

*Little Hadham
Parish News*

August 2015



Nature Notes, page 6

Rector of Parish: Revd. Giles Tulk
01279 842609

e-mail: muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com

Asst. Priest: Revd. Clive Slaughter
01279 844955

e-mail: marcia.slaughter@virgin.net

Churchwarden: Don Gibson 771325

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

Letter from the Rectory



Dear friends in Little Hadham

Leaving Space in Our Lives

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien: I am the LORD your God.

On first reading, the above passage from Leviticus in the Old Testament can be seen as being about how we care for the poor and needy in our community, reminding us that we set aside some of what we have for those less fortunate than ourselves. Supporting charities such as Christian Aid, and donating food to the local food banks are ways in which we can actively do this.

But on another level, the passage from Leviticus can equally apply to how we live our lives. Many of us lead lives in which we fill every minute of every day with activity. We live our lives up to, and beyond, the margin. For those in paid employment, the mobile phone and i-phone mean that even when on holiday it is difficult to switch off completely from work. The seven days-a-week retail opening hours in our country mean that Sunday is slowly becoming more like any other day of the week; a day filled with shopping and other activity.

The reality is that our society will not go back to the days of limited Sunday trading, and the mobile phone and i-phone cannot be un-invented. Therefore it is up to us to make sure that in our own lives we do not reap to the very edge of the field, filling every minute of every day with so much activity that we are exhausted. We all need to leave a margin at the edge of lives to give us some space for rest and relaxation, to be with our family and friends, and to simply reflect and just be.

God Bless, Reverend Giles

St. Cecilia's Teddy Bears' Picnic and Parachute Jump Back by popular demand Sunday September 19th.

Is your Bear brave enough to
jump off the Church Tower?
Bring your picnic and get some
tips from Bears who have made
the jump before.

Picnic and Bear registration from
12.30 pm

Jump time 2.00 pm.

Registration £1 per Bear

TREASURE TEA PARTY

SUN 6TH SEPT
12 – 5PM



- ✦ Enjoy a delicious high tea
- ✦ View our treasures on display for the first time
- ✦ Detect your own finds in our garden game

supported by



Much Hadham Forge Museum, High Street, Much Hadham, SG10 6BS

Parish Council News

Parish Council Co-options:

The Parish Council have now completed the co-option process for the three vacancies. There were four applicants. One withdrew their application and the remaining three have been co-opted. They are Gavin Tooke, Will Wright, and Tony Hoodless. They join the rest of the Councillors who are Chris Bhatt, Graham Pearson, Mary Wilkinson, Chair of Planning, and Liz Lloyd-Williams who is the Chair of the whole Council.

Mobile Phone Use and Speeding:

Throughout the month of July the Police have completed extensive checks of numerous locations in Herts where motorists have caused concerns through speeding, and also through using their mobile phones whilst driving. The A120 at Little Hadham, and Albury Road has been included in these checks. Both speeding and also using the mobile phone whilst driving, apart from the dangers, does mean points on your driving licence and your insurance company increasing your premiums.

Defibrillator:

Following the installation of the heart

defibrillator outside the Village Hall, 12 residents attended a training course at the Hall run by the Community Heartbeat Trust and Parish Council Chair. The defibrillator can be used by anyone in an emergency and access to it is gained by ringing 999. If using a mobile, it will connect to the nearest available network. If anyone would like additional training to use it then let a member of the Parish Council know as if there are enough people interested further courses can be run.

Parish News Printer:

The Parish Council have been pleased to assist with the continued success of the Parish News by making a donation of £650 towards the purchase of a new printer.

Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting will be at the Village Hall on **Tues 1st Sept at 8pm**. We now use the main hall so there is plenty of space, and there is also a hearing loop installed for the hard of hearing. Please come and let the Councillors know what you would like to see happen in our village, and listen to the work that is being carried out.

A Very Near Miss

Yet another of these so-called rare 1 in 100 year flood events occurred in the early hours of 17th July. There were no weather warnings this time. Hospitals at Stevenage and Addenbrookes went into crisis mode overnight as severe flooding hit parts of Hertfordshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire overnight, having to cancel minor ops and divert people from A&E due to flood waters within the hospitals. Schools closed at Royston and Baldock now facing thousands of pounds of repair costs during the summer holidays. Businesses closed. Homes flooded, access to Stevenage very limited as the A602 from Ware and the B197 from Knebworth blocked by water. Roads closed in Welwyn Garden City.

