

Little Hadham Parish News October 2016



St Cecilia's Church Harvest Supper
Saturday 8th October
Little Hadham Village Hall
7.00pm for 7.30pm
Tickets £8.00 from Frank Green
Family rates available
Tel No: 771532



Rector of Parish: Revd. Steve Bate
01279 842609

e-mail: muchhadhamrectory@gmail.com

Team Vicar: Revd. Julie Gawthrop
01920 823832

e-mail: julie.gawthrop@ntlworld.com

Churchwardens

Mr Don Gibson
01279 – 771325, 0782 1019196

dfg-at-priors@lineone.net

Mrs Karin Green
01279 - 771532

gouldburn.green@outlook.com

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

Letter from the Rectory

Revd. Steve Bate



When I first felt that God might be nudging me to move to a new parish, I could never have imagined that the next stage of my Christian journey would bring me here to Much Hadham. Val and I had no idea what to expect when we set out on our first trip to visit the area and see whether I should apply for the new post of Rector here. We discovered a lovely area to come and serve – and a place where we felt we could play our part in the next stage of the Ash and Quin Valleys Group's journey with God. As we reflected and prayed, we gained an increasing sense of God's peace about the possibility of coming here. That same sense of God's peace surrounded my interview day and I was delighted when I was offered the post of Rector Designate.

Now that we've arrived, the packing boxes are gone, there's a semblance of order in the house and I'm excited about taking my place in the life of the church and the wider community. We've already received such a warm welcome and I'd like to thank all those who made us so welcome in our first few days here – too many of you to name. Thank you for all the cards and the welcome you expressed in them – and thank you for all the cakes and more that helped to sustain us as we unpacked and got organised. I'd particularly like to thank our Churchwardens, Marigold and Judy, and Angela, our Parish Administrator for making it so easy to settle in.

It's not only a new stage in my journey with God but a new stage in our church's journey as we seek to be the kind of a church that God calls us to be. I've heard that there's a sense that the Holy Spirit is at work, bringing about something new and I'm looking forward to playing my part in seeing where God is leading us on our journey together.

I wonder what you do before you set off on a car journey these days? We used to study a map to make sure we knew the route before we set off but now we rely on a satnav for the details of the journey as we go along. We found our Satnav essential in finding our way to Much Hadham, the place where God had called us. It's been said that following where God leads is more like using a satnav than a map. We don't see the bigger picture but God shows us the next step of our journey with Him. That's how it's been for me as I've sought to follow wherever God was leading me and I believe that's how it is for us, as a church, as we seek to follow God's leading.

Where is God leading us as a church? What will it look like to live out God's love now? How will we go deeper into God, transform this community and make new disciples of Jesus Christ? Over the next few months, I'll be doing a lot of listening and praying - alone and with others. As part of that process, I'm looking forward to meeting regularly with Julie as we support and encourage one another and pray together. I'm aware that so many of you have been praying, and continue to pray, for God's guidance and protection as we seek to follow where He leads. At the start of this new stage of our journey together, I'd like to share a prayer with you. It's the collect for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. You might like to make it your own prayer.

God, who from of old taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit; grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Every blessing,

Steve

Parish Council Updates:

Do you think you should have more say in how Little Hadham continues to develop and matters that relate to road safety? If so, some of the items that are up for discussion are:

The new housing development at Ashcroft Farm next to the Primary School.

Future use of the Church End Industrial Park. What type of businesses should operate there?

Traffic jumping the lights. Currently checks are only for cars overtaking traffic on the side roads in order to jump red lights to join the A120. Should the checks be extended to include the commuter traffic that is on the A120?

Speeding through the village and drivers using mobile phones. Have your say and put forward any suggestions on how and where to reduce speeding.

Little Hadham Bypass and Flood Alleviation Scheme – updates as the project continues to develop.

The Neighbourhood Plan – how volunteers will help shape the future of the Parish.

Millenium Wood – how the Community group is continuing to raise funds to try and save the wood for the parish.

Damage to the playgrounds and the bus shelter on the A120 – the Parish Council have now authorised almost a further £1000 of your council tax to have the latest repairs completed.

Next Parish Council meeting will be at the Village Hall on Tues 4th Oct 2016 at 8pm. We 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, how you might be able to help, and listen to the work being carried out.

Parish Clerk is contactable on 01279 842803 or email clerklittlehadham@gmail.com

Dog Poo

Could the person who is clearing up their dog's poo by putting it in a bag and hanging it on the gate or a hedge or just leaving it where it happened please take it home with them? I do hope it isn't a local person doing this, but it is happening with alarming regularity. So if you see someone doing this please ask them politely to take it home with them. The mess it will make once those bags begin to decompose doesn't bear thinking of!!

