

# Little Hadham Parish News

July 2015



Before and After: Article on page 16



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

## Letter from the Rectory



*Dear friends in Little Hadham*

### Church Safari Month in August

*We are blessed in the Ash & Quin Ministry Team in having six beautiful churches and a chapel (St Andrew's, Much Hadham; St Cecilia's, Little Hadham; St Mary's, Albury; St Mary's, Braughing; St Mary's, Furneux Pelham; St Mary's, Stocking Pelham and St Thomas', Perry Green.*

*Each of these places of worship is maintained and supported by both a loyal congregation and members of the wider local community who, while they may not be regular church goers, value and love the church building and the part it plays in the life of the community.*

*Sadly, however, our congregations do not often get the chance to visit the other churches in the Team as they are busy supporting their local church. To help address this we are holding a 'Church Safari Month' in August. There will be one Team-wide Sunday morning Holy Communion Service in a different church on each of the five Sundays of August, together with one Team Evensong. We hope that the different congregations and wider communities will use this opportunity to travel around the Team and visit the other churches. Each of the services will be followed by refreshments.*

*The August pattern of services will also provide an opportunity to welcome and meet our new Team Vicar, Revd Julie Gawthrop, who is being licensed at St Mary's, Braughing at 7.30pm on 27th July. The arrival of Julie brings our Clergy Team up to full strength and marks the end of the interregnum which we have been in since September 2014. We are all looking forward to Julie's joining us.*

*So please look at the Church service schedule in the August magazine and take the opportunity to visit another church in our Team.*

*God Bless, Reverend Giles*

## Birthday Greetings

Ann Clayton celebrated her 90th birthday on 13th June with her children, grand-daughters, three great-grand-children and 45 friends who attended her party in Little Hadham. A wonderful time was had by all with a lovely lady who shows no sign of slowing down.



We all look forward to her next significant birthday!

# Parish Council News

## New Council Forms

As we move forward into the new term, councillors have been working to ensure a full team again. At last month's meeting Liz Lloyd-Williams was proposed and seconded to lead the Council. She opted to dispense with the term 'chairman' and will instead be referred to as Chair. Liz says she is excited to take on this new role. With three vacancies to fill we were pleased to have a good number of applications for vacancies. After interviews last month, new Councillors Will Wright and Gavin Tooke will be joining the team (following their pending co-option on the 7th July) leaving the council with only one seat remaining open. It is hoped that this seat will also be filled by existing applicants at this month's meeting, putting the Council once again at full capacity.

## Defibrillator

The beady-eyed amongst you may have noticed a new yellow box outside the main entrance of the Village Hall. This is the much talked about defibrillator cabinet which houses our Parish's new AED (Automated External Defibrillator). I think the key word to focus on with this acronym is 'Automated'. Basically once you've switched it on it will start talking to the user, instructing them exactly what to do, and most importantly assessing the casualty so only shocking someone it deems to be in cardiac arrest. With this in mind it really is better to get it and try and save a life as it can do no harm! We are currently awaiting notification from the local ambulance service that they have our AED registered on their lists. Once we've heard from them the defibrillator will be operational to use by anyone who needs it simply by ringing 999. This is expected to be in early July.

Although it is completely fine to use the

defibrillator without training we will be holding a training course at 8pm on 16th July. Please do come along to learn more about it. It could give you the confidence you need to save a loved one, or neighbour's life. The session will run for about an hour and a half and will also give some basic first aid training.

The Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to the Village Hall Committee for their support with this project, and especially to Jon Fardell who dealt with all the practicalities needed to get the box up and working. We particularly like the new light which makes the Village Hall entrance, and the defibrillator cabinet visible at night time.

## Speeding in the Parish

Speeding and cars rat running through the Parish's back roads has been on the Council agenda for a couple of months now. It is widely reported from all corners of the Parish that the traffic using our roads is not doing so appropriately. Cllr Liz Lloyd-Williams has been in touch with police officers and driven around the Parish with them to look at roads and discuss the problem further. It has already been agreed that traffic will be monitored at Bury Green to identify the volume, time and type of traffic using these roads (which sites are suitable for this within the Parish are limited by suitable sight lines). Police and Councillors have also highlighted a number of suggestions to be taken up with Highways such as possible speed restrictions in currently demarcated areas, further speed indicators and upkeep of road signs. Police are committed to continue to visit and monitor traffic at the notorious A120 traffic lights in an awareness campaign. Police have pointed out again that many people caught both speeding and jumping the traffic lights

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here are largely locals.