55mm of rain was recorded in a couple of hours at Stevenage and 52mm at Baldock causing major flooding in localised areas. This is almost 50% more than the deluge on Feb 7th last

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MUCH HADHAM TENNIS CLUB SUMMER 2015

Come and join our friendly club situated at Much Hadham sports ground. All three courts have floodlighting. We would be delighted to welcome new members - try us out on Club nights for mixed play on Wednesdays from 7pm, men's nights on Tuesdays from 8pm or ladies' mornings on Fridays from 9.15am. We are also having an open Club night for members and non-members on 15th July followed by light bites at The Bull. You're bound to enjoy it and as a member you can play at any time to suit.

Annual membership fees are very reasonable at £150 for a family, £70 for an adult and £30 for a junior/student.

Parent and child membership (£40 per year) - one parent playing with their child/children under the age of 10, use of courts Monday to Friday until 6pm.

Holiday membership for juniors under the age of 18 and students (£15 per year). For use of courts Monday to Friday until 6pm, subject to club events which will take priority. Valid 23rd May - 31st May inclusive and 23rd July - 31st August inclusive.

Also during school hols this year the courts will be open for an hour at the following times for under 16s to come and play for free (open to members and non-members of all standards):

Tuesdays 4th, 11th & 18th August at 12.30, Thursdays 6th, 13th & 20th August at 12.30.

Rackets and balls provided and an LTA coach on hand to offer help and advice.

Contact either Sally Barra on 07981 833179/ barratribe@yahoo.co.uk or Justin Akester on 07870 688719 / justinakester@hotmail.com

Adverts removed

Little Hadham Brownies

web-site : Girlguiding.co.uk/Joinus

During the Summer term we have made and flown our own Kites. Tuesday 8 July you may have spotted us river dipping in the Ash under the careful instruction of Mr Forgham. In early September we are off to the Broxbourne Paradise Park for a wild sleep over with the animals!! Who knows what the rest of the Autumn term will bring. If your daughter is interested in joining call me on 01279 654624 or go to the web-site to register your daughter's interest

Our meeting time is Tuesday 4.30- 6.00 (term time only) in the Little Hadham Village Hall. We welcome girls aged 7 – 10 years. We will have a few places for new girls in September due to saying Good Bye to five 10-year-old Brownies; it is sad to see them move on after 3 years of fun and adventures but exciting to meet new girls coming to join. This year sees my 20th year as Brown Owl at Little Hadham.

Judi Wheeler Brown Owl, Little Hadham 01279 654624 .

Little Hadham Cricket Club

Neil Oxborrow

Stansted Hall were the visitors to Bury Green and batting first they scored 233 for the loss of only two wickets. In reply Little Hadham never looked like getting close to the target and ended up hanging on for a draw on 140 for 9, with David Wheatley top scoring on 48. The following week Potter Street were the visitors and once again a large score was conceded as they ended up on 240 for 5. As the previous week Hadham never challenged the large total, once again hanging on for a draw and ending up on 115 for 9, with James Law top scoring on 33.

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Every time I think summer has arrived it appears to then turn damp and colder, so hopefully, some warm weather will stick around for the rest of July and into August. The end of June and all of July can be quiet months for birdwatching as adults are having their post breeding moult and remain hidden in hedgerows whilst their new feathers grow. Consequently, not much local birding accomplished in this period. However, red kites now seem almost a daily sight,



especially when hay is being mown as they hover overhead waiting for any rodents to be flushed. A day trip to Norfolk realised over 70 species of bird, with an incredible 460 avocets noted at Titchwell along with many returning waders, fresh from breeding in the arctic tundra, such as godwits, dunlin and sandpipers. A family of 11 bearded reedlings was a highlight, also at Titchwell as well as a drake garganey at Cley. A singing sedge warbler here from Titchwell. Locally, chiffchaffs

and blackcaps are still calling, with little owls screeching around after dusk. Still no sign of any successful barn owl breeding, but maybe that the juveniles have already left the nest holes unnoticed by myself. A hobby was noted, heading north up the Ash valley on the 11th July, not a common bird for the parish. A week's camping in wonderful Dorset at the end of June meant I saw a fair few seabirds as well as several butterflies not recorded in Hertfordshire, such as the Lulworth skipper.