Adverts removed

Electricity Power Cuts

I thought that villagers would like to know more details of the power cuts we have experienced in Little Hadham over the past few years. We have lived in Lloyd Taylor Close since November 2012, and there have been continual power cuts during this time.

I wrote to N Power/UK Power Networks in October 2014 with a list of power cuts and the inconvenience they cause. I received a reply which listed what they call 'auto recloser' events. These auto reclosers form part of the protection equipment and automatically cut off the power if a fault is detected. This reply also mentioned that the HV (High Voltage) engineer found other issues and while the power was temporarily cut, some tree trimming was carried out.

I was also informed that UK Power Network's terms of Connection exclude liability for losses. This is a matter for our own insurance.

Since then I have logged another long list of power cuts. I wrote to N Power again recently in August 2016 with this list. One event stands out. During the evening of 19th June, we had heavy rain for about two hours. Around 10 pm, we had over 10 power cuts in about half an hour. N Power passed on my complaint to UK Power Networks, and they responded again. I pointed out that these power cuts cause a great deal of inconvenience, resetting the house alarm clocks, the oven, checking the central heating controls, the television service, and the exterior security lights. I also pointed out that this is the 21st Century and the UK is not a Third World (Less Economically Developed Country) Country. We don't have hurricanes or the extremes of weather seen in other parts of the world. These problems of power cuts should not be happening.

The reply I received on the 14th September pointed out the usual disclaimer, and explained recent problems. A transformer was damaged at Thorley. While this repair was being carried out, they had to move the load around the keep customers' power on. The first fault was caused by a bird, and another fault was that surge diverters had blown on a pole. This was repaired, and a new transformer has now been installed.

I have sent all my correspondence and replies to the Parish Council as I think this is an important local issue which should be discussed. After all, we all pay a lot for our electricity bills, and we are entitled to continual power.

In the meantime, can I suggest that you all jot down the dates/times of power cuts in the future, and then write and complain yourselves. The address is –

Chealsea Hardy

Customer Care Adviser

UK Power Networks

Fore Hamlet

Ipswich

IP3 8AQ

Telephone Number – 0800 028 4587

Dave Willett – 9 Lloyd Taylor Close

Millennium Wood Update

The Wood has had a super summer and work that was carried out last winter has proved to be worthwhile, with a sparrow hawk taking up residence as well as breeding blue and great tits, jays, tawny owls and increased numbers of migrant hawker dragonflies and speckled wood butterflies. More flowering plants have seeded this year than ever before, so the clearance of some trees has meant more light and rain for these dormant seeds to germinate.



Recently, I have removed a few failing ash trees and cut back some undergrowth to keep the paths clear. I have also begun work on a new path, where areas for grasses and wild flowers have been opened up. These are the areas that winter work parties will be working in this year. I plan to have a 2nd session in the wood on Sunday 29th Oct. If you have enjoyed the



wood this year, or your children have, courtesy of the super visits organised by our primary school, then do mark this date in your diary and come along between 10 and 12 to help improve the habitat. It is not too strenuous and a little effort now makes a huge difference later.

The moth night on the 15th was attended by over 25 locals as well as a few travelling lepidopterists from Chelmsford and members of Bishop's Stortford Camera Club. Also, a reporter from the local Observer, so hopefully an article should be in the paper next week (Thurs 22nd.) Thanks to all that came along and great that we had

some really interested, excited and enthusiastic children. In total, we trapped 140 moths of 34 species, so a good night's work. The one shown here is a fallow, superb camouflage using autumn leaves.

Meet your new PCSO

I would like to introduce myself as the Police Community Support Officer for Little Hadham. I have been a PCSO for over 11 years, having spent 6 years with Essex Police and the last 5 with Hertfordshire Police. I have recently re-joined the East Herts Rural Team based at Buntingford Police Station after spending 9 months away covering at Hertford; prior to this I was the PCSO covering the rural areas of Walkern and Benington. If you do see me, I'm more than happy to stop and have a chat or you can always contact me via my email address. Please do not report crime via my email as it is not monitored 24/7; all non-emergency calls should be rung through to 101 and in an emergency always ring 999.

Kind regards, Steve 6135
stephen.blanks@herts.pnn.police.uk

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

At our September meeting Roger Havard (BATMAN!) gave an in depth talk about bats - the species is vast & varied and worldwide. In some places they are revered; in others feared; a tough little mammal by all accounts that lives usually up to approximately ten years although sometimes two, three or even four times as long. We should learn to love them . . . they fly around at night eating gnats and other little foes, if it weren't for bats we should be suffering much more from bites than we do! On Tuesday October the 11th @ 8pm Holly Mulheron will be giving a talk and demonstration (on me!) about acupuncture, an interesting subject all about "alternative" therapeutic whole body pain relief treatment. Please come - we'd love to see good . . .the door includes talk/demo, refreshments and raffle. . .oh and great company! See you there.