One big suggestion has been to harness the passion and input of the many parish residents who have a personal commitment to improving the safety of our roads. A very popular scheme, which you might have read about in the Herts and Essex Observer over the last month, is "Community DriveSafe". This important part of the Police and Crime Commissioners' wider volunteering strategy empowers people and local businesses to do something about speeding in their village, street or neighbourhood. As part of the scheme volunteers conduct roadside speed monitoring on roads that are of particular concern and use an illuminated Speed Indicator Display Sign (SIDS) that tells motorists what speed they are doing, indicating a smiley face or a sad face. The details of vehicles seen driving over the recommended speed limit (30mph) are recorded and an advisory letter is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle. The

object of this scheme is to educate drivers and make local roads safer, using roadside speed monitoring and promoting awareness.

If you would like to know more about DriveSafe please follow this link for more details: <http://www.hertscommissioner.org/community-drive-safe-scheme-hertfordshire>.

In order for this to work for our villages we would need volunteers from across the parish to take part. Please get in touch if this is something you would be interested in doing. Please email us at [clerklittlehadham@gmail.com](mailto:clerklittlehadham@gmail.com). Likewise we are interested to hear your views on this or any other ideas on how we could tackle this problem.

### Graffiti in the park

The Parish Council has had reports of obscene graffiti in the park and are looking to have this removed asap. If anyone has any information about who may have done this, or sees anything similar in the future please let us and/or the police know.

**Adverts removed**

## Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our June meeting local girl Ruth Rogers gave us a captivating insight into her four year National Theatre career as a puppeteer in the long running WAR-HORSE show. Ruth controlled the horse's head in the show, the energy she portrayed during the talk was absolutely infectious: we couldn't help but be enthralled - if you haven't seen the show Ruth highly recommends it, as do many others, it's a truly moving story.

At our next meeting on Tuesday July 14th @ 8pm we shall have a feast! It's our Annual Dinner with Live Music from Jill Oxborrow - she of Little Hadham Pantomime fame ... that lady can sing! There'll be lots of great home-made food and a glass or two of wine on offer at only £10 per head all inclusive - more details from Carmela 01279 898591 - everyone is welcome do come along, membership not required!

## Time for Tea with Herts Air Ambulance

Herts Air Ambulance is calling on the tea and cake loving folk of Hertfordshire to hold their very own fundraising tea party in aid of their local Air Ambulance.

Simply get your friends and family together over the weekend of Friday 24th to Sunday 26th July for Afternoon Tea. You can hold it at home, work, school or even at your local club; just ask each of your guests to make a donation to Herts Air Ambulance.

Hosts can hold anything from a cream tea with scones and jam to a Ritz style High Tea with cucumber sandwiches! You can buy cakes or bake your own, it's up to you! For some refreshing ideas visit [HertsAirAmbulance.uk.com](http://HertsAirAmbulance.uk.com). We would love to see what you get up to for your Afternoon Tea so please do share your pictures with us on social media!"

Don't miss out on the Tea Party of the year! Register now to receive your Afternoon Tea Host Pack and free gifts! Email [AfternoonTea@EHAAT.uk.com](mailto:AfternoonTea@EHAAT.uk.com) or call 0345 2417 690.

Adverts removed

*There have unfortunately been incidents of disruption to bookings in the Hall by boys living in the Village. This seems to involve coming into the building during events, shouting, banging doors, vandalising the toilets, etc. and generally messing about in the car park. I would emphasise that this is not a major issue at present and hopefully it will not escalate, but if users do experience problems they should ring the police, and I would suggest locking themselves in. This will not compromise the emergency escape as all the fire exit doors have push bars on the inside that will over-ride the locks and allow a quick exit.*

*On a more optimistic note the Management Committee are going ahead with some work in the toilets. This will involve improvements to the plumbing and complete redecoration. Hirers may experience some disruption with work going on during their bookings but we anticipate that there will always be toilets available for use.*

*The Hall was built in 1970 using a prefabricated timber frame system and was designed for only a limited life. Most, if not all, the halls built around the same time in the same system have all been rebuilt by now, but ours has been kept going by timely maintenance, and we are justly proud of it. Indeed some of the facilities are at least equal to the very best in Hertfordshire. There will however, come a time when the Hall will have to be replaced. Some of the members of the Management Committee have been involved for many years (in my case 25+) and age is creeping up on us and there will come a time in the not too distant future when they will have to be replaced! If there are people out there in the Village who feel they might like to get involved and help I would be very pleased to hear from you.*

