

# Little Hadham Parish News

June 2011

Little Hadham Parish Plan Group Proudly Announces  
**Little Hadham Great Fun Run/Fun Day**  
Sunday June 12th - Village Hall

All we need now is YOU!

Join in - RUN, WALK, CHEER US ON - no holds barred!  
Mum, dads, kids, family & friends - everyone is very welcome  
Take your pick 10k or 5k route!

**After the run, join in the fun!**

Lots of activities & fun for the young & the young at heart!  
**BBQ, BEER TENT, LIVE MUSIC, BOUNCY CASTLE, KIDS'  
CRICKET, KARATE SHOW, PLANT STALL & BOOK STALL**

(In village hall if weather inclement)

Donation to go to CRY in memory of Caroline Johnson  
**CAZFEST STALL & RAFFLE**

**SEE YOU THERE SUNDAY JUNE 12TH**  
**REGISTRATION FROM 9.30am to 10.45am for 11am START**  
Fingers crossed for wall to wall sunshine  
Together we are a great community!

Rector of Parish: Revd. Chris Boulton  
01279 842609

e-mail: [rectory@muchhadham.com](mailto:rectory@muchhadham.com)

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter  
01279 844955

e-mail: [cp.slaughter@virgin.net](mailto:cp.slaughter@virgin.net)

Churchwarden: Tony Skidmore 01279 771688

Log on to [www.thehadhams.com](http://www.thehadhams.com) for issues dating back to May 2006

# Letter from the Rectory

Chris Boulton

*"Revenge, at first though sweet, bitter ere long back on itself recoils."* (Satan in John Milton's Paradise Lost.)

*I first read these words when I was in the sixth form. They seemed to stick in my mind. Perhaps my juvenile self was harbouring some deep-seated resentment at the time.*

*This quotation came back to me as I heard recently the horrific news of the suicide revenge killings in Pakistan. This is the kind of "revenge" that the Pakistani Taliban and their allies are capable of taking to avenge Osama bin Laden's assassination in Abbottabad. The death toll in the Shabqadar bombings rose as the injured men succumbed to their injuries and at the last count it was 98. It is of course totally without moral basis or mercy.*

*At the same time I heard an interview with some relatives of the victims of the twin towers bombing, who also spoke of vengeance, and the assassination as revenge for the deaths of their loved ones. The husband of one victim said that now he could rejoice because bin Laden was in hell, suffering the punishment he deserves eternally. I suppose they have reason to feel deep anger and hurt, but it was a remark that made me shudder as a Christian.*

*President Obama, more carefully, described the killing as an act of justice.*

*"Revenge is a kind of wild justice, which the more man's nature runs to, the more ought law to weed it out," wrote Francis Bacon. Indeed it is only Law, applied impartially, effectively and judiciously, that can oppose the forces of vengeful anarchy.*

*Any society or individual focused on revenge is deeply unhealthy. I suppose we need do no more than read Shakespeare's Hamlet to see the sad consequences of unbridled revenge. The wounds stay open and unhealed. I believe Milton also said: "He that studieth revenge keepeth his own wounds green, which otherwise would heal and do well."*

*Though often Christians can be capable of great vengeance, it is certain that they do not learn that from Jesus's own teaching; who though reviled, refused to return evil for evil, and when he suffered, did not threaten (1 Peter 2.23). By his wounds we are healed.*

*Perhaps I can end with yet another quotation. This time from Martin Luther King, who said quite simply,*

*"Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love."*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

*Some of you may be aware that we have appointed the Reverend Stephen Fielding as the new Team Vicar in the Ash and Quin Valleys' Team. Stephen was ordained in 2005 after a career as a Barrister and Business Manager. His wife is Angela and they have four grown-up children. Lately he has worked as a practising commercial mediator and served as part-time curate in the Welwyn Team. He writes:*

*"For most of our married life we lived in Harpenden, with a very happy spell in the Peak District in the mid 80's.*

*I love cricket, playing the piano and the organ, and languages. My childhood was spent in Potters Bar. I went to school in London and read law at Oxford, with a gap year in France and Italy." Stephen will be licensed at a service in St Mary's Braughing on Thursday September 1st at 7.30pm. Members from all the Team churches are welcome to attend. Chris Boulton*

## Parish Council News

### **New members to be co-opted onto LHPC**

At the May meeting Little Hadham Parish Council said "Thankyou and farewell" to Andy Morris, John Purvis and Robin Gregory. We are now advertising around the parish for three new members to be co-opted onto LHPC. All new applicants who come forward will, all being well, be interviewed, co-opted and ready to take on tasks as from the next meeting on Tuesday 7th June.

