

LITTLE HADHAM
PARISH NEWS
MARCH 2019



Patmore Heath, The Hundred Parishes, page 8

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

Letter from the Rectory

Rev. Steve Bate

March is here and it will already be Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) on Tuesday 5 March, followed by Ash Wednesday on 6 March. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. For many Christians, Lent is a journey towards Easter. It's a journey of reflecting upon the love of God for us in Jesus Christ and how we demonstrate that love in our own lives - living God's love.



How am I going on that journey this Lent? I recently signed up to a 'prayer journey'. I'll be receiving a short email each day, helping me to receive God's love, be changed by that love and to respond to that love. 'Invest in Love' is a prayer journey devised by the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity, www.licc.org.uk. I was attracted to this particular prayer journey by the description of its purpose:

We love because God first loved us. Until we have received God's love, and grasped its breadth, height and depth, our attempts to love others will falter. Our good intentions of loving God and others will feel like a self-improvement project to 'become more loving', dependent on our effort and self-discipline. Our love is a response to meeting the God who is love, and allowing ourselves to be loved by him.

Our churches are also offering an opportunity to journey together each week in Lent. We'll be exploring how we respond to God's love by pursuing justice. 'Only Justice', our joint Lent course takes place in the Pavilion, Much Hadham on 13, 20, 27 March and 3 April, 11 am to 12 noon. All are welcome, whether you belong to any of our churches or none. Each session has material for group discussion and prayer, together with 'Go and Do' - some practical ways in which we can demonstrate the love of God.

If you're looking for other ways to journey through Lent, there's also the Lent Pilgrim material available via the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org and much more. Details of all our Lent events and services can be found on our website calendar and there are some useful links to Lent material in the 'Links' section at www.riverashchurches.org.uk.

Finally, all are welcome as we begin our journey through Lent with our Group Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm on 6 March in St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham. This service includes an opportunity to take part in the Ash Wednesday tradition of 'ashing', when we receive the sign of God's love in Christ, the cross on our foreheads. It's a demonstration of our desire to receive God's love, be changed by God's love and respond to God's love.

Every blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Parish Council News

Salt

The Parish has again been able to receive a delivery of road salt / grit for use on the roads in icy conditions. Thanks again to the generosity of the Lipscombe family in storing the bags. We are very keen to distribute the bags in advance of the bad weather, as it can be very difficult, if not impossible, transporting the salt once the snow and ice arrives. If you would like to have a bag, or if you are able to store more, please get in touch with Cllr Liz Lloyd-Williams (07773437551).

Thank you to Neil Wardrop

Councillor Neil Wardrop stepped down last month from his position of Parish Councillor. Neil has been very proactive in his work on the Neighbourhood Plan as well as in our communications. We are sorry to see Neil leaving the Council and wish him the very best going forward.

New Councillor

We are pleased to welcome and introduce new Councillor Michael Attwell. Michael has lived in the Parish with his young family for 5 years. He works as an underwriter in London's insurance market and also volunteers with St John Ambulance. Michael can often be found out and about in the Parish: cycling; walking his 2 dogs; or running. His interest in Little Hadham has grown whilst he's lived here and he's looking forward to working for the benefit of the community over the coming years.

Vacancy

We are still hoping to recruit new councillors. With Elections coming up we are expecting to have a number of spaces on the Parish Council. If you feel that you could add value and contribute to the local community please

get in touch with either our clerk - Carole Page, or - Chair Liz Lloyd-Williams who will be happy to talk more to you about the position. clerklittlehadham@gmail.com / chairlittlehadham@gmail.com

New Facebook site

Over the past several years we have been updating and improving our web and social media sites. We are very lucky that previous Clerk Bev Evans is continuing to maintain our website with current information - <http://www.littlehadham-pc.gov.uk>. In addition you can find us on Facebook by searching for Little Hadham Parish Council (please note the lack of gap between the words Parish and Council. This is deliberate as we were no longer able to edit the original page due to facebook's data protection administration). We have posted on the old site asking people to look for our new site and hope those of you who follow us this way will move across.

New Dates and New Room

We have moved the Parish Council meeting to the third Tuesday of each month. This will help us to collaborate more closely with neighbouring parishes and allow Police and District Cllrs to attend meetings. To facilitate this change we will be holding a number of meetings this year in the small meeting room at the rear of the Village Hall.