Jon Fardell. [jfardell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jfardell@hotmail.co.uk)

**Adverts removed**

## Mobile Library Service to cease

### Sad news as decision is reached by Cabinet

*On Friday 15th May the Cabinet review panel at County Hall met to discuss the the proposed closure of the Mobile Libraries Service across Hertfordshire. At this meeting Liz Lloyd-Williams presented a petition signed by over 680 Hertfordshire residents asking that the buses continue to operate. The petition was well received and the Chair took time to introduce the petition, highlighting the enthusiasm it showed the community held for the library service.*

*However, the petition did not do enough to convince councillors to reconsider their decision. With 7 votes to 4, it seemed like a foregone conclusion when members voted to go ahead and cease the Mobile Library Service from 31st October 2015. The Chair strongly endorsed the proposals put forward by the Inspired Libraries proposal, saying that new initiatives would create a much better service for library users going forward. While not swayed to change the overall direction the library is taking, Cabinet members seemed to take note of the number of petitioners' comments highlighting children's use of the libraries and wording was amended to make sure that the provision for under 5s is well communicated to care providers (nurseries and child minders) to ensure these groups get the most out of the services still available to them. Another change will be the widening of the Home Library Service criteria, meaning more people will be eligible for the service.*

*It seems likely that all current users of the Mobile Library will be receiving some form of communication explaining the new service.*

*Users of the service in Bury Green are planning a final send off for the bus at its last visit in October. If you would like to join us to show librarian Steve how much we have valued his fortnightly visits please join us 2.30-3.30pm 31st October.*

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## Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haimes

*Despite me making a 14,000 mile round trip to Singapore on a recruitment drive, we still haven't managed to appoint a new practice nurse!! However, in my absence Drs Conway and Oates have come close to finding someone, so maybe some good news next month.*

*All you hard of hearing folk with NHS hearing aids will be pleased to know that we have purchased a portable induction loop which can be used at the reception desk or in any consulting room and will make it much easier to hear; just ask at reception if you would like to use it.*

*During June new "wood effect" flooring was installed, over the weekends, in all consulting rooms plus other public areas such as the waiting room, reception area and patient toilet. This will be much easier to keep clean and will, in addition to our new chairs, comply with the CQC infection control regulations.*

## Village Oil Syndicate

*Folks, it may be July and heating oil may be furthest from your mind but usually it is a very good month in which to order heating oil. A top up order of 500lts is perfectly acceptable - our next order will be submitted during the first week in July. Spread the word to friends and neighbours, new members always welcome - it's FREE to join. More info: [cam2403@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cam2403@hotmail.co.uk).*

*Adverts removed*

Well, summer appears to have arrived and the flowers in the garden are blooming along with a constant hum of nectar feeding insects. All good, although, until the last week, night time temperatures have remained disappointingly low for moths.

Bird wise, only a couple of out of county trips along with several local wanders. Nothing new to report, but local barn owls are now raising young at 2 parish sites, along with tawny owls now having their second brood. With the cutting of the hay, come the buzzards and red kites, inevitably followed by a variety of gulls. The latter are usually non-breeding birds that have remained at winter quarters along with recent arrivals that are birds that failed to breed or lost their eggs early on. May seems to be the only month that lesser black backed and herring gulls cannot be found in the parish. Several cuckoos were heard and



occasionally seen locally, especially a particularly vociferous one on the local golf course but, as usual, no sign of any successful egg laying as I have yet to find a juvenile being fed by dotting robin or thrush parents. Thanks to all who texted me with details of singing cuckoos.