Carmela, Binnie & Sue

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

What a lovely show, it was so nice to see so many people coming to look at the entries and hopefully inspired you to enter next year. Congratulations go to Carys and Cesca Rees for jointly winning the Junior section, Dennis Taylor for the best Flower in Show, Anne Fuller for the best Domestic entry, Jon Fardell for the best Vegetable and the best entry in the show and Gail Ellis for the best Fruit in show and winning the club shield for the most points overall. For our October meeting on Tuesday 18th October in the Village Hall 7.45 for 8.00, we will have a seed swap. Bring your unwanted seeds and see if you can pick up any new varieties of favourites or some completely new ones.

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Jack May Trust Fund

Colin Brookbanks.(chairman).

The Jack May Trust Fund was founded in 2001 to provide additional benefits for Much Hadham Health Centre patients. Since inception it has achieved much and we are most grateful to all our benefactors and for legacies.(Gift Aid scheme allows us to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donation from tax-payers).

Here are examples of what the JMTF have done-:

- Treatment room re-furbishment
- Computerised booking-in system
- Cryotherapy equipment
- Electronic entrance doors
- Examination couches and waiting room seating
- Diagnostic aids such as ECG machine, spirometers, BP monitors, pulse oximeters, nebulisers, surgical instruments etc.
- In the past the Trust has given limited financial assistance for physiotherapy & counselling.

The Trustees meet about 4 times a year. Work load is not onerous, but we are all of mature years and need a few younger bloods to ensure the trust's future and energise it with new ideas and enthusiasm. If interested and/or you wish to know more I can be contacted at colinbrookbanks@gmail.com

Indeed, if you have any ideas or suggestions to make to the trust please feel free to make contact.

The practice manager, Andrew Wilkinson, can be contacted at andrew.wilkinson7@nhs.net. In May next year (2017) we are holding a day of golf, live music and food at Great Hadham Golf Club. Please watch for future announcements.

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Little Hadham Cricket Club

Neil Oxborrow

In mid-August Little Hadham made the trip to Hertford, where batting first the home side scored 213 for 3 wickets off their allotted 36 overs. The Hadham reply started strongly with a 57 run first wicket partnership between Syfal Islam and Sandeep Singh. From there despite a flurry of middle order wickets Hadham reached their target with 2 overs and 4 wickets to spare with Sandeep Singh ending the innings on 110 not out.

The following week the Hadham team made the short trip to Little Hallingbury, where the home side scored 248 for the loss of only one wicket. The total was always going to prove too large for Hadham to chase and they eventually salvaged a draw by ending on 177 for 8. Andy Singh (41 not out) and Charlie Bowers (32) were the main scorers for Hadham.

Bank Holiday Monday meant a visit to North Weald for Little Hadham. Batting first Hadham amassed 213 for 4 wickets, with Neil Oxborrow (76) and Sean Pack (74) the main scorers. In reply North Weald quickly reached 90 without loss off of just 14 overs and a victory for them seemed assured. However, a flurry of wickets including two for Alan South meant the game went to the last over with North Weald hitting the winning boundary with just two balls of the game to go.

Into September and Hadham made the trip north to Reed, where the home side batted first and scored 246 for 4 wickets, with Alan South taking two of the wickets to fall. In reply the total was always far too testing for Hadham who eventually ended on just 145 thereby losing by 101 runs, with David Ellis top scorer on 45.

OCTOBER FIXTURES

We are a friendly club and welcome players of all abilities and ages – from 8 to 80. If you are interested in playing cricket or even just watching, contact Alan South on 01279 651603.

Sunday 2nd Albury Away 12:30

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What's your reason to quit smoking this Stoptober?

32-year-old mum-to-be Grace Holmes is one of 87 pregnant women who gave up smoking last year thanks to Hertfordshire County Council's stop-smoking service and the Love Your Bump campaign.

And as Public Health England prepares to launch its fifth annual Stoptober initiative this October, it is a perfect time for all smokers to join the 4,000 Hertfordshire residents who signed up last year and give quitting a try.

Hertfordshire's Love your Bump campaign encourages and supports pregnant women and those around them such as partners, family and friends, to give up smoking by providing free access to an adviser who can give tips, support and advice on giving up.

Grace Holmes smoked 20-a-day for years, so giving up was a challenge. She said: "I remember seeing the posters in the doctor's of a woman with her bump and the words 'when you smoke I smoke too' – the shock of learning the harm that cigarette smoke can do to an unborn baby really upset me. I cried."