Geocaching

Up for discussion at the February meeting was the ratification of our chair's request to place geocaches on council land / property in Little Hadham. Cllrs agreed to this request and there are currently 3 geocaches to be found in the Parish. To learn more see later article and or visit www.geocaching.com

Little Hadham Afternoon Teas

Wendy Forgham

With the prospect of lighter, brighter days upon us, what better way to spend an afternoon than enjoying a good natter, a pot of tea, home-made cakes and traditional sandwiches in the company of good friends and fellow villagers.

From the 7th March the Village Hall will be opening its doors on the first Thursday of every month between 3.00 and 5.00pm offering a light afternoon tea for the over 60s.

As these will be non-profit making events, no charge will be made but donations to help cover some of the costs will be much appreciated.

Relatives and carers are all welcome but if anyone has any transport difficulties please contact me and I will endeavour to arrange transportation for you.

Along with the sunshine, I look forward to seeing you in the coming months.

If anyone has an odd hour or two and would like to assist me at any time in the kitchen or by offering lifts to those in need, please feel free to contact me on:

Phone: 07817 633 713

Email: wendyforgham@hotmail.com



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Firstly I would like to say thank you to everyone who came along to our Service Providers' Fayre on Wednesday 6th February. We had some great stalls from various groups across East Hertfordshire which provided great opportunities for networking. We had some Social Prescribing groups which are a valuable asset to our villages as give us as a community to help others who are less able to do things for themselves.

By the time you read this newsletter the first East Herts Lottery will have been drawn on 23rd February and hopefully someone we know will be a winner.. We have sold 38 tickets at the time this goes to print but I do hope that we will achieve selling at least 100 tickets by April newsletter, it only costs £1 and it goes to many good causes, but hopefully Little Hadham Refurbishment Project will be the one that you choose.

Our first coffee morning took place on 13th February which brought in 23 people. This I thought was a great success and I would like to say a big thank you to people who helped and donated some cakes. We will continue to have coffee mornings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month 9.30 – 11.30 am in the room opposite the kitchen. There is a Movement to Music for the more mature person that takes place in the main hall at 10 so if you fancy attending that class and then coming for a coffee you would be most welcome.

The next event that we are planning is a history talk delivered by David Willet on 9th April, The evening will start at 7.30 pm for refreshments and then the talk will start at 8.



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Easter

at Cammas Hall Farm

Saturday 6th April - Monday 22nd April* 9am - 4.30pm

Join us at the farm for an
Easter Eggs-travaganza!

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Easter Arts & Crafts
- Face Painting
- Tasty Easter Treats

*Additional charges apply for our Easter activities.

Please see our website event listings for details of all of our Easter activities including animal shows, themed flower arranging and pottery decoration.

(*please note the farm is closed on Monday 8th April & Monday 15th April)

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Fitsteps Dance Fitness is coming to Little Hadham

Wednesdays 7-8pm at the Village Hall starting 13th March.

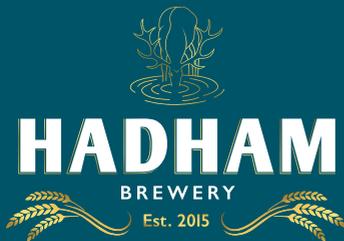
Fitsteps with Jacqui has a strong following of lovely ladies (and two gents!) committed to getting fit and having fun! Fitsteps is straight out of the Strictly Come Dancing Handbook, formulated by the show's former stars Ian Waite and Natalie Lowe. The routines are fun and easy to follow with steps from Latin and ballroom including the Rumba, Quickstep, Jive, Tango, Waltz, Paso Doble, Cha Cha, Salsa, Samba, American Smooth, Viennese Waltz and more! If your goal is to have fun whilst exercising and work your smile as much as your muscles, this is the class for you.

Classes are 55 minutes long and the cost is £6.50 pay as you go (£5.50 concessionary rate for over 65's) or £5 a class if booked in a block. *FIRST THREE WEEKS SPECIAL OFFER AT £4 A CLASS* No dance experience necessary and no partner required - steps to the dances are learnt by facing and mirroring the instructor. The class is suitable for all levels.

Please contact Jacqui for more information or just come along and enjoy getting fit! (Please bring a bottle of water)

mob: 07731 454228

email: jacquihoward65@btinternet.com



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A New Local Cinema for Little Hadham.

In response to the requests of the local community, your Village Hall Committee will be introducing a 'not for profit' film club. We aim to show on a regular basis throughout the year, a variety of films including some new releases.

