garden machinery, so please be vigilant when strimming, mowing etc., and if you have prepared a bonfire a few days before lighting it, please make sure that you push a long stick into the bottom, so that, if a hog has made a home there, it has time to run away before being baked! If you are lucky enough to have hedgehogs in your garden, please don't feed them cows' milk, as this upsets their tummies. Goats milk is ok, plus cat or dog food. If you would like to support this very worthwhile charity, contact help@hertshogline.com; they have no private funding and would be most grateful for any help given to them. Lynne has also written a delightful children's book, 'A Book for Bramble', illustrated most beautifully by Gaby Hansen. It is a tale of separation and friendship, written to delight young and old – ISBN 978-1-85340-849-6, priced £5.99.

On 8th September, at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall, Pam Farley, from The Woodland Trust, will give a talk entitled 'Woodland Alive'. Everyone is welcome – come along with a friend, and/or make new friends during the evening. Only £1.50 admission, including refreshments, plus a raffle and second hand book sales. Tel 771580 or 658585 for information.

Adverts removed

What's on in September...

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

1 Tues, **Parish Council meeting**, 8pm

3, 17 Thurs, **Mobile Library** (see back page)

5 Sat, **Garden Club Autumn Show**, 2.30pm
Refreshments available.

5 Sat, **The Flowering of Music**, Vox Coelestis Charity Concert at St Nicholas's Church Gt Munden, in aid of the Herts Gardens Trust. £20 from Mrs Saner, 01442 843428 or johnsaner@btinternet.com

5 Sat, **Farewell** to Colin Brookbanks (see p2)

6 Sun, **The Village Picnic**, from 12 noon at Ash Farm, courtesy of Brenda and Stuart Lennox. (Details on front cover)

8 Tue, **LH & A Social Club** 8pm. Pam Farley, from The Woodland Trust, will give a talk entitled 'Woodland Alive'. Everyone is welcome. Come along with a friend, and/or make new friends during the evening. Only £1.50 admission, including refreshments, plus a raffle and second-hand book sales. 771580 or 658585 for information.

9 Wed, **Welcome Workshop & AGM**, The Young Ones' new season begins at 6.30pm

12 Sat, **Jumble Sale**, Thundridge, for Isabel Hospice. 2.30-4.30, 20p. 01920 462992.

13 Sun, **Plant Fair**, Alswick Hall Buntingford 2-5pm £3, proceeds to Red Cross. Tudor House, 5 acres of landscaped gardens set in unspoiled farmland. Two well-established natural ponds with rockeries.

17 Thurs, **"Way Inn" coffee morning**. Come and meet friends over a cup of coffee.

20 Sun, **Nature Ramble** with Jonathan Forgham. 10.30 at Village Hall. Six leisurely miles to The Star at Standon. Contact jforgham@hotmail.com or text/phone 07805571551

20 Sun, **Open Garden**, Moor Place, Much Hadham, 2-5pm. This open garden complete

with teas and a plant stall is to be held in aid of Isabel Hospice. Come and enjoy a lovely afternoon visiting these beautiful C18 walled gardens, herbaceous borders, large area of shrubbery, lawns, hedges and trees. 2 ponds, approx. 10 acres. All welcome. Admission £3, children free. Directions 5m W of Bishop's Stortford. Entrance either at war memorial or at Hadham Cross. For further details please contact Renee Friend on 01279 755320 or email renee_friend@msn.com

20 Sun, **Chain Walk** Seventeen fantastic sponsored walks throughout beautiful Eastern Hertfordshire. Each walk is circular, with a break for lunch at a picturesque country pub in the heart of the countryside. This is a fantastic day out, so why not bring the family and raise funds for Isabel Hospice. Contact Maria Alexander in Fundraising for details on 01707 382500 maria.alexander@isabelhospice.org.uk or log on to our website for walk details www.isabelhospice.org.uk

24 Thur **Wine Tasting** 6-8.30pm in aid of Isabel Hospice at The Mixed Case, Little Hadham, Herts. Tickets cost £8 to taste 8 different wines with nibbles and are available from Renee Friend Tel. 01279 755320

25 Fri **World's Biggest Coffee Morning** 10-2 in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Coffee & home-made cake, plus a chance to start your Christmas shopping. For further information contact Helen Walker 01279 771509

25,26 **'After the Dance'**, from Buntingford Dramatic Society. Like our previous dinner theatre productions, seating is at tables of 6 and tickets at £10 include a light deli supper with licensed bar and waitress service. Details on page 17.