"I went straight to the pharmacist and spoke to a stop smoking adviser. She was brilliant - our weekly one-to-one meetings got me through. She advised me to distract myself at the times I craved a cigarette, which was great advice as it helped me change my habits.

"I feel brilliant now; I won't ever go back to smoking."

Cabinet Member for Public Health, Localism and Libraries, Teresa Heritage, explained: "Quitting smoking needn't be tough and it can change your life. Stoptober is a great way for anyone to

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Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

It didn't take long to get back in the swing of things! Our next big focus is our Science Week just before half term. We are planning lots of Science Investigations across all areas of Science and to link it in a cross-curricular way with other subjects. We hope to have 'real' scientists join us during the week to inspire our scientists of the next decade! If anyone with a Science background would be prepared to come and talk to the children, please contact the office on 01279 771285 or admin@littlehadham.herts.sch.uk.

Similarly, if anyone in the parish is interested in giving back to the community and becoming a School Governor, please do contact us and we can give further details.

Thank you for your continued support.

Liz Stockley, Head teacher

Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haines

On 9th September we were all geared up for our Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection; Dr Oates was coming in prior to her afternoon flight, 2 members of the PPG were making themselves available to be interviewed, the cleaners had been working overtime and the staff were all suitably primed. Then, at the 11th hour (i.e. 2pm on the day before) it was all cancelled because one member of the inspection team fell ill and it was too short notice for a

Adverts removed

replacement to be found. We are now likely to be inspected in the second half of November! One thing they would have looked at was our most recent patient satisfaction survey, where we did very well, being above both the local and national average for all but one of the criteria. We fell below average for the time people had to wait to see a GP beyond their allotted appointment time (i.e. those having to wait longer than 15 minutes). We feel that most patients are given as much time as they need, particularly if their health problems are complex or we are breaking bad news to someone. We are often interrupted by urgent phone calls and requests and are certainly not drinking coffee, reading the paper, browsing the internet or playing golf! However, it would help us immensely if you could all consider how much time you may need and if you have more than one problem, or feel it may take longer than usual, please ask the receptionist for a longer appointment. We will try our best to accommodate your wishes.

Our Health Care Assistant, Sheryl Moody, has now completed her back to nursing course. From the beginning of October she will be donning a new uniform, following her promotion to Practice Nurse, and will also be increasing her hours; so well done Sheryl

Finally, the flu jabs have arrived and, in addition to the usual sessions, we will be offering Saturday morning clinics on 8th and 29th October with those in November to be arranged.

Please ring or ask at reception for details.

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What's on in October

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

1 Sat, Isabel Hospice Barn Dance, 7pm. Leventhorpe School, Cambridge Road, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 9BX. Bushes and Briars folk rock band are performing at the Barn Dance to raise money for the Hospice. All are welcome to join in the fun - bring your own drinks and nibbles. If you would like to buy a ticket for this event at £10, please call Joanne on 01279 721 924.

4 Tue, Parish Council, 8pm. Everybody welcome to come along and let the Councillors know what you would like to see happen in our village.

7 Fri, Isabel Hospice Theme it Green Day.

This is our very first 'Theme it Green' day and it is open to anyone; schools, workplaces, family, friends. Why not hold a dress green day, bake a green cake, wear a green wig, take a green selfie? However you do it, take photos, spread the word on social media and donate the proceeds of your fundraising to Isabel Hospice. We have a fundraising pack to help you from Laura.Pigott@isabelhospice.org.uk.

8 Sat, Harvest Supper, 7.00 for 7.30pm. Come along and enjoy a lovely evening with Food, live music, raffle, a quiz (there always has to be a quiz) and bar. Tickets £8 from Frank Green tel:771532 (family rates available).

8 Sat, Puppet Workshop, ages 7-11. See p13.

11 Tue, LH & A Social Club, 8pm. A talk and demonstration about acupuncture, by Holly Mulheron. £2.50 at the door includes talk/demo, refreshments and raffle. See you there.

15 Sat, Puppet Workshop, 11-17. See p13.

18 Tue, LH & A Garden Club, 7.45 for 8pm. A Seed Swap. Bring your unwanted seeds and see if you can pick up any new varieties of favourites or some completely new ones.

20 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning,

12.30-1.45pm, rear of Village Hall.

19 Wed, Hadhams' History Society, 8pm, Little Hadham Village Hall. **Court Records**, a talk by Ken Griffin. Ken will describe the help Court Records can be to historical research.