To do this legally without infringing copyright, it is necessary to work within the limits imposed by regulations for a 'single title screening licence'.

This amongst other things, means that the club will have to be organised as a private member's club. In order to see the film, you will be required to take out an annual subscription of £15. For this sum, members will be offered the opportunity to see films once every 4-6 weeks through the year. Unlike a normal cinema experience, there will be no entry charge. You will be able to sit at tables with your friends, rather than in rows. Refreshments: tea, coffee, soft drinks, wine and beer, will be available at a cash bar. There probably won't be any popcorn, but there might be some packaged snacks.

A limited survey of peoples' preferences suggests that we will be choosing films from a small range of categories including Drama, Romance, History, True Stories, Musicals and New Releases. The survey will be continued to ensure that we have an accurate idea of audience preferences and changing tastes.

Our plans are for two or three films by the end of June, with our initial dress rehearsal coming soon. This is an exciting new addition to the range of activities on offer in your Village Hall; a new venture which offers the opportunity to socialise with new people as well as old friends.

If you would be interested in helping with the group organisation to run this new club, such as bar, box office, membership and film projection; OR if you would like further information on membership please contact Mike Smith, Fox House, The Ford. tel: 771568

Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haimes

Following my revelations in the previous publication, I can now let you all know our plans from 6th May 2019, 29 years almost to the day since I first arrived at Much Hadham Health Centre. I will be reducing my days to 3 per week which will still include, at least initially, Monday and Friday mornings in Hunsdon Village Hall and Thursday afternoons at St Elizabeths. At the same time, Dr Conway is reducing to 2 days per week and Dr Sharif is increasing from 1 to 3 days per week. We hope that these changes will be seamless!

Prior to these changes I will have been to New Zealand for a month; Stanley following in the footsteps of Colin Brookbanks' Livingstone (oops, wrong continent) and should have been rejuvenated by visits to various vineyards and, of course, Hobbiton!

Now to a more serious matter. From 1st April two commonly used medicines used to treat pain, anxiety and epilepsy are being reclassified as Schedule 3 drugs. They are Pregabalin and Gabapentin and will be subject to certain restrictions in prescribing and dispensing. Those patients taking these drugs should receive more information with their next prescription but please feel free to ask any of our dispensary staff if you have any questions/concerns.

The Hundred Parishes

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The pond by the village green at Finchingfield is a much photographed and much painted example of the idyllic view of the English countryside where ducks swim and white clouds are reflected in its calm waters. The area of the Hundred Parishes has a variety of similar ponds. Those alongside roads were often formed from ancient extraction pits for clay or gravel; others appeared where earth had been extracted for building work. Some are surviving medieval fish ponds or the remnants of moats around isolated old farm houses. Ponds on farms provided water for livestock, but following the reduction in cattle- and sheep-rearing many have been filled in. Fortunately, a number of private gardens have ponds where aquatic plants provide a haven for a wide variety of creatures that depend on such water bodies for their survival. Dipping a net into a pond will reveal snails, the assorted larvae of dragonflies, water beetles and midges. Larger ponds may support fish. Amphibians such as frogs, toads and newts need to lay their eggs within water but will spend much of their adult lives on land, eating a range of garden pests if there is some dense vegetation and a rockery nearby. These creatures have become quite scarce in the wider countryside with the reduction in suitable habitats.

During March, the croaking of male frogs hoping to attract a mate is one of the sounds of spring. Local records of any adult amphibians and locations of spawn provide valuable information about their distribution and behaviour. If you are fortunate to see frogs, toads or newts in your local ponds, then please do pass this information to either the Essex Field Club or the Freshwater Habitats Organisation. Details are on their websites: www.essexfieldclub.org.uk and www.freshwaterhabitats.org.uk.

Millennium Wood News

Jonathan Forgham

Last month several of us travelled to Hertford Theatre to be present at the launch of the East Herts Lottery. Friends of Millennium Wood is to be a recipient from this lottery and it makes for a very easy way for us to raise much needed funds.

Basically, go to www.easthertslottery.co.uk and search for Millennium Wood. Once here you can buy as many tickets as you wish. Tickets cost £1.00 with the money being divided as such: 50% goes to Millennium Wood, 10% other good causes, 20% to the prize money and 20% to administration costs. No money goes to EHDG. Prizes range from free tickets to £25,000 and the draw is weekly. To give some idea of how much Millennium Wood gains, so far we have sold 19 tickets, meaning that the wood will profit to the tune of £494.00 per year. A very useful sum indeed.