26 Sat, **Farmers' Market**, 8.30 - 11.30am.

26 Sat, **Evening of Entertainment**, 7.45pm.

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Jonathan Martin from Bury Green (Digital Piano) in aid of the Tall Ships Trust. Tickets £15, concessions £3, 10% discount off pre-booked meal at Nag's Head from 6pm on production of concert ticket. 0797 6855101

26 Sat, Candle-lit Concert, St Nicholas' Church Gt Munden. Cello and Piano, Jamie Walton & Daniel Grimwood. Fauré, Rachmaninov, Greig. Tickets £20 from 01992 584322

... and later

3 Oct, **Three 2-actor scenes** by Wren Theatre Productions at St Nicholas's Church Great Munden, in aid of the Courtyard Arts Centre, Hertford. Harold Pinter, Fay Weldon, Alun Owen. Tickets £20 from anniefriedlein@hotmail.com.

10 Oct **Harvest Supper** £7.50. Tickets from Frank Green on 771532, book your seat early, as tickets will be limited!

20 Oct, **LH & A Garden Club**

29 Oct **Christmas Fair**, Fanhams Hall Hotel, SG12 7PZ in aid of the Red Cross.

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

The Young Ones new season

Welcome Workshop and AGM

September 9th, 6.30pm

If you're aged 10 - 16 years and interested in Drama please come along and join us (with your parents)

Garden Club – it's Show Time !!!

It isn't too late to get your entry in for the show; they have to be with Barbara Taylor (Fair Oaks, The Ford, Little Hadham) by the end of Tuesday 1st September. Go on, give it a go. Even if you haven't entered it would be lovely to see you on the 5th September at 2.30pm in the Village Hall when the show is open to the public and refreshments available.

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 20th October** with Tim Cole talking about Fruit Growing.

September Tips

Flower Borders

Divide herbaceous perennials

Collect ripe seed, dry and store in a cool airy place

Sow hardy annuals

Plant out spring flowering biennials so they establish before winter

Veg Patch

Train summer-fruiting raspberries

Feed veg crops such as leeks and celeriac with liquid feed to boost growth before winter

Harvest pumpkins

Dig up maincrop potatoes and store in a thick sack to prevent light getting to them.

Digging for Victory?

by Jan's friend Sula Gibbard

It can't have escaped people's attention that money has become hard to get, especially if one has relied on interest from savings, and it seems it will get worse before getting better particularly if the government example of borrowing to spend is followed. There have been some surprising effects. My local butcher has reported a large rise in the number of customers who previously shopped in the supermarket. They have expressed surprise that much of the meat is cheaper and found it better to be able to get precisely what one wants, such as a single sausage, thereby reducing waste. Waste is also reduced if one uses the entire animal. Some of the TV chefs have been doing a great job in promoting use of local produce and some of the cheaper cuts such as belly pork and breast of lamb. They have shown that there is more to eat than chops, steak and roast joints. The contention that cheap cuts need so much cooking that they are not "green" need not be true since slow cookers use very little power. If the oven is on then "batch cooking", making sure the oven is full, reduces the cost dramatically.

The time may have come for younger people to evaluate what people did in the war. Waste was a crime. Using food in season, storing food that was plentiful at times for use later and growing your own fruit and vegetables are things that seem to have been forgotten. The ability to have food of all sorts out of season divorces people from the ideas of seedtime and harvest, let alone plenty and want. As Tony Blair famously said, when asked what would happen if foot and mouth stopped local meat production, "It can be flown in within 24 hours".

Waste of food is still a crime; animals have been killed and people have worked hard to provide

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Is Fostering for You?

Could you foster for Hertfordshire?

If you're enthusiastic about working with children and young people, have a spare room and want to work from home, why not think about becoming a foster carer for Hertfordshire?

Every day foster carers are helping children and young people turn their lives around. Sometimes it's the ordinary things like being a good listener or being there to give a reassuring hug that can make all the difference.

Why do we need foster carers in Hertfordshire?

Foster carers are very important as they offer stability, support, care and encouragement at a crucial time in a child or young person's life. By doing ordinary everyday things for them, foster carers make an extraordinary difference and help to create positive futures.

In return you'll receive full training and support, plus a fee and allowance of up to £392 per

child per week.