However, with less involvement with birds has meant more time for mothing. This is the time of
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I met with Tim Hill from the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust on 1st July to discuss a management plan for Millennium Wood. This splendid habitat is now in need of serious management and Tim was enthused by the whole area, seeing much potential for developing the site as a great area for butterflies and birds, as well as other insects. I plan to begin drawing up a draft plan for his approval over the next month or so and then begin carrying out the work in the late autumn and throughout the winter.

Volunteers will be requested for at this juncture. The first job will be to identify trees that require removal.

To do this, I shall visit on a sunny day and mark those that are growing in the shade of larger specimens, so don't be concerned if you note trees sprayed with white over the next few weeks. Basically, up to 20%

of the trees will be removed to make areas of open glades for wild flowers to flourish. This removal, whilst sounding drastic, was in the original plan and mentioned on the welcome board as you enter the wood from Millfield Lane. Also, the paths will be widened a little, with the centre of these remaining worn down, then an area of vegetation that will be cut once a year and then, right on the periphery, an area that will be cut once every two years. It is also planned to add more bends into these paths to offer all forms of wildlife more opportunity to feed undisturbed. These paths will act as "insect highways," meaning more distribution of butterflies and moths. An *Agriphila selasella* photo here, a rare moth that was discovered in Millennium Wood last August. I shall be hoping to discover that the colony is still present during



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Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our July meeting we remembered, with fondness, Barbara Taylor former Little Hadham and Albury Social Club co-founder and treasurer. A good time was had by all; food was delicious, wine a-plenty and Jill's singing was phenomenal! Thank You to one and all for making our Annual Dinner a huge success - togetherness is a truly wonderful thing. On Tuesday 11th of August we have organized an outing (by coach) to The Home of Charles Darwin in Downe, Kent. If you are interested in coming along do get in touch with Carmela, 01279 898591. On Tuesday August 11th there will be no evening meeting at the Village Hall. Looking forward to September; the RNLI will be giving a talk - more info on this in the September Parish News.

Carmela, Binnie & Sue.

Millennium Wood: Management News, continued from page 8

August this year. I trapped five in one evening, with only five previous records for the whole of the county, so indeed, an important habitat.

All the trees that are felled will be turned into organised wood piles that shall attract insects such as bees, wasps and beetles; all valuable creatures in the whole food cycle of such a wood. Look out for my request for help with this project in October, no experience required, just a willingness to give up a few hours during a weekend. If you wish for further details of this plan, or have suggestions of your own, please do contact me on 07805571551 or jforgham@hotmail.com.

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Kyokujitsu Kyokushin Karate Club

The Club will be celebrating their 10th Birthday this year and to mark the occasion, we shall be holding a 'Fight Night' on Saturday 19th September, from 7pm-midnight, in Little Hadham Village Hall. There is a dual purpose to this event: as well as our anniversary celebrations, we shall be raising funds for the victims of the Nepal Earthquake. On 25 April 2014, myself and my assistant instructor, Senpai Phil Jones, reached Everest Base Camp. Exactly one year later to the day, the first devastating earthquake hit Nepal causing unimaginable destruction and heartbreak across an already impoverished country. This disaster has had a big emotional impact on us and with this in mind, we knew we had to hold some sort of fundraising activity. Whilst we were in Nepal, we stayed at a b&b attached to a wonderful children's home for disabled kids. 100% of donations given to the home, SWARGA, go towards the charity and it is therefore via this route that any money raised will be sent.

The 'Fight Night' will start with a welcome drink and canapes, end with an excellent buffet, disco and (paying) bar, and sandwiched in the middle will be some good old Kyokushin entertainment - breaking and demonstrations - and Senpai Phil Jones will be doing a '50 man kumite'. For those unfamiliar with this, this is 50 x 1 minute fights against a continual stream of fresh Kyokushin full contact fighters. We are hugely grateful and very much honoured by the support we have received so far from Kyokushin fighters from all organisations who have agreed to be part of our 50 man line-up. These consist of ex-European, British, English, Welsh, Scottish and Dutch champions to name but a few, as well as many other distinguished names

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from the past, present and future. It is a tremendous challenge for Senpai Phil and his training programme is already underway – any support would be very much appreciated!

We envisage this will be a fantastic fundraising event and an excellent opportunity for the local community to come together to support their local club and experience the wonderful world of full contact Kyokushin Karate – as well as raising money for a country and people in dire need. Tickets are £25 and need to be purchased as soon as possible from myself – catherinepetch@yahoo.co.uk / mobile 07946 484498. Alternatively, if you cannot attend but would still like to donate or sponsor Senpai Phil, please contact me for the relevant information. Many thanks – I hope to see many familiar, local faces mingling in the crowds!

