

Little Hadham Parish News

September 2015



Garden Club Show **Sunday 6th September** **Public viewing from** **2.00pm until 3.30pm**

*Schedules and application forms
from*

*Little Hadham Post Office,
Karin Green or Gail Ellis*

*Entry forms to be returned by
3rd September*

**Little Hadham &
Albury Gardening
Club Annual Show**

**Ever fancied
yourself on “The
Great British Bake
Off”?**

**How about
“The Allotment
Challenge”?**

Or “Master Chef”?

**If so, then why
not enter this
year or come
along and
see the local
talent.**

**At Little
Hadham
Village Hall**

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 Team Vicar



Hello!my name is Rev'd Julie Gawthrop and I am the new Team Vicar of The Ash and Quin Valleys Team Ministry in the Diocese of St Albans. I thought it would be good to introduce myself to you and tell you a little about who I am and where I come from.

I became a Christian after my first son was born 27 years ago. I did go to church as a child until about the age of 10 but throughout my teenage years and twenties I drifted a long way from God. When I began to rediscover God, I can remember the excitement and wonder of those first few months. It felt to me like a giant jigsaw puzzle slowly being completed as missing parts of God's story fitted into place and my life started to make sense.

My first church was an Ecumenical church - five denominations meeting to worship together - Baptist, Methodist, URC, Quaker as well as Anglican but I chose to be ordained in the Anglican Church.

Like Giles I trained part-time on the Eastern Region Ministry Course based in Cambridge. During that time I continued working as a Class Teacher in a Primary School and when I was ordained in 2010, I started a full time curacy in Cambridge at St John's Church in Hills Road. I stayed on at St John's beyond the term of the Curacy as an Associate Vicar to help the church out while the vicar spent time completing a project she was doing for the Bishop of Ely.

I am married to Nick, who works for Johnson Matthey in Royston. Nick loves playing golf and occasionally I play with him (in fact Nick and I met playing golf over 28 years ago!). We love walking our dog, Maddie, a 2 year old chocolate Labrador and you may see us with her, in and around Braughing - we love the glorious countryside walks here in Hertfordshire - they are very special!

We have two adult sons who live just outside Cambridge; Calum and Ben. Calum teaches PE in a Primary School in a deprived area of Cambridge and Ben works as a Personal Banking Manager.

In my spare time I enjoy meeting up with friends, reading and pottering in the garden.

I feel really fortunate to be able to serve God in this place and serve you as your Team Vicar and I am excited and expectant for all God will do as we work together as co-workers with Jesus, building God's Kingdom in our villages and living God's love in our communities.

May God bless you, Julie

PS Please be patient with me as I try to remember all your names!

Village Oil Syndicate

We shall be ordering heating oil during the first week in September - last time we ordered in early July we paid 35p/ltr, so at the moment we are making super savings! Do get in touch if you would like to join - it's FREE! Do spread the news to friends and neighbours so they too can enjoy the savings we make. For more info: cam2403@hotmail.co.uk or call Carmela 01279 898591

Parish Council News

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.

Loss of phone and broadband

Many homes lost the use of their phones and broadband for several days during August. BT say that there was a fire in the underground junction box along The Ford which caused the wires to melt. It took time to remove and dig out the burnt wires and replace with the new.

Little Hadham Cricket Club

Neil Oxborrow

It was mid-July and Manuden made the short trip to Bury Green. Batting first the visitors posted 180 for the loss of 9 wickets. All six Hadham bowlers took wickets with Neil Oxborrow, David Wheatley and David Barnes getting 2 apiece.

Hadham started briskly but were also losing wickets regularly and after 18 overs were 90 for 5; however, a partnership of 105 for the sixth wicket between James Law (57 not out) and Ken Sims (43 not out) secured the win with more than 2 overs to spare.

A short mid-week trip to Thorley for the area final of the Herts Village cup was the next match. Against a strong Thorley XI a total of 90 off the allotted 20 overs was never enough and the home side won the match for the loss of just one wicket with more than 4 overs to spare.

The following Sunday wandering side F.M.Arthurs were the visitors to Millfield Lane and batting first they scored 197 for 7. In reply Hadham never looked likely to challenge the target as they collapsed to 75 all out, thereby losing by 122 runs.