### **Temporary Chairmanship**

Carmela Piccolo has been elected to act as temporary Chairman so as to ensure the smooth running of the Parish Council until such time as she and others are nominated; subsequently one of the nominees will be elected for the permanent position of Chairman. These are exciting times for LHPC – watch this space and learn which Councillor is your representative. Remember, your representative can bring your concerns to the table at meetings. The Parish Council will soon be putting together a list of Councillors, their allotted hamlets and tasks they are likely to be taking on. Keep us busy; that's what we're here for!

### **East Herts Councillor Funding**

You will all be aware that Councillor Tindale is our District Councillor; through him we potentially have access to funding for village projects. A few suggestions thrown into the hat at May's meeting were: new signs for the hamlet of Westland Green, flashing speed restriction sign outside Little Hadham Primary School and the re-establishment of The Young Ones. Councillors have been asked to bring

proposals and costings to the table at the next meeting so that they can be discussed and voted upon. More news on this matter to follow.

### **Playground Apparatus**

The Parish Council has agreed to a quotation to carry out routine maintenance work to playground apparatus at the Village Hall playground. The work will be carried out later in the year.

### **Pot Holes**

Folks, keep reporting road repairs to Herts Highways – via the website is the best way: [www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults](http://www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults).

### **Bus Shelter Repairs**

Quotations are now being sought by the Parish Council, so hopefully this summer the three bus shelters around the parish will be refurbished, making them a more comfortable place to wait for those who use the local buses.

### **Little Hadham Parish Plan Group**

Not long to go now until the big day **Fun Run/Fun Day Sunday 12th June**. Please support LHPPG and take part in whichever way you can and remember above all HAVE FUN!

### **New Councillors at June's Meeting**

June's meeting is a very important one because we shall hopefully have all seven Councillors (new and existing) present. Do please try to come and get to know us all - it would be great to see lots of parishioners turn up - **TUESDAY 7th June 8pm Village Hall**. As always we extend our thanks to the parishioners who attended May's meeting.

## **Little Hadham & Albury Social Club**

*We spent a lovely evening with David Wass, a retired policeman and security guard, who told us of the many ways theft is organised. He reminded the ladies of how, when shopping, we will often take a seat, safely put our bags next to us, but then get up and walk to look in the mirror at our new shoes – yes, we all do it!*

*The Bishop's Stortford walk with Jonathan is on Tuesday 7th June, £5 per person. Please phone Ennis on 658585 if you are interested.*

*The Social Club will be holding a book stall at the Fun Run Fete on 12th June, do come and browse our selection of books. War Horse – Unfortunately, despite initial interest, not enough people enquired to enable a group booking. Our meeting on 14th June is essentially a social evening, but having recently visited South Korea, Ennis could talk about the visit and, if possible, display photographs?*

*Everyone welcome at meetings and we look forward to meeting you there, 8 pm in the Village Hall.*

*Barbara, Binnie and Ennis*

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## Little Hadham School

*Believing and Achieving*

*It has been one masterpiece after another recently here at Little Hadham!*

*From Turner to Renoir, Degas to Lawrie with a portion of Paolozzi – all featured strongly in our 'Take a Picture' project. The children led their own learning by planning what they wanted to find out about and how they could bring their painting (or sculpture) to life.*

*They became miniature art critics, comparing different works by the same artist as well sharing their own preferences and why. It is not every day that you hear five year olds discussing the development of 'Pointillism' though the Impressionist period!*

*We are also rather excited to be selected by 'Excellence East', a driving force in the Eastern Region for the provision of Gifted and Talented Education, to become a 'Hub School' in recognition of our work for Gifted and Talented pupils locally. There will only be eight 'hub schools' in the whole region, so we are very proud of this accolade. Thank you for your continued support.*

Liz Stockley, Headteacher

# FOR SALE

**Shoprider Sovereign**

Model S888NR



**£450** O.N.O.

Telephone: 01279 771421

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## Rural Ramblings

by Cherry Mardell

*If we don't get rain soon, this farming year is going to be a disaster. The barley is stunted and the yield will be very small. Our hay crop isn't happening at all. There isn't enough for the machine to pick it up! The horses have virtually eaten every last blade of grass and yet, miraculously, they still stay plump. The chickens, (one more lost to another fox last week) are fed up with the old grass and await fresh, new pastures.*

*And the alpacas – well, they continue to eat me out of house and home. Their massive woolly coats make it difficult to tell just how fit or fat they are. However, this will be short lived because, June is 'coats off' time! This is, unlike sheep shearing, quite an undertaking. A professional shearer upturns the animal, tying down each leg to a board. Alpacas have a sad, bleating cry, which some of them practice to great effect all the time they are being shorn.*

*They are very strong animals and I have had to resort to asking a fit step-son to help out! While the animal is down we dose it, give vitamins, cut toenails and generally check it out.*

*In a couple of months we hope to have two more crias born – one to established mum Laurel and one to Pridey, a two year old first-timer. Laurel has been put to an all-black male, so we are hoping for a black cria – but it is far from a certainty. Alpacas have a habit of producing crias in unexpected colours.*

*One thing I am certain of though. Just as children take on the habits of their parents, so do alpacas. Hence our spitter, Mulan, has produced two youngsters for me – and both youngsters have acquired the horrible habit of spitting at me – or anyone else within reach! None of the other members of the herd would lower themselves to do such a horrible – and smelly – thing!*

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## Down at the Doctor's

Great news!