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

We are all looking forward to the summer holidays after a very busy end of term. We were very proud of the 'outstanding' SATs results from our Y6 leavers and wish them lots of luck, as they move on to secondary school.

In September, we hope to build on our success in developing a Forest School approach by applying our skills in different forest settings. If anyone locally has a forested area that they would be willing to let us explore, that would be fantastic! If you think this may be possible, please contact the office on 01279 771285. Enjoy some sunshine! Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley, Head teacher

Adverts removed

What's on in August

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

No Parish Council meeting in August.

LH & A Garden Club. **There is no meeting in August.** We hope you are all looking at the show schedule ready to enter the Autumn Show on the 6th September. Schedules and entry forms can be obtained from Little Hadham Post Office and Karin Green Gouldburn Cottage Tel 771532.

1 Sat, Children's care4acuppa, 11am – 2pm Hatfield Galleria. Join in the fun at the Galleria for this Isabel Hospice event aimed at children. Find us downstairs in Get Wild. There will be cake decorating, a tombola, lucky dip, tea and cake.

11 Tue, LH & A Social Club, Coach outing to The Home of Charles Darwin in Downe, Kent. If you are interested in coming along call Carmela, 01279 898591. **There is NO evening meeting.**

13, 27 Thur, Mobile Library, See p13.

15 Sat, Barn Dance, for 'The Little Rescue'. Tickets £15 includes supper, dessert and first drink at 7pm. Band 8-11pm Info: viv_perry@fsmail.net. Please come and support us.

16 Sun, Open Day at Easton Lodge. The Italian Garden is at its best, and there is willow weaving for the younger visitors. Open 11.30-5pm, £3.50 entry, children free. More info: 01371 876979 (recorded info but you can leave a message), enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk or visit www.eastonlodge.co.uk.

19 Wed, History of Little Hadham Church 7pm, St Cecilia's Church. A guided talk by Angela Fardell and Don Gibson.

20 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning, 12.30 – 1.45pm, rear of Village Hall. Come and enjoy a cuppa with your friends, or maybe soup and a roll. Everybody welcome.

22 Sat, The Ultimate Elton Tribute, Hopleys,

Much Hadham. 5.45pm doors open, music begins at 6.30pm – 9.30pm. Bring your friends and family for a great evening in the stunning grounds of Much Hadham. Held in aid of local charity Isabel Hospice. Paul Bacon appearing as Elton John is the official no.1 tribute act, winner of the National Tribute Awards 2013. He bears an uncanny resemblance to Elton in looks and in voice and earlier this year he was invited by Elton John's mother to perform at her 90th birthday party and received enormous press attention.

Adult ticket £20. Students/children £10. Family ticket (2 adults 2 children £54), concessions £15. Supporting artist Emily Estelle. This is an open air event. Bring a picnic, rug and low back chair. Delicious hot and cold food available, catered by Hopleys. Beer tent, wine and soft drinks on sale. Enquiries: Suzanne Coleman 01438 798869 or Barbara Doherty 01279 842140. Download a ticket application form from www.isabelhospice.org.uk.

26 Wed, Moth Night with Jonathan.

All welcome at Millennium Wood after 8pm.

29 Sat, Farmers' Market, 8.30 - 11.30am.

Coming soon

6 Sept, **Garden Club Show,** See above.

6 Sept, **Treasure Tea Party,** The Forge, MH

6 Sept, **Herts and Soul Community Choir Concert** for Grove Cottage. Open air at Gt Hadham Golf Club. Info. 07903 009569.

16 Sept **History Society,** Victorian Photographs.

19 Sept, **Teddy Bears' Picnic & Parachute Jump.**

19 Sept, **'Fight Night'** see p10.

26 Sept, **Hadham Calling,** see p13.

17th Oct, **The Panto Group Quiz Night**

24,25 Oct, **Albury Arts and Crafts Show.**

NOTICEBOARD

FRIENDS of Little Hadham Primary School present

Music Fest for the whole family

Kids games & entertainment

BBQ & Tea

Live bands

Adults - £10
Under 16s - £5

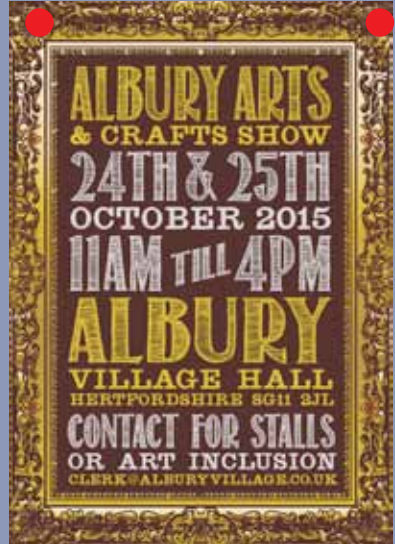
Ticket includes a food voucher for some support!