A trip to Great Canfield the following Sunday saw the home side bat first and score 264 for 7 with Sloman scoring 158. David Barnes took 4 wickets but the target could have been much lower had Sloman not been dropped twice in the first few overs. In reply Hadham amassed 169 for 9 with Arif Rubel making 47 and Neil Oxborrow 44, thereby holding on for a draw.

The next week saw Little Hadham travel to Hertford to play the second eleven and batting first the home side scored 236 for 3. In reply Hadham struggled and were bowled out for 104 with only Syful Islam (39) and Peter Jackson (17) reaching double figures.

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 then please contact Alan South on 01278 651603.

September Fixtures

Sun 6th	Reed	Away	13:00
Sat 12th	Chrishall	Away	13:00
Sun 13th	North Weald	Home	13:00
Sat 19th	Hockerill	Away	13:00
Sun 20th	Thorley	Home	13:00
Sat 26th	Hockerill	Home	13:00
Sun 27th	Nazeing Common	Home	13:00

Down at the doctor's

Dr Paul Haimes

At last!

After months of searching, including a trip to Singapore, I have found a practice nurse hiding away in Hare Street! Some of you may remember Mrs Sheryl Moody, who worked here some 11 years ago; leaving because of family commitments. She has not worked as a nurse for most of the intervening time so we are initially employing her, from September, as a Health Care Assistant with a view to becoming a fully-fledged practice nurse again after she has completed the back to nursing course early next year.

Recent changes to our waiting room have attracted some interesting comments, mostly relating to an echo effect with increased noise. We are looking at some noise abatement ideas and will probably opt for background music, with licences obtained if required. My idea of a TV with past Little Hadham pantomimes (or even Green Tye shows) on a continuous loop was not thought to be appropriate!

Shame!!

Little Hadham & Albury Garden Club

It is not too late to put an entry into the Garden Club Show which is on Sunday 6th September in Little Hadham Village Hall. To get your schedule please phone Karin Green on 771532. Even if you don't enter please come along to look at the exhibits from 2.30pm and enjoy our home made refreshments.

We start our Autumn club evenings on Tuesday 15th September at 8pm in Little Hadham Village Hall, when John Taylor will be coming along to talk about Garden Insects.

Adverts removed

Little Hadham & Albury Social Club

We had a super day out on August 11th at The Home of Charles Darwin, Downe, Kent – absolutely fascinating – highly recommend a visit to all. At our September meeting we shall be meeting Geoffrey Heathcock from the RNLI – he is to give a comprehensive talk on the work the organization does – do please bring a donation to show your appreciation. Hope to see you all there **Tuesday 8th September 8pm – Little Hadham Village Hall** – no membership required – £2.50 entrance/raffle/tea/coffee/biscuits.

Thank you, Carmela, Binnie & Sue – more info 01279 898591.

Little Hadham School

Believing and Achieving

We look forward to the new year ahead and welcome all our new pupils and members of staff. We also wish our past Year 6 children a great first week at secondary school!

Our Forest School journey moves nearer completion with Mrs Nicklin part way through her Level 3 accreditation during the holidays. We will now have a whole school project to work on before she completes the second week of training later on in the year- then we really will officially become a Forest School. We would like to develop the children's skills in different forest settings, so if anyone would be able to offer access to a local forested area, it would be fantastic. Can anyone out there help?

Thank you for your continued support and contact details below.

Liz Stockley, Head teacher; 01279 771285 or admin@littlehadham.herts.sch.uk.

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I spent a few days at a Devon beach hotel in July, in an apartment which had just been renovated. It was all very lush, new beds, furniture, tables etc – and new bathroom lighting.

Two lovely internal bathrooms, one with frosted glass doors and the other with a conventional wooden door looked wonderful. Trouble was, each was timed to turn off automatically – and the electricians hadn't got the timing right!

So the glass door bathroom turned itself off after 20 minutes – it also turned itself on every 20 minutes, so the first night was fairly disturbed as the huge door suddenly illuminated – and darkened again just when you were about to doze off.

The wooden door bathroom was even worse. Sit yourself on the loo for a peaceful few minutes, and the lights went off and all was black! I found arm-waving was the only solution – it appeared to trigger the lights again. It was just as bad when showering...stand still for a moment and the room became a black hole. Not comfortable!

It was not until the last evening, and after three or four attempts by the electricians to cure things, that they got it right.