Our website has just gone live; have a look at it on [www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk](http://www.muchhadhamhealthcentre.co.uk) and, if you dare, register online for all the services such as repeat prescriptions, appointments and the e-mail newsletter. The site is very new and we will be spending a few weeks making sure that things are set up properly so please bear with us.

More great news! Nurse Oonagh Morris is going to be increasing her number of sessions as a nurse practitioner. Presently her surgeries are well attended and we have had a lot of good feedback. She is able to see and prescribe for, under strict procedures and guidelines, a wide range of ailments, from ingrowing toenails and sore throats to chest infections and asthma. This allows the doctors to concentrate on more complicated cases, especially in those patients with chronic conditions, and gives patients more choice in who they consult.

Frustrating news! Despite a meeting with our landlords on 31st March, from which nothing has been forthcoming, we have recently had no choice but to instruct our solicitor to issue proceedings for a new lease. We are confident that the court will grant this and hopeful that this will also include the landlord's agreement, which we have to obtain, for our extension plans. I apologise for the obtuse nature of reporting this but have been assured that once the issue is in the public domain, as in published court proceedings, all gloves are off!

Speculate if you will but definitely WATCH THIS SPACE (and enjoy your 3rd bank holiday weekend in 6 weeks!)

Dr Paul Haimes

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## Rambling, down at the rural tree-doctor's by Nick Bickel

*In the young Millennium Grove, the growtubes proved to be baby 'cabriolet' greenhouses, offering rides to flora and fauna hitchhikers. On 3rd April, under a lying tube, was a three-inch queen hornet basking in the sun's amplified heat; its eyes flicked sideways, following me as I backed off. Later, I disturbed a queen wasp as I cut its overwintering home away. The previous day, in a lush, meadow area, I'd spotted a 'head' of grass on one tube; red ants had packed it with soil – a tower anthill. There were perhaps seventy colonies, mainly round perfectly healthy trees, some of which, thinking the ground had risen, had produced aerial roots. The whips tended to rot when ants colonised early, guelder rose's elder-like, pithy stems proving very susceptible. As trees' girth increases, the remaining space creates specific habitats. Roughly an inch is mice's preferred space; their nests contain moss, feathers, leaves and abundant hazelnuts. On 19th April, I found three live field mouse nests amongst dense blackthorn scrub, presumably selected because rainwater would percolate away from the tubes. On the 18th, I pulled back half of a tube I'd just cut, around a toppled-over dog rose, to reveal a pair of pigmy shrews doing what any couple might, believing Armageddon was imminent; either that, or they were very, very scared! It's the one remaining bit of plastic not in impenetrable thicket. On Good Friday, a week before The Wedding, I decided to retrieve a dozen I could see in deep thicket on the 'Glaxo' side. Something made me look in as I was cutting the sixth tube's perforation and there was a clutch of six carmine-speckled, sugar-coated, miniature chocolate Easter eggs, presented on a perfect princess's silk cushion! The something that made me look was probably*

*continued on page 17*

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## Archbishop visits local charity

The Archbishop of Westminster, the Most Reverend Vincent Nichols, visited St Elizabeth's Centre at Much Hadham in Hertfordshire this week (10 May).

St Elizabeth's was established in 1903 and is administered by the Daughters of the Cross of Liège. It is a centre of excellence employing over 600 staff providing care, education, vocational training and life skills that reduce dependence and maximise the ability for very vulnerable people to lead a more fulfilling life. The Centre specialises in the fields of epilepsy, associated neurological disorders and other complex medical conditions with a residential School, FE College and Adult Care Services providing vital support, including intensive health and therapy, for nearly 200 people of all ages who have learning disabilities.

The Archbishop celebrated a lively Mass in the Centre's packed chapel and then met pupils, students and residents in classes, at social or leisure activities or in their own homes.

James Connolly, the Chief Executive of St Elizabeth's commented, "The Archbishop clearly enjoyed his day and everyone here clearly enjoyed his company. He had time for everybody and was very encouraging of our work. Our ethos recognises especially vulnerable people, irrespective of background, ability or belief, to be unique individuals who should be valued, supported and enabled to maximise their personal potential in all areas of life. The Archbishop paid tribute to the Daughters of the Cross in meeting this objective so successfully for the last 100 years, and offered prayers that their example and heritage would be nurtured and continue to flourish at St Elizabeth's for so long as such needs continue to exist".