Hadham Calling

Saturday 26th September 2015 4.00 - 10.00pm
(Little Hadham Primary School)

For tickets please call Tina Joyce - tel: 07971 551 820



ALBURY ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW
24TH & 25TH
OCTOBER 2015
11AM TILL 4PM
ALBURY
VILLAGE HALL
HERTFORDSHIRE SG11 2JL
CONTACT FOR STALLS
OR ART INCLUSION
CLERK@ALBURYVILLAGE.CO.UK

Kyokushin Fight Night
Saturday 19th September 2015
7.00pm - Midnight
Little Hadham Village Hall, SG11 2BP

Tickets £25 to include...
(Cashier 01763 299822)

Senpai Phil Jones (50 Man Kurrite)

Wokante Drink & Canapes
Kyokushin Demos
Tamariwasabi
Gourmet Buffet
Disco!

Raising Funds For Nepal...



We would like to wish Matthew and Karen Pinn every happiness in their new home at Readon Cottage and a very warm welcome to the village!

Helen and Paul

13th & 27th August
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

Nature Notes, continued from page 6

year when big numbers of moths can be found in the trap if I get there early enough. Numbers increased throughout the end of June, with 91 moths of 50 species being trapped on 1st July. This increased to a new record of 103 moths of 58 species on the 7th but this total was dwarfed on 10th when a heaving trap gave up an amazing 210 moths of a staggering 82 species. A record that may well stand for quite a while. Consequently, my totals for the year have rocketed, with total moths for the year now standing at just under 2500 and in all, 290 species registered already. A blue bordered carpet moth



Highlights have been mainly rarer micro moths including the 3rd county record of *Synaphe punctalis*. Day time netting has yielded results, too, with good moths being caught at Westland Green, Millennium Wood and around the local golf course.

Plant wise, a good stand of 33 pyramidal orchids was discovered east of Hadham Hall, where also, 7 bee orchids were noted. Westland Green has also been my target area for netting other insects, with 3 species of grasshopper found as well as the once very rare, but now more common, Roesel's bush cricket being caught in reasonable numbers. Also here, marbled white butterflies, gatekeepers and common blue along with the regular meadow brown, peacock and small tortoiseshell. Butterfly migration is underway, with a painted lady being noted in

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Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haimes

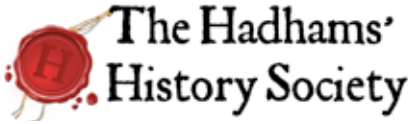
On 19th June Val Sargent, from our Patient Participation Group, organised a first aid course, by the Red Cross, in Little Hadham Village Hall. 19 people attended and the session was a great success. Further courses are likely and are particularly important in the context of village defibrillators being available, the use of which does require some instruction in addition to basic life support and resuscitation training. Congratulations and a big thank you to Val.

Sadly, Liz Kenny, our Health Care Assistant who did our over 75yr health checks, in addition to other duties, is leaving to work nearer her home and reduce her travel commitments. She has been a welcome member of our nursing team and her loss amplifies the need for us to find another nurse; however, we still have Cheryl Sampson and, of course, Oonagh Morris, our Nurse Practitioner who can easily deal with a number of minor ailments such as sore throats, earaches, coughs/colds etc.

I hope you like our new flooring. Some have commented that it's all a bit too clinical but it will be much easier to keep clean and complies with the Care Quality Commission guidelines governing infection control.

I hope you all have a good summer and that England win the Ashes (no apologies whatsoever to any Australians reading this; we know who you are!!!!)

