

Little Hadham Parish News July 2012



Jubilee fun: the three-legged race and a decorated bike.



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

Letter from the Rectory

I lost my bear Barnabas the other day. Forgetting to take him with me, I left him behind in St Andrew's Church, and he was put among the children's toys. Fortunately after forty eight hours I found him.

*Losing a teddy bear is not in the same league as leaving your eight year old daughter behind in a pub after Sunday lunch, as the Camerons did. It is not like Mary searching for her lost son and finding him after three days in the Temple, calmly asking questions of the teachers of the Law. It is not like losing a prodigal son for years before he returns home. Nevertheless it would have been a shame if, after fifteen years of being my companion around the schools as a sort of ursine evangelist, I were to lose my "son of encouragement".**

We don't like to be losers and we fear loss; yet it is the most common human experience by far, much more so than winning. Losing our sight, our memory, our vigour is a hard process. We shall soon be re-discovering when the Olympics begin on July 27th that it is hard to lose at games. Everything in our culture celebrates and glorifies winning, and we fail to recognise the importance of learning how to embrace loss and failure; to cope, and move on.

Losing a bear is nothing in comparison to losing a loved one. Coming last in an Olympic race is bearable when compared with the many poor and deprived who have no prospects in competing at any level in the race of life itself.

The Christian faith recognises the fact that we lose more often than we gain. When St Paul spoke of winning the race, he was referring to the crown of eternal life, not any earthly achievement: indeed he said that he counted all that as loss, compared to knowing Christ.

Jesus was almost always on the side of the losers in life; and he spent most of his time with them, trying to transform their lives. In the Judeo-Christian tradition the loss of innocence in the Garden of Eden is the founding myth of a theology of grace and reconciliation. Jesus lost his earthly life in order that we might gain the eternal.

So perhaps we should encourage our children to know that it is as acceptable to lose as to win; to fail as to succeed. More than that: from the experience of losing comes amazing grace, growth in maturity, and a deeper understanding of what real lasting achievement is.

Chris Boulton

**the literal meaning of Barnabas.*

Adverts removed

Reverend Chris Boulton.

We are very sad to report, and many of you will already know, that our Rector, Reverend Chris Boulton will be leaving the Parish in September after giving nearly nine years of devoted, valued and cheerful service to the community. We shall miss him at breakfast at the Farmers' Market, the Harvest Supper but above all at St. Cecilia's Church where his warm personality and short sermons were much appreciated. The Parochial Church Council, congregation and his friends would like to express their gratitude to Chris for all that he has done for us in that time and if any residents of Little Hadham would like to contribute to a parting gift, please contact Don Gibson (771325) or Frank Green (771532) - Cheques should be made payable to "Little Hadham PCC". Thank you very much.

Parish Council News

Playground Maintenance Work

LHPC has agreed to accept Mike Foskett's quote to carry out essential maintenance work at the Village Hall playground. There have been several areas needing attention for some time now. We are hoping the work will be completed soon. Please rest assured that the apparatus is still safe to use so please continue to visit our village playground and have fun!

Aerial Runway

Whilst we encourage you to have fun at the village playground please note that the aerial runway is out of bounds; the steel cable has suffered some damage and LHPC is to look into why it's happened and how to best proceed in getting it fixed. Watch this space for more news.

Adult Fitness Equipment

Folks, LHPC would really like to hear from you on this subject. Please let us know "warts and all" how you feel about the installation of four pieces of adult fitness equipment at the Village Hall playground. This is a large spend proposal, £5k in all (VAT recoverable), so we are seeking your opinion. You can go on line and look at the equipment: [www.caloo](http://www.caloo.co.uk).

www.fresh-airfitness.co.uk. Please rest assured LHPC is in a position to afford the installation of the equipment although like all other equipment being used by the community there will be on-going costs; maintenance, insurance, etc. Please email the Parish Clerk and let us know your comments on: clerklittlehadham@gmail.com. Thank you.

No Dogs Please

Parishioners please be advised that dogs are not allowed, for obvious reasons, into the Village Hall playground area. LHPC sends thanks to Jon Fardell for making and installing signs giving the above information to those visiting the playground with dogs. Thank you.