For more information please contact [ceo@stelizabeths.org.uk](mailto:ceo@stelizabeths.org.uk).

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## Nature Notes April/May

by Jonathan Forgham

A period (April 18th – May 18th) of continually unseasonal weather, with temperatures reaching the mid 20s C. Virtually no rain was recorded, apart from the morning of my dawn chorus walk on the 8th May. The first time I have had to postpone a walk in over 10 attempts, so I cannot complain.

As expected, migrants continued to arrive in good numbers and all within a few days of their regular dates.

The first cuckoo was reported from Hadham Hall on 21st April, with another at Westland Green on the 1st May and a third on the 2nd, the latter being heard near Brick Kiln Hill. Thank



you to all who emailed, texted or phoned these records through. Please keep them coming. A turtle dove was recorded flying low over Ash Valley Golf Course on the 22nd, followed the following day by the first whitethroat for the parish. This was heard in Chapel Lane. Finally, for migrant birds, the first swift was observed over the chapel on the 8th May. Amazingly, in 2008 and 2009, my first recording of this long distance flyer was the 7th May. Swallows were found feeding around the chapel most afternoons, using the wires by Ford Cottages to rest, as shown here. Another noteworthy bird was a red kite, seen

*continued on page 18*

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## Kyokujitsu Kyokushin Karate Club

*Not content with being the best Kyokushin Karate Junior Club in Great Britain, Little Hadham's very own Kyokujitsu club took on the might of Europe at the recent Dutch Open Championships.*

*Taking part in his first bare knuckle full contact European competition, sixteen year old Jamie Petch swept aside the opposition and was crowned Champion in the Boys' Cadets Middleweight category. It was a great day for the Petch's, the Club and Little Hadham!*

## Join our Stars!

We have a few places left in our Saturday Theatre Company. It's open to students 8-16. Star in our spectacular shows at professional venues which includes London's West-End. You'll also have filming and song recording experience. We also offer optional LAMDA exam courses. Call us anytime for full details of cost and **FREE** session. 07841 990611. [www.BedazzleArts.com](http://www.BedazzleArts.com)

Join us at The Rhodes this summer! Organized workshop open to students 7-16; work with music professionals, prepare for a photo-shoot, perform live on stage, record your very own cd. 5 day course to include final evening stage production to which everyone is welcome! Costs £95. Reserve your place NOW, call 07841 990611

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# What's on in June . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

**1 Wed Care 4 a Cuppa?** Individuals or groups are invited to hold tea parties in aid of Isabel Hospice throughout the summer from June - September. For more details contact Katie Robertson on 01707 382500.

**4 Sat, Jumble Sale,** Thundridge VH, 2.30-4.30 20p entry. Come and grab some bargains. Contact details 01920 462992.

**5 Sun, Teas in Gardens,** White House, Dane End, Herts SG12 0LP, 2-5pm, as part of the National Gardens Scheme. Proceeds from the teas will go to Isabel Hospice. For details contact Renee Friend 01279 755320.

**7 Tue, A Walk around Bishop's Stortford** with Jonathan Forgham Please phone Ennis on 658585 if you are interested. £5 per person.

**7 Tue, Parish Council meeting,** 8pm. Come and welcome your new councillors!

**9,23 Thur, Mobile Library,** See next page.

**11 Sat, Hunsdon Country Fete & Dog Show** 1-4pm. Fairground rides, balloonist, plants, bric-a-brac, raffle, tree felling, assault course, treasure hunt, beer tent etc. **Scarecrow competition** – Entry form on page 17.

**12 Sun, Much Hadham Open Gardens** 12-5pm. For St Elizabeth's. Tickets, guides, refreshments from The Forge.

**13 Mon, Hadhams History Society,** Finds Identification Evening, MH Village Hall, Green Room, 7.30pm for 8pm. Bring along those bits of pottery, flints and bottles that you may have picked up out in the garden or on your walks through the village. Also medals, coins photographs and other items which you need help with identifying, or just want to show! Mark Langdon, a local archaeologist, will be present and has knowledge on pottery, flints and fossils. Reference books on coins and other artifacts. Membership £7 per annum with a fee of £2 for non-members at any talks. For

membership contact Mike Smith 771568 or Barbara Green 842352.

**14 Tue, LH & A Social Club.,** 8pm A social evening tonight, everyone welcome.

**16 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning.** Pop in for a cuppa and meet and make new friends, rear of Village Hall, 10-30 - 12 noon.

**18 Sat, British Red Cross Open Garden,** Thundridge Hill House, Cold Christmas, SG12 0UE 2-5pm Adults: £4, under 16s free. This delightful garden comprises 2.5 acres of well-established shrubs, roses and many interesting plants. Several seating areas to enjoy beautiful views, both of the garden and of surrounding countryside down to the Rib valley.