The village primary school use the wood weekly for their Forest School initiative and it is planned that some of the money will be spent on making the wood an even better place for the children to play and study. Benches, signposts, a nature trail and new gates are all planned, plus, in time, a professionally fitted decking area for pond dipping activities.

Therefore, please do take a look at the website and purchase a ticket or two to help the wood funds. Make sure that you stipulate Millennium Wood before purchasing and good luck

continued on next page

CPRE Hertfordshire Awards 2019

We want to recognise those who work so hard to protect, promote and enhance towns or villages and/or the surrounding countryside to make them better places to live, work, go to school or enjoy for today and tomorrow. For example; charities, informal groups, events, businesses and individuals of all ages.

"It is great to see individuals and groups receiving recognition for their work and contribution to the community" Cllr Jeff Jones.

There is a lot happening across Hertfordshire and we would love your readers to nominate, or to spread the word by telling others about the awards. We are happy to receive self-nominations.

For more information contact gill@cpreherts.org.uk

To make a nomination just download a form from our website www.cpreherts.org.uk/awards and return it to us.

Closing date: 31 May 2019

Our judges review the nominations during the summer and the Awards are presented at an evening event in October.

Previous nominations have included Village Halls, histories, village greens, gardens and playgrounds. We have received nominations for forests, chalk streams, local nature reserves, health walks and woodland restoration.

Also, riverfly monitoring, a bird box trail, an eco-house and various "friends of" groups, a community car scheme, community choirs, festivals, community orchards and a lambing weekend.

As well as nominations for businesses and individuals of all ages, who make a difference in their community.

Someone or something in every community deserves to be recognised

Millennium Wood, continued from page 8

in future draws.

The February work party was cancelled due to poor weather so it is imperative that we have a good turn out for the final work session before the spring and summer break. Plenty to complete, so please do come along on Sunday 3rd March, 10 – 12 ready to clear brambles, burn some brash wood and generally tidy the wood up. Loppers, strimmers, gloves, wellies and secateurs will all prove useful for this session. Many thanks.

When I asked for the council if I could hide geocaches in the parish, their one stipulation was that it would be good to tell the community about them! Those of you who know me well, know that I love to geocache and while at first I think a lot of people think I'm a bit mad, I do seem to have gained an increasing number of friends happy to come on the hunt with me over the years!

"What is geocaching?" I hear many of you cry! According to the official website, "Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor adventure that is happening all the time, all around the world. To play, participants use the Geocaching app and/or a GPS device to navigate to cleverly hidden containers called geocaches. There are millions of geocaches in 190 countries waiting to be discovered—there are probably even some near you right now."

When I explain Geocaching to people for the first time I often describe it as electronic treasure hunting. Using my phone, I open the app and choose a cache (from the map) to hunt for. The phone GPS gives me the location of where the cache is hidden and I can either follow the line on a map, or follow a compass needle to it. Once at the right location (known as Ground Zero) using the information I have (information about size and terrain – and a hint if I'm stuck) I search. When I find the cache the rules say I must sign the log book – so I try to always carry a pen!

Geocaching is something we do quite a lot as a family. I have found that my children, despite boundless energy, are often reluctant to go for walks. However, with the added excitement of finding a geocache along the way, we can often walk further and with more enthusiasm. The added incentive for children is the possibility of swaps. When you find a geocache with room for small toys or trinkets the children can swap something they've brought with them for something they find and want from the cache. For adults, there are Travel Bugs. These are keyrings/items which have a trackable code attached allowing you to track them on Geocaching.com. The item becomes a hitchhiker that is carried from cache to cache (or person to person) in the real world and you can follow their progress online. It can be fun to pick up a travel bug trying to get, for example, to Scotland and help it on its way.

It's also a hobby that is great for discovering new places. Last weekend we went for a circular walk between Hare Street and Buntingford, which we only found due to a series of linked geocaches.

The Geocaching app is free. You just need to download it onto your phone and sign up for an account. If you really enjoy geocaching you can pay to be a premium member, which means you can see premium only caches. Other benefits include the ability to save data offline (useful in poor reception areas) and have access to more map formats (such as the "Trails" map which shows footpaths). The free app, however, is great to get started with.