22 Sat, Panto Group Quiz, See p 13.

24 Mon, Red Cross Christmas Fair, Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware. See p13.

29 Sat, Farmers' Market, 8.30 - 11.30am. Come along to the best farmers' market.

29 Sat, Millennium Wood work party, 10-12. See page 5.

Coming soon

16 Nov, **Hadhams' History Society**, 8pm LHVH, The Buntingford Line (continued). Stephen Ruff will continue his account of the line between St Margarets and Buntingford.

17-19 Nov, **Much Hadham Drama Group**, directed by Mike Carver, An amateur production of 'Rumours' by Neil Simon at 8pm in MH Village Hall. Tickets £9 from Londis, Much Hadham High Street, or nclarkel67@aol.com (01279 842822).

October next year, 2017. **Trek the Great Wall of China** for Isabel Hospice. See page 18.

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

NOTICEBOARD

Mon 24 October

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Fanhams Hall Hotel, Ware SG12 7PZ

Over 30 quality stalls • 10am - 3.30pm

Entry **£4 online*** or £4.50 on the door

Please support British Red Cross

*Online tickets available from Sept at

www.redcross.org.uk/hertschristmasfair

The British Red Cross Society is a charity registered in England and Wales (220949), Scotland (SC037738) and Isle of Man (0752)

A plot has become available at Fordfield Allotments.

It would suit a couple ideally, it has bonus of established current bushes left by previous user. Also there is a half plot vacant, maybe for just someone and not so enffussastic.

rent £10 per annum contact Joel on 771342 or Eileen on 771426.

Socks, socks & more socks ...

If you are sorting out old socks please consider donating them to those less fortunate than ourselves. any socks, any size, any colour, any thickness.

Please deliver to Carmela at The Old Cottage, Bury Green or Ann Clayton next door to The Nag's Head, Little Hadham.

Thank you.



We would like to invite you to a Puppet Workshop led by staff from the Little Angel Theatre, Islington:

Puppet Funday for ages 7-11 years on Saturday 8th October at Much Hadham Village Hall from 10am – 4pm
The group will spend the day each making a puppet and then putting together a simple performance with the puppets they have made to share with parents and carers at the end of the day

or
Introduction to puppetry performance for ages 11-17 years at Little Hadham Village Hall on Saturday 15th October from 10am-4pm

The group will learn about the art of performing with puppets including techniques for breathing life into objects and focus. They will be given the opportunity to try out table top and rod puppetry and experience working as a team to bring a puppet to life using bunraku techniques. They could work towards a simple presentation at the end of the day

Each group will be up to a maximum of 20 young people, and will cost £5 per head, payable in advance. Participants will need to bring a packed lunch with them

Please contact Sue Clarke on 01279 842822 or nclarke167@aol.com to book a place

L.H. Panto Group. QUIZ.

22nd October

Max 8 per table Tickets include food (cheese platter with assorted breads) Bring your own beverages and glasses.

Tickets £10

available from Eileen Booth
01279771426 or e-mail
lhbooths@gmail.co

"A great success last year"

A period (18th August – 18th September) of warm, dry weather, occasionally, towards the end of the period, temperatures became record breaking. Consequently, insects were to be found in larger than usual numbers, including moths, butterflies and dragonflies.

Bird wise, very little evidence of passage migration within the parish. Willow warblers were noted twice in the garden (6th and 12th Sept) and a chiffchaff called opposite the Nag's Head on the 1st. Overhead, the movement of mixed gull flocks continues to increase, with a high of 235 gulls, mainly lesser black backed, noted on the 16th heading south along the Ash Valley. These are birds that I suspect roost overnight at Amwell Reserve between Ware and Stansted Abbots. Large numbers of house martins have also been noted using the same route early in the evening, with numbers exceeding 100 on the 3rd. The hobby pair that bred successfully in Stocking Wood are now busy feeding their vociferous young. These can be seen daily on the pylons east of the wood, between East Wood and Cradle End. A good breeding record for the county.

A trip to North Norfolk on the 25th was a good day out, picking up an old friend who now lives near Holkham and spending time at RSPB Titchwell and a few good sites west of Wells Next The Sea. In all, over 85 species noted with curlew sandpiper, spoonbill, hobby, Caspian gull and wood sandpiper particularly pleasing to watch. However, the day will be remembered for both of us being caught in a torrential electric storm that meant we were soaked within seconds, dressed wisely in shorts and t shirts! This was before 8.00am so a long time to dry out! This

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The Hundred Parishes

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Last month, I wrote about toll roads, also known as turnpikes. Evidence survives of the facilities that evolved up to the early 20th century to service traffic drawn by horses or oxen. Former coaching inns and occasional horse troughs can still be seen in places like Wadesmill, Puckeridge and Buntingford on the former A10, Quendon, Newport and Great Chesterford on the old A11, and the Hadhams and Linton on lesser routes. Growth in motor traffic in the 20th century caused many of these places to be bypassed.