Bury Green Pond

The area around the pond in Bury Green is to get a face lift! LHPC is looking for volunteers to help out with what will be messy but rewarding work! Please contact Jonathan Forgham on 07805 571551 with any offers of help.

Accident at the Millennium Wood

Now the better weather is here you may be thinking about getting out more but please take care in and around the village as it appears we have a phantom hole digger.

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Lord Capel of Hadham Hall

Whilst we are celebrating our Queen's Diamond Jubilee, we might spare a thought for the Monarchy in former times when life in Britain was not so peaceful and living was hard. All the freedoms we enjoy were unheard of; freedom of worship and speech, human rights and education for all, votes for women, free medical care – the list is endless. However, there were some brave men who stood up for what they believed in and gave their lives for supporting their monarch.

One, Lord Arthur Capel, of Hadham Hall was beheaded for his allegiance to King Charles I and an account of his death upon the scaffold has just come to light. Reverend Chris Boulton, in preparation for his move to Bromley College, came across some documents, two dated 1648/1649, giving a rather gruesome account of his beheading and the speech he made on the scaffold. He was a very pious man and prayed for the crowd he was addressing, for his executioner and for the King.

A transcript of his speech has been prepared and will be available in the Church where you will find his tomb on the right-hand side of the altar.

Many thanks to YOU for sponsoring this page. Well, why not?

Adverts removed

Holes of about 1m square and 18" deep have been dug in a few places. One of the holes, which has appeared at the Millennium Wood, is of particular concern as one parishioner has had an accident and broken his wrist. Please take care and if you know any information which may lead to finding out who the culprit is please contact any Parish Councillor who will deal with the matter.

Calling New Councillors Please!

Folks LHPC is still looking for an applicant to fill the vacancy which exists after the departure on one of our councillors and we are also keen to find a Youth Councillor - all enquiries to the Parish Clerk (Bev Evans) - 01279 842803.

Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr Carmela Piccolo sends a huge THANKYOU to all parishioners who have shown an interest in joining the Little Hadham Neighbourhood Planning Group. Over thirty parishioners have said "YES"! If you are interested feel

free to contact Carmela: cam2403@hotmail.co.uk. Watch this space for more news on this subject over the coming months.

July Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 3rd July @ Village Hall @ 8pm: this will be the last meeting of the summer please come along, it would be great to see you there! Many thanks to all our loyal attendees so far this year - without you it would not be the same!

Thank you

To all the people in the background in and around our village who help keep it clean and tidy. Many thanks also to all those who offer help, usually at the drop of a hat, with all sorts of bits and pieces which arise during the year. Be proud – ours is a considerate community – there's always someone ready to lend a helping hand. Have a safe and fun-filled summer. See you in September!

Adverts removed

At the end of a long hot day on the 23rd of May over 40 members of the Society met together in Little Hadham Village Hall to hear Mrs Anne Rowe speak about "Hunting for Hertfordshire's Parks". Mrs Rowe is a freelance landscape historian who has undertaken very detailed research into the landscape history of Hertfordshire, particularly its medieval parks.

The parks in question were usually reserved for deer, in particular the fallow deer, brought over by the Normans after the Conquest to supplement the indigenous red and roe deer that had roamed wild in the forests in Anglo-Saxon times. These parks were usually situated on poor land, on the margins of a parish or manor, and were enclosed by a high bank to prevent the deer from straying. Most of these medieval parks were relatively small, so the deer were not usually hunted as such, but kept conveniently in captivity for such a time when their meat was needed. "Venison was the food of the rich, eaten on special occasions and given as a mark of particular favour."

In addition, these parks could be managed to provide a regular supply of timber and leased for grazing (agistement) or pig pasturing (pannage). They were looked after by "parkers".

Just after the Conquest, three parks only were known to exist in Hertfordshire, although, in total, about 70 medieval parks are now known about in the county. The time of greatest park growth was in the last quarter of the thirteenth century. Locally, Mrs Rowe was able to tell us of parks at Much Hadham, Little Hadham, Hadham Hall, Albury, Standon and Bishop's Stortford, where recognisable features of medieval parks still exist. She also traced the decline or "disparking"

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As I write this, heavy rain is due again tonight. What's new you may ask? Last year's drought meant we only managed to make a quarter of our normal volume of hay. This year we have vast quantities of beautiful grass, pleading to be made into premium quality hay.