Happy Geocaching,

Little Hadham Pantomime Group

Now that the dust has settled on the stage floorboards, the make-up stowed away and the scenery dismantled, the Pantomime Group would like to thank all our patrons for their support during our latest pantomime, "Rumpelstiltskin". Without your support, your cries of "Oh no, he didn't" and your appreciation, we would not be able to put on a good show for you. Not forgetting the volunteers who came along night after night to sell programmes and collect the empty bottles (and there were plenty of those!), some sitting through seven performances before finally getting the joke – our thanks to you all. We would also like to thank the Village Hall neighbours for their patience at this busy time.

We are looking forward to next year and if you would like to join us on stage or backstage, please get in touch with our Secretary, Gill, 771 223 – you will be warmly welcomed.



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What's on in March

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

2 Sat, We are very excited to be hosting our 2nd Home-Start Concert with Linda Bance - Celebrating Voices - this will be held on Saturday 2nd March at 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm) at Meridian School, Garden Walk, Royston.

Please come along and celebrate the talent of your local choirs - Adhoc, Foxton Singers, Reed Church Choir and pop up choir WomenSing.

Tickets are £10, under 13: £5 and available by calling the Home-Start office on 01763 262262, email admin@hsrsc.org.uk or book online through www.ticketsource.co.uk/hsrsc

3 Sun, Work Party, 10am - noon, Millennium Wood. See page 8.

7 Thur, Over-60s Afternoon Tea, first Thursday of the month. Details on page 13.

8 Fri U3A meeting 3pm, Memorial Hall Sawbridgeworth, We meet on the second Friday of every month. For more details you can contact our Membership Secretary, John Dickenson on 01279 722297

14 Sun, Afternoon Tea, 1.30pm -5pm, Little Hadham Village Hall In aid of The Dementia Revolution. Entertainment from the Bishop's Stortford Ukulele Society. Raffle and book stall. Tickets £10 each Tel - Liz - 07487598273

19 Tue, LH & A Garden Club, 7.45 for 8pm.

A brief AGM, (wine and nibbles included), Collection of subscriptions which remain at £10 for the year. Non-members welcome, £3 per meeting. Also the new Events & Autumn Show Schedule for 2019-2020 will be available. Jonathan Forgham will give us a talk afterwards.

19 Tue, Parish Council Meeting, 8pm

21 Don't forget to join us for the **Third Thursday Lunch** when a light, but delicious lunch is served in the Village Hall for

a donation, from 12.30. Friends and neighbours meet here regularly for a chat and catch-up on all the news!

23 Sat, Wade in the Water, The Harmonaires Choir, 7pm, St Hohn's, Stansted. See p16.

28 Thur Whist Drive last Thurs of the month. If you would like to learn to play whist contact Mrs Ross Barron on 771694.

29 Fri, Charity Ball in aid of Home-Start, Fowlmere Village Hall, which will be dressed as a marquee, tickets are £75 to include a champagne reception, 3 course meal, live entertainment, live and silent auctions and a raffle. We will have a licensed bar. Tables will be for 10 guests, if you would like to join us please call 01763 262262 to book your tickets or for further information

30 Sat, Farmers' Market, 8.30 - 11.30am, Last Saturday of the month.

Coming soon

Annual St Cecilia's Churchyard Clear up

6th April 10.00 am-12 Noon

Everybody welcome

Lots to do from picking up fallen wood to hedge trimming, general tidying up and having a bonfire.

Refreshments provided.

17 May, "People" by Alan Bennett see p13.

NOTICEBOARD

Over 60s Afternoon Tea



Little Hadham Village Hall

Join us

***for a traditional Afternoon Tea on the
1st Thursday of every month***

3.00 till 5.00

Free of charge

Donations welcomed

*Much Hadham Drama Group
presents an amateur production of*

People

by Alan Bennett

directed by Maggie Smith

16th, 17th, 18th May 2019 at 8 pm

Much Hadham Village Hall

(dates for your diary - more details to follow in April magazine)

Congregational Chapel

As the residents at The Ford are only too aware, work has started on the conversion of the Chapel to a private house. The work got off to a bad start with an unreliable and inefficient contractor who held the work up for some time. Following meetings with various agencies, neighbours and other interested parties, the work is running smoothly, with well-qualified surveyors and contractors in place. The workmen (a rather noisy lot!) are well supervised, hardworking and polite so it is hoped that the work will now go smoothly. A stained-glass expert will advise on the windows and we are advised that the heat pumps will be quiet and eco-friendly. The graveyard will be returned to its (almost) original stage, the platform which has been built to protect the gravestones will have done its job and we shall have a new neighbour. Our thanks to our Parish Clerk, Carole Page, to Cllr. Geoff Williamson and East Herts Development Control for moving things along and ensuring the work is done properly. The owner, Mr. Conway, apologises for the inconvenience and disruption and hopes the work will be finished as soon as possible.