A weekend stay at Portland Bird Observatory gave me a chance to watch birds not seen within land locked Hertfordshire, such as

*continued on page 10*

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## Nature Notes, continued from page 9

*gannet, manx shearwater, razorbill, guillemot along with spotted flycatchers (shown on p9), rock pipits and a variety of warblers. However, the highlight was finding a pied flycatcher, a bird only recorded on a couple of occasions per year in Herts.*

*Butterflies are now an everyday sight, with new species on the wing as from the middle of June. These include the common meadow brown, large skipper and slightly less common, Essex Skipper. Also, a few painted ladies have now arrived from North Africa and locally bred orange tips, small tortoiseshells, peacocks and common blues.*



*Dragonflies and damselflies should be seen around garden ponds, with the common blue damsel or azure damsel (shown here) being a regular sight. Larger dragonflies, especially yellow ones will probably be the 4 spotted chasers. Keep an eye open over the next month for the blue and green emperor dragonflies and the red darter species. However, the undoubted highlight of the month,*

*indeed year, occurred on 6th June whilst I was netting moths along local footpaths. I came across the fairly common *Dicrorampha petiverella*, a tiny 5mm moth with a white pattern crossing its wings. As I netted a few of these, it became apparent that one was different, in that the white "saddle" shape was more rectangular, not boomerang shaped. I potted this and checked with guide books. This informed me it was *Dicrorampha sequana*, but upon checking the huge book that is the history of moths in Hertfordshire, I saw that*

*continued on page 14*

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*By the time this article appears in parish magazines, we will have finished updating all the parish introductions that appear on our website [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk). Each introduction now has a short description of key elements of the parish's history and heritage, as well as photos and links to further information, either online or in print. We have also updated population figures for each parish to show numbers derived from the 2011 Census. The overall population of the Hundred Parishes grew by 10% in ten years to 139,000. Half of that growth may be regarded as exceptional, arising from construction of four "airport-related" residential developments in the vicinity of Stansted Airport.*

*Our website's What's On page shows that July offers a number of opportunities to visit some of our treasured private houses and gardens, as well as churches and windmills that open to the public only occasionally. I will draw attention to two particular opportunities . . .*

*St Mary's Church, Stansted Mountfitchet, is cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust. During July it will be open each day from 11am to 4pm to display the new "Stansted Heritage" embroidery, together with photos and postcards that trace the parish's history.*

*From July 4th to September 12th, Braintree District Museum in Braintree will be staging "World War II - The People's Story", an exhibition of the impact on Braintree District of the Second World War. Although the town of Braintree itself is outside the Hundred Parishes, eight of our parishes are within Braintree district, including Wethersfield and Great Saling that each had wartime airfields. The exhibition includes photos, objects and memories from the rural areas. Braintree District Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.*

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# What's on in July

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

**LH & A Garden Club, There is no meeting in July.** We hope you are all looking at the show schedule ready to enter the Autumn Show in September. Schedules can be obtained from Little Hadham Post Office and Karin Green, Gouldburn Cottage Tel 771532.

**2, 16, 30** **Thur, Mobile Library,** See p13, also article on page 7.

**7** **Tue, Parish Council,** 8pm, main hall. Meet your new parish councillors.

**11** **Sat, Albury Antiques and Interiors Fair,** 10-4pm, Albury Village Hall, SG11 2JL.

**14** **Tue, LH & A Social Club Annual Dinner** with Live Music from Jill Oxborrow (of Panto fame). £10 per head all inclusive - more details from Carmela 01279 898591. Everyone is welcome; do come along, membership not required!

**16** **Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning,** 12.30 - 1.45pm, rear of Village Hall. Come and make new friends and meet old ones over a cuppa.

**16** **Thur, Defibrillator Training course** at 8pm Do please come along to learn more about it.

**19** **Sun, Open Day at Easton Lodge,** our celebration of our links to the Second World War. Once again the talented duo "Perfect Vintage", who went down a storm last year, will be providing musical entertainment throughout the afternoon and visitors can expect to hear all the classic songs from the wartime era. Second World War vehicles and re-enactors will be on site, as well as special displays relating to our links with the RAF. If you have a vehicle or other memorabilia that you would like to bring along to the event then do please get in touch as soon as possible. 01371 876979 (recorded information but you can leave a message), [enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk)

[eastonlodge.co.uk](http://eastonlodge.co.uk) or [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk).

**22** **Wed, Hadhams' History Society,** 8pm, LH Village Hall. 'Finding Michael O'Connell' by Iris Dedman. Iris spent some time working with the textile artist Michael O'Connell at Perry Green and will share some of her memories.

**24-26** **Afternoon Tea for Herts Air Ambulance** Tea, Coffee and Cake... Your Chance to Bake and Donate. Get your friends and family together for Afternoon Tea and simply ask for a donation in return. Register today to receive your free gifts! Visit [EssexAirAmbulance.uk.com](http://EssexAirAmbulance.uk.com) See p5 and poster on p13.