And so we play the waiting game. Five day forecasts are regularly viewed: they are seldom correct; plans to go further afield are put on hold; tempers (mine mostly) become slightly frayed! Farmers, generally, are fairly placid individuals. They need to be. Their livelihoods depend on the weather – that most fickle of creatures!

And talking creatures, our herd of alpacas were duly shorn a month ago – on a particularly cold, wet and windy day. Two burly Australians did the deed. And the poor animals stood in what can only be termed their underwear, their skinny little legs shaking with the cold. I was warned to keep them in as long as possible, and the poor creatures huddled together in the barn, with loads of hay to eat and straw to lie on. 'I've not heard of one dying of the cold,' said one of the fellows . . . scant comfort for me as I worried all that night, expecting to meet The Grim Reaper come dawn! Now, looking decidedly trimmer and slimmer, they have become accustomed to facing all weathers and only strong winds coupled with torrential rain find them back indoors enjoying the good life.

We were due to spend a five-day holiday based in York recently. But as one rainy day followed another, I began to wonder what we would do for a whole five wet days. So we changed our minds, booked two cheap airfares and spent the time, instead, in Naples! A week later,

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Adverts removed

Village Hall News

Chairman, Jon Fardell writes

A year or two back I helped the Parish Council with an application for funding for a project. One of the questions on the form referred to the Village Hall and requested an estimate of the number of people using the Hall in a typical year. With a quick run through the booking diary I was soon able to come up with a figure for the yearly footfall – quite a respectable number. Fortunately the form did not request a breakdown of the figure, which would have shown that many of the Village residents using the Hall are in fact the same people attending their various club and society events on a regular basis. The number of residents using the Hall is very low indeed as a proportion of the total population. The attendance by the Village at the Jubilee celebrations organised by the Parish Plan group at the Hall and playing field was truly pathetic, and the planned banquet had to be cancelled because of lack of interest.

We were recently asked in these pages to 'use it, or lose it' with regard to the Village pub, and the same may well apply to the Hall. The running costs continue to rise at a fast rate, whilst income is falling. The land for the Hall was given by a local land owner, and the Trust Deed gives preference to bookings, including preferential rates, to Village residents and societies. Please do support events at the Hall, and why not make a booking for your family celebrations.

On Thursday, 5th July, we welcome back Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Club after a short break. Susannah will be running the classes which combine a good look at what we eat and some gentle exercises to keep us trim. 10.00am to 11.30am - get fit for summer! (when it comes).

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

Keep tending your flowers and vegetables and we hope that you will show off your hard work by entering some of them into our Annual Show on Saturday 1st September – please pick up an entry form (– available from LH post office).

Coming up on Tuesday 18th September there will be a talk and demonstration - 'Up close and personal' by Brenda Kain which will be tasty.

July should be the peak month for the garden and it should look at its best. However with the changes in the weather there will be winners and losers for the plants. The old fashioned plants such as sweet peas, crocosmias (also known as montbretias), lavenders and fuchsias to name a few are providing fantastic displays. Petunias – in their many colours and forms, passifloras caerulea (passionflower) and the many hebes – once called shrubby veronicas, they have fluffy 'bottle brush' flowers, are other old faithfuls that are coming into their own. Penstemons, which have spikes of trumpet-shaped flowers that last most of the summer look great mixed with grasses. The exotic and showy agapanthus, those large balls of blue or white flowers on long stems, are bobbing about regally in many gardens. If the lily beetle is kept at bay, lilies give a fantastic display and many are strongly scented. The amazing clouds of small blue flowers on shrubs are the ceanothus (Californian lilacs). Mop-head hortensias and lacecap hydrangeas thrive in moist fertile soil and their colour, red or blue depends on the soil type, and these also hold their flowers until autumn as they dry out naturally.

Adverts removed

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

June has been a busy month with a Smoothie Making Bike Day, Code Breaking Day, Y2 Music Festival, Year 3/4 Residential trip, Britain's Got Talent Roadshow in Watford and the official opening of our Early Years Sunshine Room, to name but a few!