**25 Sat, Farmers' Market,** 8.30-11.30am. Get up, get washed and head round for a fry-up.

**25 Sat, St Elizabeth's Summer Fayre,** Much Hadham, 12-4pm. Over 50 stalls, Brass Band, Dunmow Majorettes, Jacqui Ison Theatre Group.

**25 Sat, music@stansted,** 6pm. See page 14.

**25 Sat, Through the Looking Glass,** Summer Ball. Info: [muchhadhamsummerball.co.uk](http://muchhadhamsummerball.co.uk).

## . . . and after that?

1 July **Madrigal Concert** 9-9.45pm, Arnwell Pool, Nr. Ware for Isabel Hospice.

2,3 July **Teas in Gardens,** Kingfishers, SG14 3SX, for Isabel Hospice. For details contact Renee Friend 01279 755320.

2 July **Midsummer Concert,** at St Cecilia's, Tickets from Tony Skidmore 771688.

10 July **Garden club trip** to Helmingham Hall Gardens. Details Barbara Taylor 771987.

10 July **Teas in Gardens,** Fanhams Hall, for Isabel Hospice.

3 Sept LH & A Garden Club **Autumn Garden Show.**

## Home wanted

If you have any space in the Parish Mag could I please advertise GRADY who is a rescue lurcher who needs a home. As you can see from the attached picture he loves other dogs (seems particularly in love with my friend's whippet!) and he needs a home with another dog and without cats. He loves people too. He is very laid back even though he is young (around 1-2 years old) and is happy to chill out. All in all he would make a good family pet. Grady is neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Grady is under the care of Heathlands Animal Rescue at Royston Herts. Tel 01763 244488 for anyone who is interested in him.



### 9th, 23rd June 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.

### Senior Ladies' Fitness Class

Classes are now being held in the Village Hall on Wednesdays at 12 noon. The class lasts for 1 hour and involves gentle Cardio routines followed by toning exercises. Please come and join us - £4 per session. For further information, contact Catherine Petch on 01279 771636 / 07946484498 [catherinepetch@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:catherinepetch@yahoo.co.uk)

**Muscular  
Dystrophy  
Campaign**



### CHARITY GOLF DAY at BARKWAY PARK GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2011

supporting

THE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY CAMPAIGN

sponsored by



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 + Longest Drive Prizes  
Putting Competition

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM

ALAN, 01279 652229

or call 01279 813710 for more  
information

### To talk to foster carers & professionals

about what it's like to foster for Hertfordshire, come along to one of our open evenings:  
Wednesday **8 June**, 6.30 – 8.30pm Ramada Cromwell Hotel, High Street, Stevenage, SG1 3AZ  
Wednesday **22nd June**, 6.30 – 8.30pm Ramada Hotel, Hemel Hempstead Road, Redbourn, AL3 7AF

## FOR SALE

### Shetland 535 2-berth

### Cabin Cruiser

Comes with 15hp Yamaha  
twin outboard and trailer

## £1650

To view, ring Terry on  
01279 771426

## music@stansted

A reminder, with more details, that Saturday, 25th June at 6pm is the date and time set for our popular biennial 'Summer Soiree' featuring many outstandingly talented local young musicians in the Church and Gardens of St John's, off Chapel Hill, Stansted.

Our young soloists this year, performing music for a wide range of popular instruments, will include Harriet Walker (cello), Richard Burrell (classical and jazz guitar), Josephine Wilkin (flute) with Robert Brown (piano), Toby Bruce-Jones (trumpet) and Alex Jones (piano solo). The concert begins in the Church at 6pm. During the extended interval there will be supper, licensed bar, and live jazz in the Church Gardens. A great summer evening of entertainment and relaxation for the whole family!

Tickets, which we ask you to purchase in advance please for catering purposes, remain at last year's prices: Adults £12, Accompanied Children £5, including food, and are available from Stansted Carpets, Chapel Hill, Stansted; Nockolds Solicitors, Bishop's Stortford; and Sonia Levy, 31 Chapel Hill, Stansted (01279 815282).

Our 2011/12 concert series begins at 7.30 pm on Saturday, 15th October, with the world-famous English Chamber Orchestra performing Vivaldi's Four Seasons among other popular favourites. If you would like to be added to our mailing list and/or receive details of our subscription discount scheme, please send your details to [info@musicatstansted.com](mailto:info@musicatstansted.com) or to The Membership Secretary, 25 Chantry Road, Bishop's Stortford CM23 2SD.

For more information about music@stansted and details of the forthcoming season of concerts, please visit our website at [www.musicatstansted.com](http://www.musicatstansted.com).