**25** **Sat, Farmers' Market,** 8.30 - 11.30am. Local produce and much much more.

**26** **Sun, Colour Me Happy 5k,** 11.30am Leventhorpe School CM21 9BY. Sign up online at [IsabelHospice.org.uk](http://IsabelHospice.org.uk). If you want to have fun, then this is the event for you! During the 5k route, which you can walk or run, you will be showered in a different coloured powder paint at every kilometre 'paint station'. This year Colour Me Happy is open to children 5 and over and there are team, group and family entry offers. Each participant will receive a white t-shirt on arrival, a blank canvas to be splashed with colour during the fun. To take advantage of the early bird offer, sign up before the day and join the hundreds of colour runners who have already done so.

## Coming soon

**Aug 16** **Open Day, Easton Lodge.** [enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk)

**Aug 19** **History of LH Church,** at LH Church.

**Sept 13** **Teddy Bears' Picnic & Parachute Jump,** at St Cecilia's Church.

**Oct 17** **Panto Group Quiz Night.**

# NOTICEBOARD

## SOS

Could locals walking past the planters between the Village Hall and The Smithy occasionally tip a litre of water in there, especially those on their way to school? Thank you!

## ADVANCE NOTICE

The Panto Group are having a quiz night on 17th Oct. and would love to see you there. Please put the date in your diary. More information nearer the date.

## 2nd, 16th & 30th July Mobile Library

Nag's Head from 13.30 - 13.50

The Smithy from 13.55 - 14.15

Bury Green from 14.30 - 15.30

A fortnightly service.

## The 'Way Inn

Come and meet friends and neighbours over a cup of tea or coffee, or enjoy soup and a roll.

Rear of Village Hall,  
third thursday of the month, 12.30 - 1.45



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Friday 24th - Sunday 26th July 2015

A really fun and easy way to support your local Air Ambulance

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HERTFORD ENERGY GROUP

The St Cecilia's Teddy Bears' Picnic and Parachute Jump is back by popular demand. Sunday September 13th.

More information revealed next month.

## Do you want to play chess?

Hertford Chess Club is a small friendly club with players of all strengths and ages.

Matches, again at all levels, are played each week from October through to May against other teams in Herts.

We meet at the Grade II listed building of Hertford Club\* with oak-beamed ambience and private bar.

Whether you're a current player, a long-time lapsed player or just starting, why not come down and take a look?

For more information contact

Alan alan.brewis@ntlworld.com 01920 463698

Corinne corinne.mountford@ntlworld.com 07758 245791

Or visit [www.hertfordchessclub.com](http://www.hertfordchessclub.com)

\* Lombard House, Bull Plain, Hertford, SG14 1DT

## Nature Notes, continued from page 10

*this was an extinct species within the county. Another check and I still couldn't make it into anything else, so off for a 2nd opinion. Dissection was required and this proved beyond doubt I had found a moth declared extinct in 2006, forty years after being last seen within Hertfordshire. Most pleasing. Photo of the tiny creature here. I have since received permission to visit the land adjacent to the footpaths and have netted 7 more as well as witnessing many of these moths on the wing. Clearly a strong colony. Thanks to the land owner for granting this permission.*



*18th – 25th July is National Moth Week (yes, really!!) and I and several mothing mates will be running traps and netting moths in Millennium Wood on Thursday 23rd July. Meet at the woods at 9.45pm. Do bring picnic chairs, children, wine, beer and torches. Last year we trapped well over 160 moths of 85+ species and those who came along (residents, not moths!) said they had an enjoyable evening. Pop it in your diary! Any folk interested in coming along to the moth night should contact me beforehand so they know where to meet up.*

*Whilst on the subject of Millennium Wood, I have spent time tidying up the paths and*

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## Nature Notes, continued from page 14

on Wed 1st July I am meeting with Tim Hill from Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust to formulate a management plan for the wood. Much is needed in the way of clearance and opening spaces for more light. More to follow but good of HMWT to give of their time freely to offer professional advice.