Shared care

Hertfordshire County Council also provides a shared care service for children and young people with disabilities. Shared carers are people from all walks of life who look after a child or young person with disabilities for short breaks on a regular basis. Visits can be anything from a few hours a week after school, to a day at the weekends or in the school holidays, to even a regular weekend stay, depending upon the needs of the child. They can look after them in their own home, the child's home, or take them out and about. It allows children to become more independent, visit new places and meet new friends, while their parents get a break from full time caring.

If you would like to find out more about fostering or shared care in Hertfordshire, please call us on freephone 0800 917 0925 or visit www.hertsdirect.org/fostering

Adverts removed

Digging for Victory? *continued from page 14*

us with food. At the very least vegetable material can be composted. Unless a pet dog or cat has become a supermarket junkie they will relish the chewy bits that are left on the dish.

Using food in season can still provide variety and choice, and frequently be cheaper. Storing food from times of glut needs forethought, some space and some time. Just putting it in the freezer is not the only answer. Some vegetables freeze well and "batch cooked" meat dishes make quick and easy meals with a microwave. Apples and pears that one can be given by neighbours in times of plenty store well in a cool, dark, dry place. I use a stack of plastic mushroom boxes with a paper liner and cardboard separators: put in the garage they work well. They need checking weekly despite only using the best fruit. Any non-perfect fruit can be bottled or frozen; apples become apple sauce and pears bottle very well. The microwave makes bottling easier and safer. Soft fruit can store as frozen, bottled or as jam (you don't need to be a member of the WI to make it). Pickling can be used for meat, eggs, vegetables or fruit.

Growing your own in a flat with just a window box is restricting but even small areas can provide quite a crop. There is great satisfaction in being able to use fresh herbs or lettuce such as the Cut & Come Again variety. On the roof of our narrow boat we have three 18" long tubs that provide all the herbs and lettuce we need. Tomatoes can be grown in hanging baskets or a growbag. Some vegetables look very good when grown among flowers and some flowers can

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After the Dance
by Terence Rattigan

Presented by
The Buntingford Dramatic Society
by arrangement with Nick Herr Books
The Benson Hall, Buntingford

Friday 25th, Saturday 26th September
Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd October
Curtain up 7:30pm

Tickets £10
Including light supper
Box Office
Bell House Gallery
High Street
Buntingford
More information
01763 272123

www.buntingforddrama.org

Rain or shine, we've got it covered!

If you look out your window right now, it's probably raining. If not, it's probably very sunny. Or maybe it's a bit unpredictable. Whatever the weather, if you are planning a party, a barbecue, a wedding reception, a 21st birthday party or any other celebration, why not stay dry (or cool) by hiring the village marquees?

Each one measures 10ft square, or the two can be linked up to make a massive 10ft x 20ft entertaining area. Being the pop-up variety, they are easy to put up, can be used with or without sides (one has a window), and come with a tie-down kit if it's windy.

Hire them for £40 each, or two for £70 for up to three days. These very competitive rates come courtesy of the Parish Plan. Why not join the band of satisfied customers? Contact Mike Fairchild, 771302.

Adverts removed

The Very Best Porcini Mushroom Soup

A perfect "dinner party soup" which freezes beautifully – serves 6 - 8

20g Dried Porcini Mushrooms	75ml white wine
150ml Boiling Water	1.8 litres (3 pints) chicken stock
50g Butter	2 tbsp dark soy sauce
2 Large Spanish Onions, Finely Chopped	1 tsp lemon juice
2 Large Cloves Garlic, Crushed	3 tbsp double cream
750g open mushrooms, roughly sliced, big mushrooms have more flavour	Chopped parsley
75g flour	Salt & Pepper
	3tbsps sherry (optional)

Yes I know it's a lot of ingredients, but it will be well worth the effort.

Soak the dried mushrooms for 30 mins in the boiling water.

Melt the butter in a deep saucepan and fry the onion without colouring. Cover and simmer until they are well cooked through.

Add mushrooms and garlic and continue to fry for a further 2-3 mins.

Measure flour, wine and a small amount of stock into a small bowl and whisk until smooth.

Remove the pan with mushrooms from the heat and stir in the flour mixture, blending until smooth.

Bring to the boil for a couple of mins until thickened and add the porcini mushrooms.

Season and add soy sauce and lemon juice. Cover and simmer for 15-20 mins.