As we come to the last month in the school year, we look ahead to our British Summer Fete on Sunday 8th July from 12-3pm. In addition to the traditional stalls, we have added attractions of go-karts and 'zorbing' games to entertain the children. Do come along and see for yourself. Our Senior Citizens are most welcome to join us for the dress rehearsal of this year's KS2 production called 'Moving On' at 10am on Monday 9th July - refreshments available too!

The term ends on Friday 20th July as we say farewell to our Y6 pupils and wish them good luck as they move on to Secondary School. How time does fly! Thank you for your continued support and have a great summer!

Liz Stockley, Headteacher

Little Hadham School Summer Fete on Sunday 8th July from 12-3pm.

We will be having displays from our Cheerleaders and Gym team, and a Zumba workout. There will be traditional stalls and games - tombola, coconut shy, lucky dip, plant stall, face painting as well as Go Karts, a Bouncy Castle and Body Zorbs for the more adventurous! Refreshments, Bar, BBQ and a Little Hadham Bake Off contest will provide all the sustenance you need. Everyone is very welcome, so please come along!

Little Hadham Primary School, A120 Stortford Road - just up from the lights.

Adverts removed

The Hadhams' History Society, continued from page 6

of such parks, and went on to describe how the nature and purpose of these parks changed over the years as houses were built at their centre and the "park" became an adjunct to the gardens. More recently, some of the bigger estates have brought back herds of deer to their parks, so the wheel has turned full circle.

Mrs Rowe's very interesting talk was enjoyed by all, and there were several questions at the end before everyone enjoyed a welcome cup of tea.

Our next meeting will be held on July 16th in the Green Room at Much Hadham Village Hall, when you are invited to bring along your "interesting objects" and "finds" for identification by experts and for sharing with others. The evening begins at 8.00 pm. Doors open at 7.45 pm.

Stop Press

As I write this, it has come to my notice that a series of unofficial metre square holes have been appearing in different parts of Little Hadham, and someone has already been injured because of one. I must state categorically that these holes are nothing to do with the "Big Dig" currently being organised by the Society. As described in last month's magazine, these will take place in September with the full permission of the land's owner, will be professionally conducted and recorded, and safely filled in afterwards. If you have any information about the perpetrators of these unofficial holes you should contact a member of the Little Hadham Parish Council or Neighbourhood Watch.

Gordon Cliffe, HHS Committee Chairman

Adverts removed

What's on in July . . .

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

3 Tue, Parish Council, 8pm. Everybody welcome to come and join the fun. Please come along, it would be great to see you there.

5 Thur, Rosemary Conley Diet and Fitness Club, 10 to 11.30am. Susannah will be running the classes which combine a good look at what we eat and some gentle exercises to keep us trim.

7 Sat, Hunsdon Fete & Dog Show, 1-4pm
Dog Show 1.30, entry £2 to be paid in ring.
Scarecrow competition, (ring for categories) Cakes, bric-a-brac, Toys, Books, Beer tent with Wimbledon finals, Inflatables and loads more. Info. Angela 01279 843690 angela.felstead@btinternet.com David Gibbs 01279 871433 or Jackie Carthy 872597.

7 Sat, Cazfest Music Festival, Sworders Field BS. www.cazfest.com for details.

8 Sun LH School fete 12-3pm See p10.

9 Mon, 'Moving On', 10am, LH School. We invite our Senior Citizens to join us for the dress rehearsal of this production. Refreshments available too!

10 Tue, LH & A Social Club, Meet at 6.30pm at the Village Hall car park for trip to Green Tye Greenhouses. We will leave Green Tye at 8.30pm. The usual £1.50 admission fee applies, as we will be giving a donation towards the evening. Please phone 658585 for information if you are interested in being part of this trip, everyone welcome.

11 Wed, Talk on Olympic Games by Stuart Storey, 8-10pm, The Roebuck Hotel, Baldock Street, Ware SG12 9DR. Stuart Storey has one of the most recognisable voices on television sport. Tickets £5, proceeds to Isabel Hospice. Stuart will be talking about London 2012 and his 10th Olympic Games. Contact Shirley or Stuart on 01920 467194.

12, 26 Thur, Mobile Library, See p13.

16 Mon, Hadhams' History Society, 7.45 for 8pm, Green Room, MH Village Hall. Bring along your "interesting objects" and "finds" for identification by experts and for sharing with others.