Adverts removed



The June planned guided walk around Bishop's Stortford, after an initial visit to St Michael's church, was limited to the history of the church per se. This was due to a misunderstanding between me and our guide Helen Gibson. However, Helen showed

her considerable knowledge of the history of the church in her usual enthusiastic style. We started in the porch, the doorway and roof of which are original; spandrels above the door are carved with angels. The roof of the church is of the late 14thC and many interesting figures are carved on its supporting corbels. Unfortunately, virtually nothing remains of the original Norman church other than the 12thC lead lined marble font which was lost, until found buried in the churchyard in 1868. The Church Wardens accounts, which were kept in the 500 year old Parish Chest, show that the fine pulpit cost £5 in 1658. Many of the extensive parish records which were kept locked in the heavy metal chest have now been transcribed and make a very valuable research resource.

Many memorials with coats of arms emphasize the importance of the Denny family to the church. Lady Margaret Denny died in 1648 at the ripe old age of 88 despite having the last of her 10 children when she was 45 years old. She was maid of honour to Elizabeth I and her husband Sir Edward was a friend of Henry VIII. The 15thC misericords in the Chancel have interesting and amusing carvings on their undersides. These folding seats were designed to allow priests to rest, whilst appearing to stand, during long periods of prayer. The supporting beam across the Chancel is thought to originate from the Boar's Head Inn and one side of the ornately carved screen is of medieval origin. At the end of Helen's tour we were treated to tea and biscuits, a welcome end to an interesting evening.

Adverts removed

LH Cricket Club, continued from page 5

The next sunday was an away trip to Manuden who were back playing in the village after many years playing on Rickling Green. It also meant a return for Little Hadham to the ground that was a temporary home for four years in the early '90s whilst the club moved from Hadham Hall to Bury Green. Manuden batted first and were 113 for 9 before a last wicket stand of 53 meant they ended on 166 all out. In reply Hadham started well but from 45 without loss finally ended on 121 all out thereby losing by 45 runs. Syfall Islam capped a good all round performance top scoring with 36 after taking 3 wickets with his bowling. A visit to Buntingford to play Reed was the next match and Reed batting first scored a massive 280 for 8 off 40 overs. In reply Hadham never looked like getting close to the target finally losing by 159 runs and ending up on 128 all out, with Alan South top scoring on 21. Back at Bury Green the following week and Saracens, a wandering team, were the visitors. The visitors batted first and quickly scored 251 for 4 before declaring half an hour before tea, Ryan Mullins the pick of the bowling with two wickets. In reply a solid batting performance from Hadham saw them get close but eventually losing by 29 runs, finishing on 222 all out. Top scorers for Hadham were Syfall Islam with 77 and making his highest score for the club Steve Deeks who scored 38. The club is always looking for new players of all ages and abilities. If you are interested in playing (or just supporting the club) then please contact Alan South 01279 651603.

August Fixtures

Sunday 2nd	F.M.Arthurs XI	Home	14:00
Sunday 9th	Great Canfield	Away	14:00
Sunday 16th	Hertford II	Away	14:00
Sunday 23rd	Little Hallingbury	Home	14:00
Monday 24th	TBA		
Sunday 31st	TBA		

Adverts removed

The Hundred Parishes

Ken McDonald, Secretary

The very last parish introduction to go onto our website happened to be for Barkway. This parish lies in the far northwest of the Hundred Parishes area, one of just three (with Barley and Nuthampstead) in the district of North Hertfordshire.

Our introductions always include a few photos, usually recent images, but Barkway's also has a copy of a wonderful photo that had been published as a postcard in 1904. I'm hoping your magazine editor will be able to print it with this article, but if it doesn't appear here please go to our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk. Select the Parishes section from the menu and then, from the alphabetical listing, click on Barkway. When I first saw the picture, I knew I had to go and find where it was taken and perhaps take an equivalent photo of today's scene. I hope it may inspire you to do the same.



I was not disappointed. The view down the main street had hardly changed – except that there were now pavements and the once-empty main road now had parked cars – including mine. Nearly all buildings are still recognisable, although their uses may have changed. Today there is just one pub, where once there were many to service the horse-drawn coaches on this once-popular route between London and Cambridge.

The local lasses didn't all come out to marvel at my pocket camera, nor did they wear long posh frocks and bonnets. I also didn't see any lads in flat caps, but it wasn't difficult to find the spot where the photographer had stood. Besides, the stroll through the village was a most pleasant experience, with little passing traffic and lots of lovely old buildings. I hope this old photo may inspire you to explore Barkway.

Adverts removed

Community Capital Grants

East Herts Council is pleased to announce a second funding round for its popular Community Capital Grants Scheme. Go to <http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=10144> to find out about eligibility details and download an application form. The deadline to submit an application is 7 September 2015. Up to £8,000 is available for projects that improve popular community facilities such as village halls, allotments, playing fields, play areas and any other community asset that is run by volunteers.