There is little sign of toll gates, although a reproduced list of tolls can be seen in Newport. There is still one toll road within the Hundred Parishes, in Stanstead Abbots. At the southwestern end is the historic Rye House Gatehouse, well worth a visit on an open day, although it is now closed for the winter. The toll road runs beside Rye Meads Nature Reserve which is open all year round. Milestones or mile irons appeared on many routes, especially from the 1750s when turnpike trusts were required to instal them. Many survive and some are lovingly cared for, especially by the Milestone Society.

A good number of junctions of our country lanes still have finger posts pointing the way and sometimes giving distances. Near the foot of old, round metal posts the manufacturer's name can sometimes be found - frequently Maldon Ironworks of Essex. Some of their posts survive from the 1920s and 1930s. Today, we tend to take for granted the facilities that support 21st-century travel – motorway service areas and gantries, speed cameras, bus interchanges and airports. Will they be viewed one day with the same nostalgia that today embraces horse troughs, milestones and roadside finger-posts?

Adverts removed

October at the Gardens of Easton Lodge

Our open day on Sunday 16th October is last one of the season and sees the return of the very popular "Spooky Fun Trail" to the gardens. The trails takes children round the Gardens searching for clues which will allow them to collect a spooky treat – a small charge of £1 per child is made and there will be extra treats for any child who comes along in fancy dress and maybe the odd trick or two! There will also be free craft and nature activities available.

The gardens won't be open again until we welcome visitors back for our "Snowdrop Sundays" in February and March next year so come along and enjoy a final wander around this beautiful place. Our very popular guided tours which cost only £1.50 will be running at 12.30pm & 2.30pm and cover all aspects of the garden's history, plus there is much more historic information to browse through in our Archive Building.

Homemade soup, bacon rolls and cheese rolls will be on sale at "Daisy's" until 2.15pm with hot and cold drinks and delicious homemade cakes available until 4.30pm.

Gates open at 11.30am and the gardens close at 5pm with last entry at 4pm. Entrance is only £4.00 for adults and children come in free of charge making it a very affordable day out, especially for families. Dog lovers are reminded that their pets are more than welcome as long as they are kept on a lead.

If you need further information then please get in touch on 01371 876979 (unattended but if you leave a message we will get back to you), enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk or visit www.eastonlodge.co.uk.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 14

little egret was also caught in the rain, not looking too happy.

Butterfly wise, small tortoiseshells and red admirals have been noted in reasonable numbers and a solitary painted lady was nectaring on the garden buddleia, but overall, it has been a very poor year for butterflies. The only species that seems to have done well has been the Holly Blue and this appears to be on a 5 year cycle, depending on the presence of a parasitic wasp that lays its eggs in the larva of the holly blue. Obviously last year, the wasp was in low numbers, hence the good butterfly count.



Moth wise, the trap has been very busy with these amazingly warm nights of late. Counts in excess of 100 moths of 40+ species per night have been common and many new ones have been added to my parish records and the year list. Totals now stand at over 8700 moths for the year of 454 species. Recent additions have included the uncommon Cypress pug, the rare for Herts *Ypsolopha horridella* along with several migrants. These have included a moth called a Vestal that migrates north from Western Europe and is fairly regular along the south coast. I found my first in the garden trap on the 23rd and continued to find them, the final one seen on the 11th. In total I have now trapped 9 of this species. Quite amazing as I have not seen this in Little Hadham for more than 5 years.



Nothing trips have been to Westland Green, Hadham Hall, Millennium Wood, Valley Fields and the footpaths on the local golf course. Thank

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Adverts removed

October 2017! The Isabel Hospice Great Wall of China Challenge

An opportunity to hike on and next to one of the most iconic structures of the world. Our trek takes the Gubeikou to Simatai route, which features some of the most stunning views of the wall and the surrounding rolling hills. There are so few other people around you feel as if you are stepping back in time. You will also trek through remote villages and towns and meet local people along the way. This trek gives you the opportunity to hike on and next to one of the most iconic structures of the world. Finish your adventure with a visit to the famous Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City. Contact Megan Sparrey on 01707 382544 for more information about this exciting challenge!



Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 17

you to all the residents who have shown an interest in these visits as well as others who may have been inconvenienced by the lights. I am now coming to the end of my 5 year moth survey of the parish and have begun correlating records for a forthcoming publication on the moths and butterflies of Little Hadham. A best seller, no doubt!