19 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning, 10.30 - 12 noon, rear of Village Hall. Meet and make friends over a cuppa. See p13.

19 Thur, MH Horticultural Soc & Allotment Club, Cheese & Wine Evening 7pm, The Long Barn. Hopleys Plants, High Street, Much Hadham. Free entry to Members, Visitors £2. Everyone Welcome.

21 Sat, A Summer Celebration - A Supper Dance with Opus One, 7:30 - 11pm, Wodson Park, Ware SG12 0UQ. In aid of Isabel Hospice and Help the Heroes. Tickets £25. Contact Shirley Storey on 01920 467194.

28 Sat, Farmers' Market, 8.30 - 11.30am. Come and have a cooked breakfast and then buy all that lovely fresh produce.

. . . and later

Aug 4, **Social Club Outing** to Bletchley Park.

Aug 12, **Bark in the Park** - We invite you and your pooch for a 3 mile walk around beautiful Barclay Park in Hoddesdon EN11 8NH. If you don't have a dog join in the fun by dressing up or getting your face painted. £6 adults £4 children under 14. Its going to be a real Doggy Day with lots of pooch inspired calls and Most Handsome Dog, Perfect Pup and Prettiest Female Dog Show. Proceeds to Isabel Hospice. Log on to www.isabelhospice.org.uk or call Katie for details on 01707 382500.

Sept 1, **Garden Club Annual Show**.
Entry forms available from LH post office.

Sept 18, **Social Club**, 'Up close and personal' by Brenda Kain.

NOTICEBOARD

THANK YOU

A donation of £100 has recently been received by the Parish News! We would like to thank the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, for this most generous gesture, which is very much appreciated.
(If anyone reading this feels moved to do the same, please feel free.)

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

Make time on Friday 28 September 2012 for some coffee and a piece of cake to help people living with cancer. Get together with friends, family members and colleagues, have fun and raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Register now at
www.macmillan.org.uk/maketime
Or call 0845 602 1246

Every day in the UK another 822 people are diagnosed with cancer. We want to be there to reach every one of them and we need your help to do this.



Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017) Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604)

12th & 26th July 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.

Thankyou to those who organized the jubilee afternoon. The children loved it and the adults that were there.

Another Great Event.

Mike Smith, Chairman, Parish Plan Group

Little Hadham's Diamond Jubilee Celebration, on 4th June 2012

Fortunately for all who attended that afternoon, the overnight rain had stopped, and the sun came out early. A warm breezy morning quickly dried the grass on the playing field, and the event went ahead as planned. There was a good turn-out for the children's decorated transport competition, with many bikes, scooters, pushchairs and go-carts. Even the family pet dogs entered into the general spirit. After the line-up, and judging, the families paraded along the road, from The Smithy to The Ridgeway, and back again. The marshals found that they had their work cut out, keeping up with the speed of the leaders who raced ahead on their scooters. In the afternoon during an extended picnic, the activities began in earnest. The youngsters especially, enjoyed the old time games, such as the egg-and-spoon, sack, wheelbarrow and three-legged races. The coconut shy, Pimms bar, and face and nail painting proved to be especially popular with everyone, and there were also bouncy castles and slides.

At the same time in the Village Hall, those with a feel for the past were able to examine a display of memorabilia from previous celebrations, while they partook of tea and cake.

While our efforts faced a great deal of competition from activities elsewhere, the afternoon's fun was enjoyed by all who participated. The Parish Plan Committee would like to send a big thankyou to all those in the community who participated in, and supported the event, and made it so successful. Also to those who assisted with planning and running the various activities, and the marshals who helped keep everyone safe. Finally let us not forget the help provided by our District Council in the form of a £300 grant covering part of the cost of the event.