Allow to cool slightly and transfer to a food processor and blend until smooth.

Check seasoning and stir in cream and sherry (if using). Garnish with chopped parsley.

Adverts removed

Cricket Club News

Over the last four weeks Little Hadham Cricket Club has managed to get four Sunday matches played, despite the typical unsettled weather of July and early August. The first game saw the club travel to Church Langley to play Potter Street. Batting first Hadham amassed 163 for the loss of 6 wickets, with Frank Jaynes (43 not out) and Paul Mason-Smith (40) being the top scorers. In reply wickets fell steadily but in the end Potter Street reached their target for the loss of just 4 wickets. Ron Bunce (making a welcome return) taking 3 for 30 with his off spinners and Frank Jaynes taking 3 for 34 with his leg spin took all the Potter Street wickets to fall.

The following Sunday saw the annual local derby between Little Hadham and Albury for the Ron Oxborrow memorial trophy. Albury batted first and scored 218 for 5 from their 40 overs. Keith Wheatley scored 46 before being bowled by Terry Booth. Other useful contributions came from David Wheatley (37) and Keith's son Josh who scored 33 not out. The pick of the Hadham bowlers were Paul Mason-Smith who took 2 for 29 from 8 overs and Terry Booth 2 for 33 from his 7. In reply Hadham started well scoring 38 from just 6 overs before Alan South was out for 15. Hadham slipped to 54 for 3 before a partnership of 60 between Paul Mason-Smith (72) and Neil Oxborrow (30) left Hadham requiring 6 an over off 17 overs. In the ensuing chase for runs both players were run out and due to some good Albury bowling and fielding Hadham eventually finished on 182 for 7, (Tim Bones scoring 21 not out) thus ensuring Albury won the trophy for the third year in succession.

The following weekend saw the club take part in a charity cricket tournament at Rickling Green in honour of Chris Woodhead (of Manuden Cricket club) who died earlier this year from bowel cancer. Three teams (Little Hadham, Albury and Manuden) played each other on a 'round robin' basis of 15 overs per side, with all money raised going to the charity 'beating bowel cancer'. The first match between Manuden and Albury was won by Albury before Manuden then beat Little Hadham. It required Little Hadham to beat Albury to force a 'bowl off' between all three teams, however chasing 94 Hadham fell just short and so Albury were the first winners of the trophy.

The first Sunday in August saw a visit from local neighbours Furneux Pelham. Batting first Pelham scored 236 for 6 with Frank Jaynes the leading wicket taker with 3 for 60. Hadham started well with Paul Mason-Smith scoring 72 and were in with a chance until the last 4 overs, when a combination of requiring more than 15 an over with only 3 wickets remaining meant the match ended in a draw.

The club is always looking to attract new members, so if you are interested in playing cricket and therefore help support your village side, then please contact us on the numbers below. We currently have a membership with an age range of 10 to 70, so you are never too young or old to play. Please contact either Martin Hallmark 01279 771033 or Neil Oxborrow 01279 506062 or come up and see us play on a home match day.

September Fixtures

Sun 6th	Reed	Away	13.00	Sun20th	Barley	Home	13.00
Sat 12th	Chrishall	Away	13.00	Sat 26th	Hockerill	Away	13.00
Sun 13th	NorthWeald	Home	13.00	Sun 27th	Nazeing Common	Home	13.00

Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

We had a call from the "fraud squad" of our bank this week. Beloved's debit card had been cloned and someone was buying up things on the internet with great speed and greed.

That's the second time in about six months this has happened. Last time it was my credit card and the whole thing, though disheartening and distressing, was dealt with quickly and efficiently. Not so this time. Following the call, he was told to contact the bank and check his statement. We did the following morning, and saw that a cool £2,300 had been withdrawn in a few minutes the day previous to the fraud squad's call.

"You're lucky," said our cheerful bank clerk, "We had a lady in earlier this week who had her card cloned and had £11,000 taken from her account. It was only when the funds ran dry that she realised something had happened." He then spent nearly an hour trying to contact the relevant department to make further enquiries. It was engaged and stayed that way the entire time. "Call tomorrow" he said. "On Sundays you'll have no trouble getting through." He was wrong. After nearly 30 minutes on an 0870 number, we had achieved nothing. So we rang and pressed a more urgent extension for those wanting to report a stolen card. We were answered immediately. Despite the fact that four purchases had been made inside a three-minute time scale, each for £500-plus, nothing could be done until the trader had received the money – although it had already been taken from Beloved's account. When this had happened, we were told, we would get forms to fill in to reclaim it. .