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The Hadhams' History Society

The Society held its Annual Social in December, this very enjoyable evening was completed by a local and historical quiz set by myself and Kathy Hamilton. At our January AGM, I reported that we have 50 members, slightly higher than in the previous year. This is very pleasing and compares well with other local history societies and we have continued to provide a varied programme. The treasurer reported that the ongoing finances were in good shape. This was helped by the fact that some recent speakers had given their talks for no charge, otherwise, the usual speaker charges would have led to a loss on the year. Accordingly, the meeting agreed to her proposal for a small increase in our annual subscription.

I reported in the last issue, that in order to purchase a new digital projector, we were pleased to receive support from MH Recreational Trust and the Community Fund from Stansted Airport; the remainder being financed from our reserves. Now delivered, we were able at the AGM to show "A County at War, Life on the Home Front in Hertfordshire". This excellent and very moving WWI film, commissioned by HM Lieutenancy of Hertfordshire, depicts much material not previously covered in commemorative films produced by the National media. It has also been shown recently by the afternoon WI and is described in detail by Frances Luck in the February edition of this magazine. The film, is available as a DVD from the Lord Lieutenant's Office and is thoroughly recommended. The film was so successful that our future programme is likely to incorporate a historical film from time to time.

Mike Clark 842131

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Wade in the Water

Saturday 23rd March 7pm

St John's Church, Stansted

For their first local concert this year, The Harmonaires Choir, under the expert leadership of Josie Cowley, is performing at St John's Church, Stansted on Saturday 23rd March at 7pm. This one-hour concert, by one of the region's most engaging choirs, is raising funds for **Water Aid**. Listen to songs that will transport you to rivers and seas, storm and rain. Enjoy evocative music by Chilcott, American and British folk music, musical theatre, spirituals and more. Tickets are available at: Adults £10, Students £6 from www.theharmonaireschoir.com or 07912 025777. Tickets also available on the door.

The Harmonaires Choir, formed four years ago, is building a reputation as one of the leading choirs in the area singing an eclectic mix of music from Tallis to Coldplay. Their last concert, a Christmas extravaganza, at St Joseph's Church, Bishop's Stortford was a sell-out and raised over £400 for the charity Shelter. The choir is also performing a lunchtime concert at Bury St Edmunds Cathedral on 9th March.



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History Talks

Dave Willett, who moved to Little Hadham from London seven years ago, is involved with his U3A History Group where he offers the occasional talk. He has offered to give some History talks on various topics if people are interested. **The topics include at present –**

- Victorian Gothic Architecture
- Monuments and Memorials
- Livery Companies of the City of London
- Interesting and unusual houses in London
- The Suffragettes
- America during the 1920s and 1930s

The first talk will be on Tuesday 9th April, and will be about an hour long. The topic is Victorian Gothic Architecture.

This will be a Powerpoint with lots of photos

and information.

Highlights include –

- The key figures including - Benjamin Disraeli
- Sir George Gilbert Scott who designed the St Pancras Railway Station Hotel, now called the Renaissance Hotel, and the Albert Memorial
- Augustus Welby Pugin
- Sir Charles Barry – who designed Parliament
- Sir Joseph Bazalgette
- Lots of images of famous Victorian buildings including – Parliament
- Strawberry Hill Twickenham
- The Magnificent Seven Victorian cemeteries

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ADVANCE NOTICE

Our OPEN DAY will be earlier this year
SUNDAY 19 MAY (between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm)

FREE to all

FORTHCOMING SOCIAL HAPPENINGS (6.30pm for 7.00pm):

Sat. 23 March 'UKELELE' evening - £7-50 light supper incl.

Sat. 6 April SLIDE SHOW -The SILK ROAD - Uzbekistan - £7-50 light supper incl.