Adverts removed

music@stansted

July is the month when we invite all existing members to renew, and all potential new members, who we are always delighted to welcome, to join music@stansted. Next season's programme starts on Saturday 13th October 2012 at 7.30pm when cellist, Jonathan Dorman, and pianist, Marisa Gupta will be giving a recital in St John's, Stansted. On Sunday 2nd December at 3pm we welcome back guitarist, Gary Ryan who held a packed church spellbound when he came to Stansted in 2003. On Sunday 27th January 2013 at 3pm international concert pianist, Chenyin Li, will be giving a recital. The final concert of the season on Saturday 23rd March at 7.30pm will feature Kimon Parry, whose repertoire includes some of the most beautiful music for the clarinet, and pianist, Antony Ingham. Please put all these dates in your diaries now!

music@stansted continues to thrive, not just because of the quality of its concerts, but because of the support that you give. The more memberships we have, the better we can plan exciting, high quality programmes. The big attraction of joining for the season is a discount equivalent to at least a third off the 'door' ticket price of £12. You can do even better by taking advantage of our early payment deal and joining or renewing before 31st July. We are holding our prices at the 2009 level for yet another year: Individual £32, Concession (over 60's and university and college students) £30. If paid before July 31st, £30 and £28 respectively.

To join or re-join, please send a cheque payable to Music at Stansted, together with a note of your name(s), address, telephone number, and email address (this really helps us to keep you informed throughout the season) to: The Membership Secretary, c/o 25 Chantry Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 2SD. www.musicatstansted.com for all information.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes: June/July

Jonathan Forgham

A period of what appeared to be perpetual rain, but was interrupted by a few warm, blue sky days. These permitted me several walks around the parish as well as a couple of away days. As far as the local birds were concerned it was very much as usual. Warblers continued to sing and several cuckoos were reported from Hadham Hall, Ford Hill and Bury Green. Two highlight birds for this period (18th May – 18th June) were firstly, a pair of yellow wagtails at the lagoon east of Hadham Hall and then discovering a nesting pair of barn owls. The former is a summer migrant and only my 2nd parish record, photo here, whilst the barn owls were great news. I now know of two pairs rearing young within the parish, a very healthy population. On 12th June I led an evening walk for Bishop's Stortford camera club. We found the barn owls and managed to get some photos as the pair returned to the nest with freshly caught rodents. Photo here taken in poor light.



One weekend was spent in Suffolk with 2 early morning visits to the RSPB reserve at Minsmere. In all 83 species were recorded within the 6 hours I was present, including nightingale and a superb nightjar, along with bittern and cuckoo. Another local noteworthy bird was a red kite, watched gliding over the A120; a bird that is slowly increasing in number within East Herts. Moth wise, a milestone was reached on 16th June, when I recorded my 200th species for the garden. A common moth, treble brown spot, was nonetheless pleasing



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Rural Ramblings, continued from page 7

foresore from visiting museums and ancient artefacts, (but much better educated), we returned to find the UK sweltering in 27 degrees while, in Italy, it was 16°C!

Anyone who might be going in that direction may I just give two pieces of advice – don't drive – they are lunatics! And take sensible walking shoes. I didn't and my feet will never, ever be the same again!

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

Our June Jubilee meeting commenced with Bucks Fizz and we toasted The Queen with the National Anthem. We were then entertained by our retired Detective Chief Superintendent, who told us amazing police stories of how information is used and passed on, both legally and illegally! Plus he was sent to the Caymen Islands on a number of occasions, to investigate drug dealing and killings! A most fulfilling career.

We have a few tickets available for the visit to Bletchley Park on Saturday, 4th August. Jonathan Forgham is happy to organise another Bishop's Stortford Town trail over the summer, on a Wed. or Fri. morning. Also, our 10th July meeting will be at the Green Tye Greenhouses. We are meeting at the Village Hall car park at 6.30 pm and will leave Green Tye at 8.30 pm, the usual £1.50 admission fee applies, as we will be giving a donation towards the evening. Please phone 658585 for information if you are interested in being part of these trips, EVERYONE WELCOME.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 16

to record. These 200 species have come up in just over a year. I suspect it will take longer to record the next hundred. A photo here of a stunning privet hawkmoth, trapped on the 17th. Again a common moth, but always good to record.

Bee orchids featured high on the plant list, with 2 habitats showing these fairly rare plants. Their position has been noted and I shall report one area to the local authorities at the appropriate time to make sure they do not mow the area in June next year. The 2nd, well secluded, had 14 flowers which is a large number for such a hard to find plant.