All voluntary and community organisations are eligible to apply. Parish Council and Town Councils are also eligible. To find out what we have funded in the past go to <http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/index.jsp?articleid=31723>.

If you would like to talk about your project, please contact me on the number below. Alternatively, you can book a ½-hour appointment at our Drop In Session scheduled for 14 August 2015. I work part time so if I'm not available you can contact my colleague Tracy Matthews on 01992 531616.

Claire Pullen, East Herts Council, 01992531459; claire.pullen@eastherts.gov.uk

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Highways Fault Reporting

My County Councillor duties span across the entire Council service, but typically it's the Highways service that occupies most of my time, which isn't surprising as we all rely on the highway network and services in one form or another on a daily basis. The focus of my message this month is on Highways Fault Reporting, being a topic that underpins the maintenance service and one that generates significant comment.

Hertfordshire's fault reporting system allows you to report issues on Hertfordshire roads such as potholes, street lights not working, pavement problems and more. It places a lot of power in the hands of residents to be able to direct around a million pounds of public money each year.

Reporting faults online at www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults is our preferred way of receiving fault details. It is quicker, easier and more cost effective to report online as opposed to reporting by phone (0300 123 4047) or by e-mail (cschighways@hertfordshire.gov.uk). The fault reporting system works 24/7 as Highways work 24/7. We have an out-of-hours service for night time emergencies.

The online system is set up to ask questions to determine vital information that will allow us to handle the report effectively. They ensure we send the right crew with the right equipment

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Adverts removed

to the fault in an appropriate timescale. For example: exposed street lighting wires will require a qualified electrical crew and will aim to attend within 1 hour. It is therefore extremely important that the information is entered as accurately as possible and the location is described precisely. Otherwise crews may be deployed when not needed, or sent to the wrong location.

The faults that are deemed to pose an immediate hazard, as determined by nationally based standards, will be prioritised for either a repair or measures to remove or reduce the hazard. As Hertfordshire receives about 110,000 faults a year and funding is limited, faults which do not present an immediate hazard are required to compete for the available funding with other similar schemes across the County. When successful these works will normally be included within batches of work so ensuring the most efficient and cost effective delivery. The majority of the feedback that I receive is to do with reports 'disappearing' without any work being carried out. As outlined above, this is most likely because the fault did not require any immediate intervention and was removed from the website. We recognise that the automated responses that are sent in reply to fault reports can be misleading and this has been identified as an area for improvement, but I would encourage you all to report any faults you see as they do help to direct both our reactive and planned maintenance activities. Further information on Highways Fault Reporting can be found on our website at www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults

Adverts removed

Bee Scene!

Plantlife's hugely successful 'Bee Scene' survey has been rescued by family-owned cereal maker Nature's Path, after its original funding had ended. Over 30,000 children have already taken part in the wild flower survey since its launch in 2010. Now thousands more will have the opportunity to explore the nature on their doorstep and learn about the wild flowers growing there.

Families can discover whether their local area is good for bumblebees by looking for bee-friendly wild flowers such as foxgloves, dandelions and clovers in their local green spaces. The results are then uploaded onto a virtual meadow map of the UK.

The survey raises awareness and understanding in children of the importance of biodiversity in their local area, starting them on a path to enjoying wild flowers and realising their importance as part of our natural heritage. It also helps them understand the importance of wild plants for our declining pollinators. 90% of teachers who did the survey reported that 'Bee scene' had given them new learning about the natural environment and helped pupils understand that different wild plants are important for bees.

Nature's Path has a strong commitment to sustainability and the natural environment and has stepped in to enable the Bee Scene initiative to reach many thousands more children and families this year after its National Lottery funding ended. A spokesperson comments "As an organic, family owned company, with a strong commitment to the natural environment we recognise the importance of educating children early about the importance of our wild flowers and the pollinators that rely on them. We are thrilled to be able to support Plantlife to continue this fantastic survey, so that many more children and families can take part and 'Bee Scene'.

'Bee Scene' is a simple and effective way to encourage children and their families into their local parks or countryside - to enjoy them together away from the television screen, computer games and other pressures of modern life. By using a simple flower key, they are able to count different flower shapes and colours and look out for bumblebees, so helping children understand how valuable their local green spaces are for wildlife.

Full details and bee scene resources are available online at www.plantlife.org.uk/beescene.