Social events are for members and their guests- 2019
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It was a very quiet weekend... hardly a car passed our house. Usually the A120 could be likened to a Brands Hatch racetrack. But 'roadworks' were in operation and unless you had a darn good reason for 'trespassing' on our road, you just didn't come this way. Why? Because a few men, a very large crane, and some amazing cutting gear came along and hacked away at the tall tress opposite Little Hadham school.

We watched, from a distance, heard sounds of branches being cut and, from time to time, saw quite a few people perched high up on a platform on an extension of the crane – much higher than the trees being lopped - viewing the surrounding countryside.

On the Monday (that's today as I write this,) we went down to take a closer look at the damage. And damage there was, because the huge boughs which had been machine-sawed off, lay where they fell. One such bough lay dangerously with its pointed end sticking out into the road – just right for a passing HGV to be speared by it! Others lay all around the place. Decimation, devastation... call it what you will. Suffice to say it looks a mess!

Our one remaining local newspaper told us this week to double-check with www.roadworks.org, to find out if further closures are to happen. Yes, we do have another one, March 1 -4 (2 days/nights); then a 16 night closure from March 11 – April 1... and on the list goes. So I did check with that website, but found it extremely difficult to navigate. It would appear from my rather amateur efforts that you might glean more information nearer the time.

But what of the tree felling? Why has it been done? When I questioned Hertfordshire County Council about the reason for the tree work this is what I was told: "The road wasn't actually closed for the tree cutting but one of our Highways teams used the road closure which was already in place as a chance to remove 29 heavily decayed trees which posed a threat to the highway with minimal disruption. The land isn't Highway owned but due to the proximity to a school and traffic flow it was a potential concern so the work was carried out." I noticed that only the branches which pointed towards the A120 had been lopped. The ones which faced the field side, and were just as tall, remained intact. Enquires to Herts County Council failed to produce any answers by the time we went to press. It does seem odd though that partial tree felling is said to relate to the Standon improvement scheme. All I do know is that there is going to be a vast number of rooks who lost their homes over the weekend and the unbelievable noise as they came in to roost each evening will be missing... leastway until they take up new residences in another nearby 'des-res'.

Message from your County Councillor, Graham McAndrew



Hertfordshire's growth over the next 12 to 15 years comes with a significant infrastructure requirement which a new study has found will cost up to £6bn.

The 11 councils in Hertfordshire are planning for the delivery of around 100,000 new homes in the county by 2031, and have commissioned a comprehensive study of the likely cost of the infrastructure that this development will need – such as transport, schools and healthcare facilities.

The key findings of the Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Funding Prospectus 2018-2031 (HIFP) are that by 2031:

- There will be around 100,000 new homes - an increase of more than 20% of the current total housing stock.
- There will be at least 107,000 more people living in Hertfordshire – and it is estimated this number could be closer to 175,000.
- There will be an extra 20% of traffic on all roads, and for example an additional 30% on the A414, if we don't take action. However, our Local Transport Plan (LTP4) is prioritising pedestrians, cyclists and public transport – key to encouraging less reliance on cars.
- Of the projected total infrastructure bill of nearly £6bn, only £1.4bn has already been identified or is being raised through funded schemes.
- At present, it is estimated that the contributions from developers and land-owners will cover less than 20% of this £6bn bill.

As with other parts of the UK, we are facing up to the challenge of how to accommodate a growing population. Hertfordshire's local authorities have set up a Growth Board to work together to support the delivery of good, sustainable growth in the county.

It will help us plan where we need to provide new infrastructure, and work with the wider development industry which will provide employment sites and facilities for residents.

Council chooses PayByPhone to provide cashless parking across the district
PayByPhone, the global leader in mobile parking payments, announced that drivers in East Hertfordshire will be able to use its cashless parking services in 26 locations across the district from January 2019. PayByPhone will replace RingGo as the exclusive cashless parking provider across all East Herts District Council (EHC) parking locations.

County Cllr Graham McAndrew E: graham.mcandrew@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Please log all highway faults at www.hertsdirect.org/faultreporting/

British Red Cross Hertfordshire needs **YOUR support**

Could you:

- **Host** a tea party / quiz / race night etc.
- **Help** with bucket collections for Red Cross Week 5-11 May. All you need is a bucket, a smile and be prepared to stand for 1.5/2 hrs.
- **Attend** one of our fundraising events listed below
 - **12th April: A Decent Bit of Shopping** Cottered Village Hall 10am–1:30 pm £3.50 (includes a cuppa with biscuit).
 - Discover our Open Garden Programme from May – Sept visit www.redcross.org.uk/opengardens.
- **Send** a donation made payable to British Red Cross, and, post to Cathy Curtis, British Red Cross, Baker Street, Hertford SG13 7HT.