Pity the bill didn't reflect our experiences!

Advance Notice

St Cecilia's Church Harvest Supper is on Saturday 10th October in Little Hadham Village Hall. Tickets are £8.00, (family tickets available) from Frank Green 771532.

Adverts removed

Saving Hertfordshire's trees

Hertfordshire County Council's action plan to tackle tree pests and diseases threat
Imagine a Hertfordshire without Ash trees? That's the possible future Hertfordshire County Council is planning to avoid with an action plan to respond to the impact of tree pests and diseases in the county.

On 8 July 2015 the county council's Resources and Performance Cabinet Panel agreed to an action plan to address potential tree health issues in the county that could wipe out thousands of Ash trees.

The UK is increasingly under threat from a number of tree pests and diseases that have the potential to significantly damage a range of native trees from urban parks, streets and gardens, to woodlands, highways, nature reserves and hedgerows. Two in particular are Chalara and Oak Processionary Moth, which are the focus of a report on tree health issues and their potential impact. The county council is responsible for an estimated 150,000 trees on our highways. Initial analysis from other areas in the country is putting a figure of £1,250 per tree for dealing with each affected mature tree on a highway verge. In some areas this could reach around £16 million to manage the impacts. The cost implications for Hertfordshire could be comparable if a large-scale infection was to occur and we'd be looking to central government for funding.

Chris Hayward, Cabinet Member for Resources & Performance, said, "We need to do all we can to protect Hertfordshire's thousands of trees from diseases and pests. That's why we are

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Message from your County Councillor, Graham McAndrew



Do you know a child or young person who is living away from home?

Did you know that if you are caring for a child under 16 (or 18 if they have a disability), who is not your child and you are not an immediate relative, this may be a Private Fostering arrangement?

Hertfordshire County Council is encouraging anyone who knows about a child or young person living away from their immediate family (a grandparent, brother, sister, aunt or uncle or step parent by marriage) for 28 days or more, to come forward. If you are the parent/carer or are a professional who knows of a child or young person who is not living with their parents or you need help or advice about Private Fostering arrangements, please contact Hertfordshire County Council Customer Services Centre on 0300 123 4043. Facebook page at www.facebook.com/hertfordshirefostering

Would you spot a scam?

Over the summer, Hertfordshire County Council has been asking the public to help them identify people who are being targeted by fraudsters. Scams are schemes to con people out of their money. Every year thousands of people are contacted by a phone call, text message, email, letter or even someone coming to their home that tricks them into handing over their money. Due to their nature, they are often targeted at older and vulnerable people. Scams can be very sophisticated and it is easy to get tricked. People often don't realise, or don't want to accept, that they're being scammed, which can make it hard to help them. If you suspect someone you know is being targeted in this way, Hertfordshire County Council's Trading Standards Team can help. You can call the Citizens' Advice consumer service on 03454 040506 who will pass

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Adverts removed

Graham McAndrew, continued from page 8

details on to us. Further information on scams, and how to protect yourself, can be found on our website at www.hertsdirect.org/scams. Follow @hertscc on Twitter for advice all month long

Take a look at our annual report

If you'd like to see just how Hertfordshire County Council has been performing, you can – just take a look at our annual report for 2014-15. The report reviews expenditure and illustrates how the council is working hard to reduce spending through greater efficiency and making some tough choices to save taxpayers' money. www.hertsdirect.org/newsevents/news/annualreport/

Nature Notes: July – August 2015.

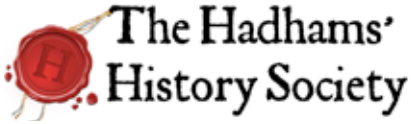
Jonathan Forgham

At last, a spell of warm weather was most conducive to getting out and about nature spotting. However, as I type, it is raining heavily with threatening thunder storms (13th August)

*It has been quite a month, with many pleasing discoveries. None more so than on the 8th August, when I spent some time with head torch and net around Chapel Lane and New Road catching moths after dark. In all, I caught over 40 moths, with one in particular catching my eye as a species I wasn't familiar with. At only 8mm in length a hand lens was required for identification and even then, tricky to be sure. It appeared to be *Acompsia schmidtellus* but this is a moth declared extinct in the county and only ever recorded once, in 1953 in Welwyn. Dissection however, proved beyond doubt it was indeed this rare species, my 2nd extinct find*