Trips to the ponds around Hadham Hall have given views of expected dragon and damselflies, with 100s of common blue damsels noted on the 23rd. Photo here of just 3 on one piece of vegetation. Brown hawkers and Emperor dragonflies were also noted, whilst Migrant hawkers can be found in Millennium Wood along with plenty of Speckled Wood butterflies.



Details of the recent local moth night at Millennium Wood can be found on page 5.

Over the next few weeks I plan to continue to check for migratory birds, especially if we have some breezy easterlies over the parish and am planning a couple more sessions for all in Millennium Wood. <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> for up to date reports from the parish and please do email me at jforgham@hotmail.com with any barn owl sightings as one local pair has disappeared from their nest hole of at least 6 years and I am keen to find where they are now. I suspect still somewhere around Hadham Hall. An old male barnie can still be found in Chapel Lane and a pair hunt over the polo fields on a regular basis.

Adverts removed

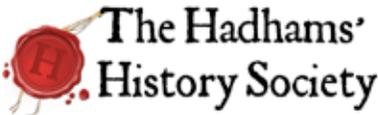
A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme Update

Progress is continuing, with further environmental surveys taking place over the summer to support the detailed design. The project aims to improve the transport system and journey time reliability on the A120 and reduce flood risk to properties in Little Hadham.

Geophysical surveys in 2015 scanned the surface to identify potential areas of archaeological interest. Over the last few weeks archaeologists have been on site digging trial trenches to understand more clearly the buried history of the area. Surveys of ground conditions have also recently been undertaken.

Terry Douris, Hertfordshire County Council Cabinet Member for Highways said: "Whilst the delivery of the A120 Bypass will be an important highway it is important that we should recognise and search for any historical evidence which may help to inform our knowledge of life in the area many, many years ago" Darsha Gill, Environment Agency Area Flood Risk Manager said: "We are pleased that this partnership scheme with Hertfordshire County Council is continuing to progress so that we will be able to reduce the risk of flooding to homes in Little

continued on page 22



A member's meeting in August featured two presentations on House History, one old and one less so. Barbara Green led us back to late Tudor times when her house – Saddlers (aka Much Hadham Radio) – was built. Formerly one house, old documents show that it had been split into four tenements by the early part of the 19th C. Old maps and tithe records, show a number of families in occupation in the 1830s and later photographs and maps show three front doors. It was occupied by the Fletcher family in 1844 and they later converted part to a shop. Barbara showed old photos including one of the Fletchers, standing outside for Victoria's Jubilee celebrations in 1897. She attended a course on Vernacular Architecture in 1997 and John Carpenter her lecturer examined the building, as later did timber framed buildings expert Adrian Gibson. The date of the structure was confirmed as being late 1500s and Barbara showed us very clear photographs of the roof beams, cranked braces and the south (or solar) chimney which are all original. The building, in common with many in the village had once been jettied with Georgian windows – a 17th C corner post confirms this. It was bricked up probably by Richard Woor proprietor of "The Red Lion" ca 1832-9. An excellent talk and testimonial to the amount of work Barbara has done. My house, Greenacre(s) in Widford Rd, was built as a Chalet Bungalow in 1934 by local builder G. Searle in the garden of Stonelands. Unusually, it is built at 45° to the main road, to benefit from extensive views of the Ash Valley; its L-shaped garden is also unusual. It was converted to a four bedroom house shortly after completion. My talk focussed on the history of the land and I'm indebted to Eileen Robinson and Bryan Smalley for access to old deeds. A photograph (ca 1902) shows mushroom growers in the field – Sofa Ley – in which the house was built. This field was once owned by James Adam Gordon of Moor Place and subsequently by Richard and then Jessie Hunt of Stansted. She sold a building plot from it to McMullens in 1897 who resold some of it to George Thurgood. He built Stonelands on part of it in 1910 and acquired more land from Sofa Ley a few years later to enlarge the garden.

Stoptober, continued from page 9

get started on the road to a healthier life, whatever stage of life you're at. By the time you have quit for 28 days you are five times more likely to stop for good.

"There is more help and support available now than ever before, including our local stop smoking services; the Stoptober app, which provides free support direct to your phone, laptop or tablet; a daily email service; or the new Facebook Messenger bot, which you can send an 'SOS' message to whenever you're having a craving and it'll respond with relevant support to help you get through that moment of need. We also welcome smokers who want to quit using e-cigarettes, which are now regulated to assure their safety and quality."

On Friday 23 September at 1.30pm @hertscoutycouncil will be going live on Facebook with a stop smoking advisor to explain why it's so important to quit, how to get support and what happens when you visit your local stop smoking service.