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## **Over 60s' night – you should have been there**

*Roundly 120 local senior citizens enjoyed an excellent evening at Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre on 20th April, in spite of the extremely hot weather. They were all greeted with complimentary drinks and then enjoyed several games of bingo with free prizes followed by a two course meal with coffee and tea, more drinks and the evening was completed with a one-hour show entitled 'Put that light out' with war time songs, sketches and memorable war time broadcasts plus a sing song. There was a free raffle with over 20 excellent prizes many of which were donated by local businesses. A nominal charge of £2 per ticket was made and the additional funds to cover the evening were generously donated by Standon Village Hall, Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre and Viscount Trenchard of Standon Calling.*

*Much fun was had by all and feedback suggests the evening was a resounding success. Perhaps if funds permit and suitable levels of interest exist, another similar evening will be held next year. Thanks were given to all the organisers and helpers who contributed to such a successful evening.*

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## Garden Club News

*As I read my gardening books this month to find snippets of information for you, I was wondering if this year they might have to re-write some entries. This year the South East has had only 10% of its usual rainfall; out in the fields and on the lawns you can already see cracks appearing. The news has reported that strawberries are having an early bumper crop; however it is not such good news for potatoes and grains. Maybe by the time this goes out we may have had some rain.*

*The gardens should be looking great. Shrubs and perennials will start to smother the weeds and the lawns don't need so much cutting – although this has already been the case. All tender plants should be able to be put out and container plants will be bursting. Although the list of jobs still remains long, time should be made to just sit down and enjoy the view. Regularly water and feed all containers and hanging baskets, deadhead flowers, clip fast-growing hedges and remove any tree and rose suckers. You may be harvesting some of your early vegetables but continue sowing salad crops, carrots, peas beans, courgettes and squashes.*

*No meetings are planned until 18th October but we do have our Autumn Garden Show on Saturday 3rd September; show schedules will be available from the post office nearer the time. A trip to Helmingham Hall Gardens is planned for Sunday 10th July – for details telephone Barbara Taylor on 771987. The plant sale was well attended and made around £300 – sorry I forgot to remind all of you in The Parish News last month.*

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## Rambling, down... , continued from page 8

the excited chirping of a long-tailed tit as I edged closer to its exquisite creations. I'll look in late summer and hope not to see the same again! Most tubes were mini snail 'estates'; and where trunks were touching their tubes, there were earwig colonies, and occasionally, millipedes or woodlice. The humid conditions caused massed cankers with white fungus to develop inside most crab-apples' tubes; but, generally, growtubes were a triumph – and 'mazda' (Zoroastrian god of creation, light and goodness).

Next month... the state of the wood; the wood in a state?

### Scarecrow Competition ~ Open to All

Prizes awarded for each category created from scratch

1. Life Size Scarecrow-any height •Over 16 inc family, club, street etc
  2. Junior Entry •Under 16s only
  3. Miniature Scarecrow using a wooden spoon •Primary school age
- All entries must be delivered to the field between 12 and 12:30 on the day
  - Each entry must be labelled with: scarecrow name, owners name and contact details



#### Scarecrow Competition Entry Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact No. \_\_\_\_\_

Category: Circle relevant category :    1    2    3

Entry Fee £1 (except for category 3)

Please return to: Angela - 69 High Street 01279 843690 or

David - 3 Dairy Mews, Nine Ashes, Acorn St 01920 871433

11 Sat, Hunsdon Country Fete  
Also see page 12

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## Nature Notes, *continued from page 10*

soaring effortlessly over fields to the south of The Ford and then over Bury Green.

Butterflies were evident everywhere, enjoying the hot weather and early flowering nectar plants. A walk around Chapel Lane, Westland Green and the golf course gave me views of 6 species, including the first small tortoiseshells, common blues, and red admirals (shown here).



Moths began to become more prevalent with good numbers of puss moths found coming to lights in Chapel Lane and at the Nag's Head Wall. Five were recorded on one night in mid-May.

It is now time to get out and about to record the breeding birds as well as the plethora of insects and flowers that will certainly appear over the ensuing month. I have therefore planned a daytime walk from the village hall to The Star at Standon for Sunday 26th June, leaving at 10.30am. A drinks and/or lunch break will be taken at The Star before we return via Bromley Lane and the golf course. The walk will be spent searching for insects, especially butterflies at Westland Green, as well as birds and flowering plants. All welcome, but please let me know if you plan to come along. Text or phone 07805 571551 or email [jforgham@theprimaryworks.com](mailto:jforgham@theprimaryworks.com). If the weather is kind, we should observe plenty.

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## The Not-So-Famous Eight Go To Brighton By E. Nid-Bryton



4.45a.m. on May 1st and we were all full of expectation and excitement. Well, most. Roz was coming to terms with being in the village hall car park in the middle of the night whilst Jerry had been there for a while, all alone and had begun to think it was a practical joke. But no, the 1949 Routemaster in London Transport livery duly arrived with Geoffrey at the wheel. All was fine as we stepped aboard; ready to join the Historical Commercial Vehicle Society run from London to Brighton. A great wheeze.