Finally, I have had several calls from locals seeking advice about young birds that seem to be abandoned. Thank you for taking the time and interest to contact me, always happy to offer my amateur advice. Invariably, these birds are being tended to by parents and, much like our youngsters, make a load of noise when left to their own devices when they're hungry. The parents will return to feed them and quite often, the juveniles are capable of flight, should a predator appear. To move them will mean the parents will not be able to find them and consequently they will starve or expend too much energy in searching for the parent. Best policy is to leave them alone and, if after a day, they remain unattended then seek professional advice. However, sad to report, very few survive being separated from the feeding parents. Nature is tough. As always, local updates on nature at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> and I am always very pleased to hear of any findings locally, or of any queries relating to natural history.

Please do text/call 07805571551 or email me with photo for identification to [jforgham@hotmail.com](mailto:jforgham@hotmail.com). I shall try my best to help and, if not, I probably know someone who can.

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Most of you know by now that I am the proud owner of ten alpacas. These funny, shy creatures are the smallest of the three 'camelids' – the camel, llama and alpaca. They grow enormously thick coats which have to be shorn every year: and last week was our D-day! Unfortunately, unlike a sheep, the alpaca has to be roped down on the ground for this process as they are both stronger and less subservient than a sheep – although I understand that in Peru (where alpacas hail from) women still manage the animals from a standing position! It is not a pretty sight, and the animals do not help. Most of them cry - a pitiful noise - throughout the operation. I don't actually blame them but working alongside the shearer, collecting the beautiful blanket fleece and all the rest of the coat – 'seconds' in our jargon - it is a hot and thankless task. Extreme heat and a fierce wind did not help matters much either. Five exhausting hours later, our once woolly, plump creatures suddenly became wafer thin, mini identical versions of themselves! The following day they basked in the sunshine, spread flat-out on the ground, enjoying what had been, only two days before, a hellish hot spot. The next day it rained, and our Peruvian beauties obviously felt the cold, staying inside all day and eating us out of house and home! Only now will they come near me, terrified that I might, once again, collect them up for another brutal bad hair day!

I'm sure that the fatties among us – myself included – noted the story a couple of weeks ago about the down side of living near noise. It appears that Swedish scientists have proved that those who live near a motorway, noisy roads or under a flight path are much more susceptible

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## Letter from a reader

Listeners to the BBC farming programme will recently have been reminded of George Henderson's contribution to good farming methods, described in his enjoyable book 'Farming Ladder', which was published as long ago as 1944. He started with his brother on Oathill, a tenanted farm of 85 acres in the Cotswolds, but within a few years, had bought this farm and expanded with other tenanted holdings; these run by those he had trained in his intensive stocking methods. Henderson claimed that if the efficiency of small farms was universal, we would be able to feed 100 million people. We may yet have to!

It should at least be a matter of concern that the pattern of farming in East Hertfordshire has virtually abandoned crop rotation. This was the subject of another BBC farming programme only a few days following the one about George Henderson. In this, the alternation between wheat and rape was shown to be only an 'apology' for the principles of Jethro Tull and the results were a damaging decline in soil fertility, plus a rising reliance on fungal sprays and pesticides. Poor Bumble Bee.

Expressions of concern at the present state of much British farming is no longer heard just from the "lefty-greens": matters are now serious because, without our pollinators, we will surely starve!

Then we come to the staffing of farms, which in terms of permanent workers has dwindled in an effort to improve productivity on inefficient Big farm practices. Neglect is the result: Shakespeare's Henry V has a marvellous speech by the Duke of Burgundy, to the Kings of France and England, admonishing them for neglect of our Countryside in 100 years of war: he speaks of ". . . her hedges even pleached, like prisoners wildly over-grown with hair, put forth disorder'd twigs"! Soon we will have clocked up 100 years of neglect since Henderson. Do any of us really believe that the Council's promises to take anti-flood measures are anything more than a cover-up for recent years of neglect of the River Ash? Long ago, with enough farm staff, hedges would be trimmed or layered, ditches would be cleared and streams like the Ash would be kept flowing. There IS no long history of flooding here, only recent retribution.

And finally, today, false Gods have determined that the motor car and Rumanian lorry must be given a by-pass, despite an excellent Roman road, which the Tudors foolishly obstructed with a Coaching Inn at Little Hadham. This will be a permanent loss of Countryside, together with our nightingales and roe deer, which inhabit that spot.

England now comes disgracefully low in the global assessment of citizens' happiness. Switzerland is top but Denmark, which similarly nurtures its countryside and manages to avoid our punitive land and capital taxes, comes high up the list. Are we listening?