Butterflies have been few and far between due to the weather, with red admiral, brimstone and small and large whites being seen most frequently. A peacock and first of the year meadow brown were both recorded on Ash Valley Golf Course on the 18th (June not hole!) I am hoping for warmer times soon as along with the butterflies, only a few species of dragon and damselfly have been witnessed. These have been the small common blue, azure blue and bluetail damsels as well as 2 emperor dragonflies and a solitary 4 spot chaser.

Daily updates of all wildlife can be seen at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.com>.

Next month I hope to report on a successful butterfly walk on 24th June, hopefully in hot sun and clear skies.

Adverts removed

Faster Internet Access for Albury & Little Hadham

If your current broadband speed doesn't meet your needs you can do something about it today by visiting www.superfastforherts.org and backing your local county council's campaign to bring superfast broadband to Hertfordshire. These days it's not uncommon for households to have more than one way of accessing the internet – be it through a computer, tablet, smartphone or games console. But standard broadband cannot always cope with the requirements placed on it by modern families, who like to use the internet to do a variety of things – watching catch up TV, streaming films, uploading photos, or enjoying online gaming. With superfast broadband, multiple devices can be online at any one time and still enjoy high speed connectivity.

Unfortunately from town to town and even street to street, internet connection speeds vary significantly across Hertfordshire. Hertfordshire County Council has secured government funding to improve access in areas which currently have no broadband access or suffer very slow speeds.

Registering your demand for superfast broadband will only take a couple of minutes and won't cost a penny. You're simply helping Hertfordshire County Council demonstrate to broadband providers that there is a demand for superfast connectivity here in Hertfordshire. If you are unable to register online please call 0300 123 4040.

Register by 1 September 2012 and you will be entered into a free prize draw for a chance to win an iPad kindly donated by Serco.

More information, including answers to frequently asked questions, is available on www.superfastforherts.org. Details about which areas will benefit from our government funding and when improved broadband access will be rolled out in Hertfordshire will be published on the website as soon as we know, so please check the website for updates.

Adverts removed

News from the Cricket Club

Neil Oxborrow

Despite the wet weather during May the cricket club managed to get a few matches played, more than half of the scheduled matches had to be cancelled due to the weather. In the middle of May, Takeley were the visitors to Bury Green and batting first they made a highly impressive 252 for 5 wickets. David Wheatley was the pick of the Hadham bowlers taking 5 for 48. In reply, Little Hadham always struggled to keep up with the required run rate, eventually reaching 137 for 7 and therefore holding on for a draw. David Wheatley capped a fine all round performance scoring 46 and Martin Hallmark also made 46 not out.

The following week Little Hadham played their first way game, at Stansted. Stansted batted first reaching a total of 206 for 8, with Neil Oxborrow taking 4 wickets for 32. Despite good batting performances from Paul Mason-Smith (36), Martin Beedell (29) and David Wheatley (25) the Hadham reply fell well short at 140 for 6 and therefore like the previous week the match was drawn. After a break of two weeks due to the weather, it was mid June before the next match was played. A trip to Cheshunt for a 40 overs a side match with the home team batting first and scoring 236 for 5. As in previous weeks the Hadham reply fell short, at only 176 for 9, with Neil Oxborrow 60 and David Wheatley 45 being the main contributors. Despite Ollie Radley's spirited 28 near the end, off just 19 deliveries, Little Hadham still lost by 60 runs. 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. 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. Please contact Martin Hallmark 771033 or Alan South 651603 for further details.

Adverts removed

Down at the doctor's

Paul Haimes

Some of you were lucky enough to be in St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham for the Jubilee Revue on Saturday 9th June when the final sketch brought back fond memories of the Brookbanks/Haimes partnership.

Yes, for one night only, yours truly teamed up with his retired partner in crime, Colin Brookbanks, to revive an old Ronnie Barker sketch about Doctors. There was some sound advice about wrapping up warmly and good tips on how to diagnose yourself, use a stethoscope and treat sore points. Judging from the feedback I received, a good time was had by all and doctoring, not surprisingly, may well be looked upon a bit differently in future!

At the surgery, we are hopeful that our building work will begin by the end of June. By the time the parish magazine is distributed there will be mud, chaos and noisy builders to brighten up our days! There will obviously be some disruption to the car parking but this will, hopefully, be minimal and I ask everyone to bear with us during the construction of the extension for which we have fought for so long.