Hertfordshire's Stop Smoking Service provides free, local stop smoking support and advice on treatment options. Text SMOKEFREE to 80818, call 0800 389 3 998 or visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/stopsmoking If you would like to sign up to receive regular email updates about your Health and Wellbeing from Hertfordshire County Council's Public Health service please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updateme .

Whilst ruminating on how 'possession' is such an important part of life in today's world, Eric said, " I remember when I was a little boy and I had more conkers than my friends." Keep smiling, Eric and Ennis

Adverts removed

Message from your County Councillor, Graham McAndrew



Sign up for email updates from Hertfordshire County Council

Hertfordshire residents are now able to stay up to date with the latest information from the county council by email, on a range of topics.

'Update me' launched in September and residents can now sign up to receive regular email updates about the services that matter the most to them.

The new service is free and easy to use for subscribers, who can choose to receive information about issues ranging from roads and transport, to libraries and information for families with young children, plus many other subjects. There will be up to 20 topics on offer in the first instance and people can sign up to receive as many of these as they like.

It's really quick and easy to sign up for email alerts and this can be done by visiting the council's www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/updates

Get sweeping for Chimney Fire Safety Week

In support of Chimney Fire Safety Week 2016 (held in September), Hertfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service are urging householders to ensure their chimney is safe and to have their chimney swept by a registered chimney sweep.

Nationally, chimney fires account for over 5,000 fires a year and the consequences of a burning chimney can be catastrophic. Burning debris expelled from the top of the chimney can set other parts of the building alight or heat from the fire can radiate through to the rest of the building, setting the whole house afire.

The most common causes of chimney fires are:

- Improper appliance sizing
- Burning unseasoned wet wood
- Infrequent sweeping and cleaning
- Overnight burning or smouldering wood for long periods in wood stoves

Visit www.chimneyfiresafetyweek.co.uk for advice, tips and information on how to find your local registered chimney sweep.

AI20 Bypass and Flood Alleviation Scheme, continued from page 20

Hadham in the future, while properly investigating the environmental matters that have come to light recently."

In March this year the planning application was paused to allow a technical review of the application in light of consultee comments relating to protected bat species and a recent change in government mitigation guidance. Throughout the summer further bat surveys have been carried out in conjunction with the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust Bat Group.

It is expected the application process will continue shortly and the local planning authority will then open a further consultation period, asking for views on any additional information submitted. At this point people will be able to provide comment on the changes to the local planning authority. Construction work is due to start in 2018 with an opening planned for 2019, subject to planning approval.

Further information is available on the website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ai20bypass.

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOUR IDEAS

The government has given more power to local communities to influence planning decisions and help shape the future of their local area. This includes where new homes may be built, what they will look like and who will get to live in them, employment, footpaths, community activities, conserving historic buildings and looking after the countryside.

In response, your Parish Council has asked local volunteers to form a **Neighbourhood Plan Group**. We are now at the first stage and need your ideas, because the Plan will be based on what the residents of Little Hadham need and want.

THE INITIAL SURVEY

Every member, young, old and everything in between, of every household, is encouraged to complete the initial survey

Please fill in the survey online at: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/littlehadham or return the paper copy enclosed to the Village Hall or 9 Lloyd Taylor Close (additional paper copies are available on request).

**DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE IS:
5TH OF NOVEMBER**

REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER!

VILLAGE WORKSHOP

In December will hold a workshop in the Village Hall to present the findings of this survey where we will explore the ideas you have suggested.

Then we will start to develop the Neighbourhood Plan using all these ideas.

We are always looking for input and help

If you would like to be more involved in the creation of the Plan please get in touch. For example, we will soon conduct a Character Assessment, involving group walks to record the key characteristics of the entire Parish. Please let us know if you would like to be involved with this or any other aspect.

If you have any questions or you wish to be kept informed at future stages, please contact us at littlehadhamnp@gmail.com

We really do need your input, support and help to ensure a bright future for Little Hadham. Thank you in advance for your support.

October diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

2 Sunday,

Trinity 19

9.15am

Holy Communion, *Much Hadham*

11.15am

Holy Communion, *St Mary's, Albury*

9 Sunday,

Trinity 20

9.15am

Holy Communion, *Much Hadham*

11.15am

Holy Communion, Sunday School and Harvest Service, *St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*

16 Sunday,

Trinity 21

9.15am

Holy Communion, *Much Hadham*

11.15am

Family Holy Communion, *St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*

23 Sunday,

Trinity 22

9.15am

Holy Communion, *Much Hadham*

11.15am

Holy Communion, *St Mary's, Albury*

26 Wednesday,

Midweek Communion

10.00am

Holy Communion, *St Cecilia's, Little Hadham*

30 Sunday,

Trinity 23

10.30am

Holy Communion, *Stocking Pelham.*

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

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

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