'Visitor'

Little Hadham made the short trip to Takeley and the home side batted first scoring a massive 267 for 7 wickets off their 40 overs. Pick of the bowlers was Alan South who took 4 wickets for 54 runs. In reply Hadham were never really challenging the Takeley total and eventually finished on 144 for 8, thereby losing by 123 runs with David Jones top scoring with 46.

The following week saw another away match, this time to Hazel End to play Farnham Harlequins. Little Hadham batted first and a solid all round batting display saw them post 187 for 6 wickets, with David Wheatley scoring 69. In reply the home side were bowled out for just 100, with three wickets for Ryan Mullins and a further two for Alan South meaning a win for Hadham by 87 runs.

The following day (Bank Holiday Monday) saw another short trip this time to Thorley, with Hadham once again batting first. A regular fall of wickets saw Hadham collapse to 39 for 4 however, a superb 74 not out from Alan South saw the visitors eventually reach 149 for 7. In reply the home side also lost wickets regularly thanks mainly to 5 wickets for 12 runs in just 4 overs from David Wheatley, resulting in them being bowled out for 82 and therefore a Hadham win by 67 runs.

The following Sunday saw another away match this time at Nazeing Common. The home side were put into bat first and scored 224 for 5 with Neil Oxborrow taking 2 for 51. In reply Hadham reached 103 for 1 and were scoring at the required rate of 7 an over; however after

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## LH Cricket Club, continued from page 18

the wickets of Neil Oxborrow (36) and David Wheatley (86) they eventually settled for a draw ending on 175 for 6. The run of away games continued the following week with a trip to Stocking Pelham. Pelham batted first and were bowled out for 150 with Paul Elby on his Little Hadham debut taking 4 wickets for just 4 runs. In reply 88 from David Wheatley (including 4 sixes) helped Hadham to the total and a win by 3 wickets. If you are interested in playing cricket for your village team ring Alan South on 01279 651603

### July Fixtures

Sun 5th	High Beech	Away	14.00
Sun 12th	TBA		
Sun 19th	Manuden	Home	14.00
Sun 26th	Hockerill veterans	Home	14.00

## Rural Ramblings, continued from page 16

to piling on the pounds. If you live with one such noise, you are 25% more likely to pile on the pounds round the midriff. If you live with two such factors, the likelihood goes up to 50% as does your rotund tum! Traffic noise disrupts sleeping patterns and increases stress levels, encouraging fat to accumulate around the waist, so scientists believe. The professor heading the study in Sweden says "Our results suggest that traffic noise exposure can increase the risk of central obesity (a bulge or spare tyre). Combined exposure to different sources of traffic noise may convey a particularly high risk". As the traffic noise outside our house is now so bad it stops me from sitting in the garden at any time, is it any wonder that my 'central obesity' continues to flourish? Pass the apple cake, please...

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## Message from your County Councillor, Graham McAndrew



*In 2000, the Government set targets for reductions in the number of casualties by the year 2010. In Hertfordshire the targets were met early and exceeded. More recently, Hertfordshire County Council established performance indicators and targets for road safety:*

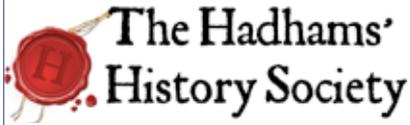
- *The total maximum number of road collision KSI (killed and seriously injured road users) casualties through until 2030/31 is not to exceed the 2009 value of 413 per year.*
- *The total maximum number of children KSI casualties through until 2030/31 is not to exceed the 2009 value of 42 per year.*
- *For 2013 (the most recent full year for which data is available) there were 385 KSI casualties, which is 7.8% below the target maximum of 413.*
- *For 2013 there were 28 child KSI casualties, which is 33.3% below the target maximum of 42.*

*Our aim is that no one is killed or injured as a result of collisions on Hertfordshire's road network. While the casualty rates in Hertfordshire are presently better than the target levels that have been set, there is still work to do to improve the safety of the road network.*

*Specialist Safety Engineering professionals take a systematic approach to identifying accident sites that have a proven accident record and prioritising those sites that can be addressed with engineering measures most effectively and efficiently. Whilst this approach is the most effective and efficient way of reducing casualties through engineering measures, it is not always popular with local communities where concerns can be raised that there are sections of roads where there are 'accidents waiting to happen'. To divert resources to addressing sites where*