The moral of this story appears to be to keep little in your current account and put the rest (if there is any) in a different one.

What a sad state this country is in!

Digging for Victory? continued from page 16

help reduce the problem of pests. Even a small vegetable patch increases the options and a greenhouse enlarges the scope further. Whatever the scale of operations care must be taken of the growing medium, taking us back to the composting mentioned above. Composting is a type of recycling and many are the ways of using recycled materials in a garden – tyres can make good potato or root vegetable tubs, wood seldom needs to be new and plastic bottles can make individual greenhouses for young plants. Not everyone can, or would want to, keep hens but they make good pest controllers, recycle vegetable waste and manure the soil at the same time. One of our sons rents out his chickens to other allotment holders who move them about their holdings. A hen house can be a very simple affair, made with second hand timber.

continued on page 22

Adverts removed



**BEATING
THE
RECESSION**

Beat the 'credit crunch' with local help and advice

Worried about money, debt, housing, employment or benefits?

Get free, impartial and confidential advice from Citizens Advice Bureau

HertfordWare

Yeoman's Court (opposite Tesco) Ware Road,
Hertford, Herts, SG13 7HU

Bishop's Stortford

74 South Street,
Bishop's Stortford,
Herts, CM23 3AZ



For affordable loans, a safe place for your money and investment in your local community.

Hertsavers Credit Union Ltd
Tel: 01707 268239
Email: info@hertsavers.co.uk
Web: www.hertsavers.co.uk

Buntingford Outreach

The Manor House, 21 High St, Buntingford,
Herts, SG9 9AB

Sawbridgeworth Library Outreach

The Forebury, Sawbridgeworth,
Herts, CM21 9BD

Call 08448 489 700 or visit www.ehcas.org.uk

www.adviceguide.org.uk

For advice on claiming benefits

East Herts Council Offices

Wallfields, Pegs Lane,
Hertford, Herts, SG13 8EQ

The Causeway,
Bishop's Stortford
Herts, CM23 2EN



Tuesday 8.30am - 4pm (not 12.30 to 1pm)
Wednesday 8.30am - 12.30pm

Monday to Friday 8.30 to 5pm

Free Phone: 0800 373 852
Tel: 01279 655261

Email: benefits@eastherts.gov.uk
Web: www.eastherts.gov.uk

Health Advice



If you're feeling low, anxious or stressed out by the effects of the 'credit crunch', call

NHS Direct Tel: 0845 4647
Web: www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk
Or contact your GP

Worried about losing your home?

Contact the Housing Options Team at Wallfields

Email: housingoptions@eastherts.gov.uk

For information on benefits and debt:

Herts County Councils Money Advice Unit

www.hertsdirect.org.uk/benefits



Employment and training



Engaging with the voluntary sector

CVS for Broxbourne and East Herts

Tel: 01920 487888
Email: enquiries@cvsbeh.org.uk Web: www.cvsbeh.org.uk



For advice about self employment or business

Business Link

4 Bishops Square Business Park
Hatfield
Herts AL10 9NE
Tel: 08457 17 16 15
or visit www.businesslink.org.uk/east



For voluntary work contact

Volunteer Centre Broxbourne and East Herts

Tel: 01992 638633
Email: admin@vcbroxbourne.org.uk Web: www.do-it.org

V-involved (16-21 year olds)

Tel: 01992 627990
Email: rosemarywillis@watfordymca.com

Hertford Jobcentre Plus

12-14 Parliament Square
Hertford, Herts, SG14 1EF



Tel: 0845 6060234 for help in finding work
Tel: 0800 0556888 for advice on claiming benefits
Web: www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

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Are you either at risk of redundancy or currently out of work and looking for a job? We offer career information and advice, re-training opportunities and help with building skills to return to work. For more information contact Hertford Regional College (HRC) at:



Broxbourne Centre
Turnford, Broxbourne,
Herts, EN10 6AE

Tel: 01992 411411
Email: info@hrc.ac.uk

Ware Centre
Scott's Road, Ware,
Herts, SG12 9J

Web: www.hrc.ac.uk

Digging for Victory? *continued from page 20*

It doesn't need to be a Cluckingham Palace. My four hens eat a £4.75, 20Kg bag of mixed corn in six weeks, laying over ten months a year 2 to 4 eggs a day making them very cheap fantastic eggs.