Nature Notes, continued from page 14



our garden on the 17th July as shown overleaf. Look out for these large salmon pink butterflies feeding on the buddleia which is presently coming into flower. Also, check red valerian and buddleia for the fast flying hummingbird hawkmoth.

I look forward to reporting the results of our Little Hadham moth night, which will be on the 23rd. Another one is planned for Wednesday 26th August. All welcome at

Millennium Wood after 8pm. As usual, all highlights can be seen at <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> and I am always happy to hear of any sightings or help with identifications. Recently, I have received several moth and butterfly photos from locals and have been able to advise on what species they are.

AI 20 Bypass (Lt Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme Update

Following our consultation in late 2014 we have been refining the proposed AI 20 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme, based on comments received and additional technical investigations. You may have received a leaflet from us which explains the main changes made to the scheme since the public consultation. If you are interested to know how the scheme has changed but did not receive a leaflet, you can view the leaflet online at www.hertsdirect.org/ai20bypass. The website also includes updated FAQs giving more detail on the changes made. We intend to submit our planning application in August 2015. Once this is submitted details will be available on the Hertfordshire County Council Planning Portal at www.hertsdirect.org/planning. The planning application number will be added to the scheme website (www.hertsdirect.org/ai20bypass) when it is known. Once the application is submitted there will be a statutory period of consultation, when you can submit any further comments on the application to the local planning authority (LPA). These comments will be considered by the LPA when they make a decision on whether to grant permission for the scheme.

Reply to last month's letter from 'Visitor'

I feel someone should respond to the letter in last months' Parish News from a 'Visitor'. It is certainly true that there was no historical flooding of the village. A century or two ago our forefathers would certainly not have built their houses where they were likely to be flooded, but now some of these houses are being flooded on a regular basis. Our own property has been flooded several times.

There have clearly been changes in the last half century or so that have altered the situation, but have changed farming methods really had a major effect? With the modern large commercial farms the old ways of doing things are just not feasible and the maintenance of the river, ditches, and culverts etc. is at least as good now as it has ever been. So what has happened to change things so much? In a word, Development. Rain falling on a piece of virgin land will percolate down through the soil into the aquifers in the underlying chalk where it can be stored and perhaps used. If the piece of land is developed, it is basically concreted over and rain falling on it has to be piped or channelled away to prevent nuisance, but will eventually find its way into the river and make the flooding worse. This is not just a problem for Little Hadham; we need more houses for the expanding population, and the problem will only get worse. There needs to be a technical solution, and the best way for us is a proper, well designed flood alleviation scheme like the one now proposed for our village, which is simple and effective.

With regard to the bypass, the loss of beautiful Hertfordshire countryside is indeed regrettable, but the thin strip of land required for a road is a mere drop in the ocean compared with the massive land take for the Bishop's Stortford North development, just one and half miles from us. The first phase of 2,200 houses, schools, shops etc. is just the start, and eventually all the land between the AI 20 and Stortford will be developed. Many of the residents, schools, businesses etc. will be using the AI 20 as access and there are no prizes for guessing what the traffic would be like through our village without a bypass. We would all do well to support the proposal for the new bypass as vigorously as we are able.

Jon Fardell. Brook House

August diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

2 Sunday

10.00am

Trinity 9

Team Holy Communion, Furneux Pelham

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

9 Sunday

9.15am

Trinity 10

Team Holy Communion Service, Much Hadham

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

16 Sunday

10.00am

Trinity 11

Team Holy Communion, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

23 Sunday

10.00am

Trinity 12

Team Holy Communion, Braughing

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

30 Sunday

10.00am

Trinity 13

Team Holy Communion, Stocking Pelham

Sung Evensong, St Mary's, Albury

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

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

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

Thank you

Our Day on The Green, Bury Green I thought I should write to say Thank You to everyone involved in our special day. The turnout was fantastic, the weather perfect, the food delicious, drinks a-plenty and bouncy castle well and truly worn out! A few special thankyous if I may John & Olivia Elton-Barratt for always putting up with my badgering - the occasion would have not been the same without you. Chris & Charlotte Lipscomb for having a loving sense of community. Jo & Neil Frankham for their endless kindness and generous hospitality. All in all a hugely successful day - our community is a strong and friendly one, living here feels wonderful!

Carmela

Editor: Jan Finn, Jute House, 85a Bradford Street, Bocking Essex, CM7 9AU e-mails: 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