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*Our May speaker Dave Rayment came from near Aylesbury to give his presentation on Saxon and Medieval artefacts; Dave has been collecting them since the 2nd World War. He started by careful observation and subsequently became a keen metal detectorist. Over the years he has built up a close relationship with archaeologists at Verulamium, a rare achievement, and spends about a day a week there as part of the artefact identification team. Saxon finds are much less common than Roman ones, primarily because unlike the latter the Saxons lived in wooden dwellings. The spectacular finds at Sutton Hoo, where the remains of a ship, thought to be a memorial to a Saxon chieftain, were described. The artefacts found there are now held at the British Museum. Dave also illustrated the beautiful King Alfred Jewel which is on display at the Ashmolean in Oxford and well worth a visit. His own findings were more modest but he has amassed a large collection of Saxon bronze brooches, buckles, coins, cosmetic devices etc. Many of these were from a site near Sandy where a By-pass was being built. The items were found close together in what was thought to have been a cemetery. His "thrill" of finding and handling artefacts that had lain in the ground for a thousand or more years was emphasized. He brought along a considerable number of pieces from his collection for members to inspect and some less delicate ones to handle after his talk. This was a most interesting and unusual presentation and much appreciated by the audience.*

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## Message from your County Councillor, continued from page 20

accidents may happen is to divert resources away from addressing sites where accidents are actually happening and investigations suggest they will continue to happen unless intervention is made. The majority of my Electoral Division is rural and has many country lanes that we all use on a regular basis. Nationally, country lanes are statistically the most dangerous roads with 60% of all fatalities occurring on these roads, nearly 11 times higher than on motorways. These roads often have sharp bends, blind bends and unexpected hazards, so brake before the bend to give yourself time to react and stay in control.

### Advice

- The best drivers read the road ahead and anticipate potential hazards. Look out for upcoming bends, hidden dips, blind summits and concealed entrances.
- Country roads often have sharp bends. To stay in control and give yourself time to react to unexpected hazards, brake before the bend, not in it.
- Overgrown verges, bushes and trees on country roads can block your view and potentially obscure an oncoming hazard. Always drive at a speed which will allow you to stop in the distance you can see to be clear (double that on a single track road). Allow more time to stop on wet or slippery surfaces.
- The speed limit is a limit not a target. The national speed limit on single carriage roads is 60mph, but there will be times you need to drive under that in order to drive correctly for the

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## Flag Day

*On behalf of the Herts East Branch of the RSPCA I am holding a Flag Day in Hertford, on Saturday, 8th August, between 10 am to 4 pm. If there is anyone who would be happy to help, for an hour or two, if possible, I would be very grateful. The RSPCA Branches are almost self-funding and run by volunteers. Many people donate to charities through their salaries and these donations go direct to the Head Office. Therefore, Flag Days are very important to Branches, as they are often the main source of funding. If you could help on 8th, please contact me on 658585, leave a message if I am not there, and I will get back to you. I am also happy to collect donations for the RSPCA Charity Shop in Hitchin. Best wishes, Ennis Rogers*

## Message from your County Councillor, continued from page 22

*conditions. In fact most people do on these roads – the average free flow speed is 48mph.*

- If you get stuck behind a slow moving vehicle be patient. Dips in roads, bends and other junctions joining your road often hide oncoming vehicles, so unless it's absolutely essential, don't overtake.*
- If passing more vulnerable road users such as horse riders, cyclists and walkers, pass wide and slow.*
- Even if you're familiar with a country road, never take it for granted as the conditions can be different every time.*

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# July diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

## **5 Sunday**

### **Trinity 5**

8.00am BCP Holy Communion, St Thomas'  
9.15am Family Communion, Much Hadham  
11.15am Holy Communion and Sunday School, St Mary's, Albury  
6.00pm Evensong, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

## **12 Sunday**

### **Trinity 6**

9.15am Holy Communion Service, Much Hadham  
11.15am Holy Communion and Sunday School, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham

## **19 Sunday**

### **Trinity 7**

9.15am Holy Communion, Much Hadham  
11.15am Family Holy Communion, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham  
6.00pm Evensong BCP, St Mary's, Albury

## **26 Sunday**

### **Trinity 8**

9.15am Holy Communion, Much Hadham  
11.15am Family Holy Communion, St Mary's, Albury  
**No Service this day at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham**

## **29 Wednesday**

### **Midweek Communion,**

10.00am St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

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

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**The Register:** There have been no entries in the Register this month

## **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**

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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**)

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