British Red Cross Hertfordshire does so much locally.

Did you know we have trained Emergency Response Volunteers on call 24/7 365 days a year!

“We will never forget the comfort of being taken into your van for tea and reassurance after having stood out in the cold watching our house burn down”

That’s just a snippet. There is so much more we do.

Interested? Please get in touch:

Cathy Curtis **07921 941394** cathycurtis@redcross.org.uk

AI20 Bypass (Lt Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme

Project newsletter - February 2019

Towards the end of 2018 progress on the AI20 Little Hadham Bypass and Flood Alleviation scheme made a number of positive steps forward. Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) is pleased to announce that John Graham Construction Ltd (GRAHAM) has been notified that they have been successful in their bid to carry out the construction works. Other advanced works are underway.

Getting the land for the scheme

Confirmation notices for the scheme's Compulsory Purchase Orders and Side Roads Order appeared in local newspapers and on the affected land in November 2018. The project team continues to work with landowners to secure land agreements voluntarily within the scheme programme.

Planning conditions

Further planning conditions have recently been approved by the local planning authority and the project team continues to work through those conditions tied to the start of construction. Conditions that relate to construction itself will be addressed by the contractor over the coming months. HCC has also been issued with the impoundment licences needed for the flood storage embankments across the River Ash and Albury valleys.

Selecting a contractor to build the scheme

GRAHAM has been notified that it has been successful in its bid and has been issued with a Letter of Intent. This allows the contractor to start preparation for the works by mobilising their team and addressing planning conditions, ready for a start of the main works on site in summer 2019. Subject to final approvals the contract with GRAHAM is expected to be signed in April 2019. HCC will be working closely with GRAHAM about their planned communications during the works, to keep the local community advised of when the works might affect local roads and footpaths, or when significant aspects of the work are to take place. Hertfordshire County Council and the Environment Agency look forward to working with GRAHAM to see the successful delivery of the Scheme.

Construction

The main construction of the scheme is expected to start in summer 2019. A number of landowners have however kindly agreed to allow some early ecology and utilities works to take place.

These early works include the planting of new hedgerows to mitigate against the loss of those hedgerow which needs to be removed from the Scheme route. (The photo to the right shows recent planting at Hadham Towers). Planting the new hedgerow now allows it time to start to establish before existing hedgerows are removed. The removal of a number of trees and hedgerows in the coming months is necessary to avoid birds and bats roosting before the main works start, as this has the potential to delay progress.

Utility diversion works started in late January. This will involve the undergrounding of an overhead UKPN (electricity) service in the vicinity of the River Ash. A number of utility services in the vicinity of the proposed Hadham Park roundabout are expected to be diverted in the coming months.

More information can be found on the project's website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ai20bypass

March 2019

St Cecilia's, Little Hadham | St Mary's, Albury | St Andrew's, Much Hadham

3 Sunday

Sunday next before Lent

9.15 a.m. Family Communion at St. Andrew's, Much Hadham

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St Mary's, Albury.

6 Wednesday

Ash Wednesday

7.00pm

Group Holy Communion and
Imposition of Ashes at St. Andrews, Much Hadham.

10 Sunday

Lent 1

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Much Hadham.

11.15 a.m. **Holy Communion at St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham.**

17 Sunday

Lent 2

9.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Andrew's, Much Hadham.

11.15 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Albury.

24 Sunday

Lent 3

10.00 a.m. **Benefice Holy Communion at St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham.**

27 Wednesday

Midweek Service

10.00 a.m. **Holy Communion at St. Cecilia's, Little Hadham.**

Lent begins this month and the sales of chocolate will drop, but is this enough?
Why not give up being greedy, bad-tempered, intolerant or lazy.
Why not put the chocolate money in a charity box for Lent –
then enjoy your Easter Egg.

Don't forget to join us for the **Third Thursday Lunch** when a light, but delicious lunch is served in the Village Hall for a donation, from 12.30. Friends and neighbours meet here regularly for a chat and catch-up on all the news!

Prayer Chain

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

All requests will be confidential.

Please ring anytime: **Janet: 842671, Karin: 771532**

There have been no entries in the Register this month

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