We pulled out of Little Hadham heading for the A10. Wendy dished out hot bacon and sausage sandwiches. Abstemious to the end, we didn't even open a bottle of fizzy wine until we passed Howe Fencing, the seven of us raising a plastic glass to the forthcoming sunrise and a day to remember. Geoff gunned the 9 litre engine through the gears and we were soon doing 25mph. Standon disappeared in a blur and before long a second pop from a wine bottle echoed through the original coachwork of the splendid bus. We had made it to the A10. Further guests were picked up at Ware and then Enfield before we made our way over London Bridge towards Crystal Palace; our first stop where we had to register and were given a set-off time of 7.52am. Faces at the burger stall looked on aghast as 4 empty bottles of champagne were discarded in the bin. Geoff looked on proudly and tea-totally as his wife laughed at the comment that no red wine should be opened until after 9!

Off on the A23 we were soon in a line of superb vehicles. A 1929 Dennis fire engine led the way for a while before packing up at traffic lights. We waved happily to the photographers and onlookers making their weary way home from a good night out. Some were still drinking. How

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## Little Hadham Fun Run/Fun Day Sunday 12th June

### Programme of Events:

9.30 - 10.45am	Registration - please turn up as early as you can!
11am SHARP	Start of run - 10k participants to start first, 5k participants thereafter
12 - 12.30 pm	BBQ, beer tent, stalls & all entertainment open for ..... FUN TIME!
12.30pm	Live music starts
3pm	CAZFEST raffle draw - please support this very worthy cause
4pm	Finish

**Please support us in our work to bring all the community in our wonderful village together HAVE FUN!**

## School history

*I would like to put in a plea for any old photos, records (reports?) memorabilia or just anecdotes to do with the Primary School.*

*As we are planning a celebration of 150 years of a school on the site in Stortford Road, we thought it would be nice to compile a collection of photographs, records, school reports, anecdotes or any other memorabilia to reflect life at the school through the reign of five monarchs and two World Wars, as well as to reflect the life of the largely agricultural school community in the 1800s, to the way we live in today.*

*Anyone with anything to offer can contact me or the school office. All artefacts will be treated with the utmost care and returned to their owners. Helen Walker - 01279 771509.*

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## The Not-So-Famous. . . , continued from page 19

decadent, we thought, popping open a 2003 Rioja at 9.02!

Our next stop was Crawley football ground, our halfway point. Another Routemaster required a jump start before we very crazily opted for a coffee. From Crawley to Brighton was through wonderful English countryside where people came to the end of their drives to take photos and wave us on. We waved back, apart from birthday boy, Paul. Celebrating his 63rd birthday, he had visited Mrs Stigwood's Fancy Dress Emporium and, unable to find a 1950's bus conductor's uniform, had plumped for German officer garb. All went well until we ran out of cigarettes somewhere near Burgess Hill where Mon Kapitan requisitioned some from a corner shop, in full uniform apart from shorts and wellies. Photographers for the rest of the route were ordered to "No fotograf" as we whistled through fine south down villages. Brighton arrived, the sea was seen and we parked on the front at Madeira Drive. Off to a bar for a well earned beer before a wander through The Lanes. The girls went shopping whilst Jerry and your faithful reporter discovered the delights of The Western Front which offered a fine array of good ales. Meanwhile, back on the front, Roger (in Victorian gear) and Baron Von Whay opted for a paddle, wellies an all, before deciding slumber in a deck chair was the order of the day.



Back at the bus, sustenance was provided before we set off for home at 5, arriving back just in time for a jar or two at the local hostelry. A great day out and thanks to Geoff for all the organisation and (excuse the pun) drive. Certainly a day to remember, if only we could!!

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Two days after the Royal Wedding, Little Hadham Cricket Club played host to a team from London called Aztecs. The visitors batted first, scoring just 106 all out, with the brothers Alex and Marcus Pay both taking three wickets each for Hadham. In reply Hadham were struggling at 56 for 5, however 34 not out from Marcus Pay (to cap a fine all-round performance) saw the home team victorious by 4 wickets.

The following Sunday Stocking Pelham were the visitors to Bury Green. Stocking Pelham batted first scoring 125 all out and in reply Hadham cruised to victory by 9 wickets with David Wheatley top scoring with 69 not out. May Day Bank Holiday Monday saw Thorley as the visitors and on this occasion it was Hadham who batted first scoring 196 for 4 wickets, with James Law making 67. Thorley started with a spirited reply, at one time being 33 for 0 wicket, however an eventual collapse saw them end up at 90 all out and a Hadham victory by 106 runs.