To save money, try buying the ingredients unprepared; beans and pulses may need soaking for a few hours but that costs nothing. The other day some friends were bemoaning the fact that the supermarket had run out of Crumble Mix and they didn't know how to make a crumble topping. Are we just looking for convenience or have we been brainwashed by the retailers to expect everything to be made for us?

I almost hate to mention it, but there is a lot of wild food to be had for the gathering. If you can't identify the available plants get a book such as "Food For Free" or go with a friend who has not died from poisoning themselves. Dandelion leaves, sorrel, wild garlic, borage and wild watercress (washed carefully) in salads. Nettle tops as a vegetable and mushrooms (carefully identified), nuts and all sorts of fruit make good eating or can be preserved.

Lastly, but not least, Booze: isn't it a shame that distilling gin is illegal?

Making wine is not, so sweet or dry, red or white is all within the amateur's compass. It may not be Chateau Neuf du Pap or Mouton Cadet Rothschild, but can be quaffable and much cheaper.

[This article shamelessly lifted from the Rare Breeds Survival Trust's Somerset branch magazine]

Adverts removed

Burglaries

Bury Green Millfield Lane area, has been subject to a few burglaries of outbuildings in the last week, 3-10 August. Access has been via fields and wire cutters used to open up fences to reach the targeted places.

Please be vigilant and note car numbers,

It is thought 2 cars were involved in our break-in. One parked near Bury Green Farm with a man inside, as lookout, the other vehicle parked in the lane itself near Chasedene (building site). The men climbed the ditch, cut the fences and walked through the fields to where they wanted to go. With the use of a mobile phone, the lookout chap was able to alert thieves of residents' return.

We as residents lose out twice, once our belongings being taken and twice higher insurance premiums .
Name withheld for safety

Sponsored Bike Ride: Historic Churches Trust 12th Sept 09

Our intrepid bikers usually get round some 30 churches in our area from Albury to the Pelhams, Bishop's Stortford and Standon. What we need are sponsors!! Donation or so much per church visited.

This year's riders are Peter English, Steve Hargrave, Robin, Tony Skidmore and Dimitri Smit. If you want info on how to support, contact the riders or Tony Skidmore, 01279 771688.

Ageing Well in Hertfordshire

Ageing Well in Hertfordshire is a booklet aimed at encouraging anyone of 50+ to make the most of life as they get older. Packed full of information, helpful advice and where to find support, it includes all kinds of issues from keeping fit to preventing accidents; staying financially secure to moving into a care home. You can order a free copy from ACS Communications, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford, SG1 3 8DP or online at www.hertsdirect.org/acs and use the Adult Care Services publications link on the right of the page.

Adverts removed

September diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

6 Sunday *Trinity 13* *Proper 18* *Feast of St Mary*

9.30am *Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*
12 noon *Village Picnic, Ash Farm, Little Hadham*

12 Saturday *Historic Churches Sponsored Bike Ride*

13 Sunday *Trinity 14* *Proper 19* *also Battle of Britain Sunday*

9.30am *Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*
5.00pm *Taizé Service at St Andrew's, Much Hadham*

19 Saturday

2.30pm *In St Alban's Abbey. Enthronement of the new Bishop of St Albans, Alan Smith*
In a YouTube video the new bishop speaks of his passions and experiences.

20 Sunday *Trinity 15* *Proper 20*

8.00am *Holy Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*
9.30am *Family Service at Little Hadham Village Hall*
6.00pm *Evensong at St Mary's, Albury*

21 Monday

7.30pm *Meeting about children's work at St Andrew's, Much Hadham School*

27 Sunday *Trinity 16* *Proper 21*

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

Christmas Greetings!

Why spend all that money on cards and postage, when you could support your Parish News and save the world at the same time? Donate a fiver and have your Christmas message to your local friends posted on a special page in the Christmas edition of the Parish News.

Email the editor with your message and give your postman a break.

htfp@clocktower.co.uk

Cheques to Little Hadham PCC

Many thanks to those who supported the Charity Golf Day in aid of Muscular Dystrophy. A fantastic total of £1961.00 was raised and a great day was had by all. See you all next year.

A Swann

3rd & 17th September

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.

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