Cricket Fixtures for July

Sun 1st	Ardleigh Green	Home	14.00
Sun 8th	High Beech	Home	14.00
Sun 15th	F.M. Arthurs XI	Home	14.00
Sun 22nd	Manuden	Away	14.00

Adverts removed

New 'Special To Us' Appeal

:Local children's hospice, Keech Hospice Care has launched its latest appeal, 'Special to us' which calls on local communities to help support the charity so that it can continue to provide high quality care and give our loved ones a dignified death.

Together, over the last 21 years Keech and the local community has achieved so much. However the need for the services that it provides has grown and Keech needs your help now more than ever before in order to continue to make a real difference to local people, their families, friends and their neighbours for the next 21 years.

Many families have walked through Keech's doors and taken part in its groups, swimming, music therapy or days out. Keech Hospice Care is here for the whole family and thanks to its bereavement and sibling support service, Keech has helped many parents, brothers and sisters get through the unthinkable - the loss of a child.

The 'someone special to us' appeal calls the community to give a gift to the charity as part of its 21st birthday year. A donation of £50 will help pay for the doctor support needed for a patient in our adult in-patient unit for 24 hours. A gift of £21 will pay for the family of a sick child with support services such as social work, bereavement support and complementary therapy. And a gift of £122 would provide a place at the hospice and access to all our specialist support for one day for a child and their family.

You can donate online at http://www.keech.org.uk/get_involved/online_donation. You can also donate via text. Simply text the number 70070 and the code JUNE21 followed by the amount you would like to donate. Example: To 70070 June21 £50.

For more information please visit www.keech.org.uk.

Adverts removed

The Hadhams' History Society Walk

We had a lovely walk up and down the High Street in Much Hadham, led by Stephen Ruff (who must have worked on every boiler or heating system in every house!) and Richard Maddams who gave us a lot of interesting information on the former families, businesses and characters who had inhabited them. Shops, long gone, were remembered by some of the group and there were notices in some windows telling us what the property was in Coronation year! Did you know William Morris's sister lived in Morris Cottage or that Walter de la Mare's son lived in the Hall? The High Street ranges from Tudor, Jacobean, Georgian, Victorian, Edwardian and 20th century architecture all jumbled together in a fascinating mixture occupied by equally fascinating people. To join please ring Amanda, 01 279 842462.

Christian Aid

Thank you, kind people of Little Hadham for putting your hands in your pockets and supporting the annual Christian Aid appeal. This year we raised £507.63 not counting the foreign currency which can now be accepted by the bank, and this will go towards the many life-saving feeding and farming projects supported by Christian Aid. The money goes to existing projects to ensure it is used to best advantage and not siphoned off by greedy governments. Many thanks to my fellow collectors: Ennis, Eileen, Gillian, Malcolm and Tony, at least the weather was good this year!

Adverts removed

July diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

1 Sunday

Trinity 4, Proper 8

9.30am

Matins at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

11.15am

Parish Communion and Sunday School at St Mary's, Albury.

8 Sunday

Trinity 5, Proper 9

9.30am

Shared Communion at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

11 Wednesday

7.00pm

Little Hadham PCC in Church.

15 Sunday

Trinity 6, Proper 10

8.00am

Holy Communion St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

9.30am

Service in the Village Hall, Little Hadham

6.00pm

Evensong at St Mary's, Albury.

22 Sunday

Trinity 7, Proper 11

11.15am

Parish Communion & Baptism at St Mary's, Albury

6.00pm

Evensong at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

29 Sunday

Trinity 8, Proper 12

9.15am

Shared Communion at St Andrew's, Much Hadham

6.00pm

Deanery Evensong at St Mary's, High Wych.

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

FOUND

**A purse was found today (Sunday 17th June) on the pavement near the Village Hall.
The loser should ring 771325 for its return.**

Prayer Chain

Within our congregations we have a network of people who will receive prayer requests. Whatever the problem, worry, anxiety or personal need, when received, will be forwarded to the people on the chain who will pray immediately for each request for a period of time.

All requests will be confidential.

Please ring anytime: Janet: 842671, Karin: 771532

There have been no entries in the Register this month

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