The following week saw Little Hadham travel to Rickling Green to play Manuden. Manuden batted first and after 5 overs were 16 for 4 (Neil Oxborrow 4 wickets), however a recovery saw them finish on 211 for 8 after their 40 overs. Little Hadham put in a great effort to reach the total; however they eventually ending up losing by 10 runs despite 56 from David Wheatley.

A 20-over evening cup match was next for Little Hadham as they travelled to Furneux Pelham. Batting first Hadham scored 149 for 6 off their 20 overs thanks mainly to a 77-run 3rd wicket partnership between Martin Beedell (62 not out) and David Wheatley (35). Furneux Pelham's reply saw them always up with the run rate however a superb spell of bowling from Paul Mason-Smith (4 overs, 2 wickets for 13 runs) eventually saw them fall short by just 21 runs. This meant Little Hadham progressing to the second round of the Hertfordshire Village Trophy for only the second time in their history.

Finally Hadham travelled to Takeley and the hosts amassed 267 for 9 wickets, with Ben Law taking 3 wickets. The Hadham reply always struggled to keep up with the required asking rate and they eventually lost by 76 runs, ending up on 191 for 7.

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 even if you have never played before or wish to take up the sport again after a break from playing.

## JUNE FIXTURES

Sun 5	Stocking Pelham	Away	14.00
Tues 7	Hockerill (Davis Cup)	Home	18.00
Sun 12	Little Hadham Fun Run		
Sun 19	Potter Street	Away	14.00
Sun 26	Ardleigh Green	Home	14.00
	TBA: Thorley or Albury (Herts Village Trophy 2nd rnd)		
	Home		18.00

We are a very friendly club and would welcome new members of all ages and abilities. We currently have a membership with an age range of 10 to 70, so you are never too young or old to play. Contact either Martin Hallmark 771033 or Neil Oxborrow 506062 for more details.

## Happy Birthday!

Lawrence Morris of Ashmeads, the Ford, was 18 on May 5th. As the local election and first national referendum for several years were held that day Lawrie was able to vote on his actual 18th birthday. The ladies officiating were keen to congratulate Lawrence as he was the youngest voter in the village! As Lawrie is heading off to Uni in the autumn with a very keen interest in politics it seemed kind of apt! A very happy 18th to Lawrie from all his friends in the village, a lovely young man who deserves a very bright future.

## and, Happy birth day!

New Baby Girl in Cradle End! - We welcome to Cradle End our newest addition, born Saturday 7th May, a beautiful baby daughter for Mike & Elaine, a gorgeous little sister for Mary, Hugh, Beatrice & Caroline. We send our warmest best wishes to you all - congratulations!

## EN05 LWVH – Is it you?

**It is time to 'name and shame'** those who persist in jumping the traffic lights on red. Yet again, a driver was witnessed this week overtaking two vehicles that had already stopped at the lights to go through the red light from the direction of the Village Hall and disappear up Albury Road. Reg. No. **EN05 LWVH**. If this driver is local, perhaps having his registration number published for all to see will shame him into thinking twice before he does it again!

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## June diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

**2 Thursday**

**Ascension Day**

7.30pm

Benefice Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham.  
Open to all the Team to attend.

**5 Sunday**

**Sunday after the Ascension**

9.30am

Sung Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

11.15am

Parish Communion and Sunday School at St Mary's.

**12 Sunday**

**Pentacost**

9.30am

Shared Communion and Sunday School at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

5.00pm

Taizé Service in St Andrew's, Much Hadham.

15 Wednesday

8.00pm

Meeting of the Team joint council at the Rectory Much Hadham.

**19 Sunday**

**Trinity Sunday**

9.15am

Parish Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham.

6.00pm

Evensong at St Mary's, Albury.

2.00pm

Open Gardens at Wynches, Blackbridge Lane, Much Hadham in aid of the Friends of St Andrew's.

**25 Saturday**

**Open Day at Albury School** 10am – 2pm

**26 Sunday**

**First Sunday after Trinity**

11.15am

Parish Communion at St Mary's, Albury.

6.00pm

Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

Saturday July 2nd at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

**Midsummer Concert**

Tickets from Tony Skidmore 771688

### Funerals in May:

May 24th

At St Cecilia's **Joan Haynes**, followed by cremation

May 26th

At Parndon Wood., **Margaret Clow**, Karasea, Standon Road LH

### British Red Cross Society – Red Cross Week – Thank You!

Thank you to everybody who generously donated during the recent house to house collections and to Carmela for giving her time again to collect in Cradle End. This year we raised £94.24 to help the charity fund local services to help vulnerable people in crisis.

After 6 years organising the collection in our village, I have decided it is time to hand my tins over so if anyone would like to take it on for a really worthwhile cause, please contact Cas Lawson at Hertford Branch on 01992 585970. Thanks again, Sandra Evans

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