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In July over 40 members and guests met at Little Hadham, to hear Iris Dedman's presentation "Finding Michael O'Connell". Iris, a longstanding Much Hadham resident, together with her sister Betty, assisted textile designer Michael O'Connell at

his Perry Green studio in the early 1950s. Iris gave a first class and entertaining account of her time at Perry Green and how, much later, she "found" the details of his career. In the 1920s Michael went into the Australian bush to paint and draw, begin to make pots and then worked on fabric design with his future wife Ella Moody in Melbourne. The couple traveled widely and from their experiences developed vibrant and distinctive designs. They moved to Perry Green in 1937 and built a house and workshop. Michael became close to Christopher Heal who sold much of his work at the Tottenham Court Rd. store. Iris described in detail his unique free hand drawing technique using resist dyeing (hear her also on the Museum of English Rural Life (MERL) website, which also shows some of the designs - www/reading.ac.uk). The technique involved the transfer of original designs from paper to fabric using pin pricks and charcoal and then drawing with a resist paste and dye mixture. When dry the work was placed in a bath of background dye and then fixed in boiling water with added sulphuric acid. Subsequent extensive washing and scrubbing revealed the vibrant colours which still look fresh today. This was a hazardous method which would definitely not now be allowed. The novel technique was used to create wall hangings for the Festival of Britain and thereafter many public buildings. Iris showed many photographs and examples of the fabrics, some, although large, were merely

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Adverts removed

Hadhams' History Society, continued from page 10

panels from much larger pieces. In the 1960s Michael began teaching at Art Schools and also produced murals for Universities and Churches (e.g. Little Hadham). Iris has been active with MERL for some time bringing attention to the work of this much neglected and pioneering artist. This was one of the clearest and best presented of our evening talks and very much appreciated by the audience.

Saving Hertfordshire's trees, continued from page 7

working with a range of partners to stay as informed as possible and to put an action plan in place to respond to the spread of tree disease in the county. With the number of trees we are responsible for, one considerable concern is that we won't have the financial capacity to properly assess which trees could be at risk, and then react accordingly. We ask that central government gives serious consideration to providing the money needed to address this situation. This issue could cost the county millions, and at the moment, that's something we simply couldn't afford. Diseases like Chalara are relatively easy to spot in Ash trees, which will show stem lesions and have wilting leaves in spring. We encourage residents to get involved by reporting suspected tree health issues so we can tackle the issue as efficiently as possible."

Residents can play a part in identifying infected trees by reporting suspected tree health issues or pests through the Forestry Commission's Tree Alert system:

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/trealert>

Adverts removed

What's on in September

in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated

1 Tue, Parish Council, 8pm. Everyone welcome.

5 Sat, Concert to Celebrate the Queen's Reign, 7.30 for 8pm, United Reform Church BS. Ware Brass Band, Tickets £15 from Gwenda Deal, 01279 863194, to include wine & nibbles.

6 Sun, Treasure Tea Party, The Forge, MH p13.

6 Sun, Garden Club Show, See front cover for full details.

6 Sun, Family Concert for Grove Cottage, 1-4pm, Herts and Soul Community Choir Open Air at Great Hadham Golf and Country Club. Tickets: £8 Adults, £5 C, under 10 free -Call 07903 009569.

8 Tue, LH & A Social Club, 8pm. A talk by Geoffrey Heathcock from the RNLI. See p5.

10,24 Thur, Mobile Library, See p13.

11 Fri, Ladies' Charity Golf Day, for Isabel Hospice, Wheathampstead, AL4 8RS, Contact Jan Leggetter, 01438 716179. or jan.leggetter@btconnect.com. Coffee, golf, and a two course lunch, followed by a prize presentation. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, plus Nearest The Pin and Longest Drive.

13 Sun, Antiques Fair, 9.30 - 4pm.
Free entry on production of advert on p5.
Refreshments available.

13 Sun, Teddy Bears' Picnic and Parachute Jump, see p13.

15 Tue, LH & A Garden Club, 8pm.
John Taylor will be coming along to talk about Garden Insects.

16 Wed, Hadhams' History Society, 8pm, LH Village Hall Victorian Photographs - Identifying and Dating by Tom Doig, a well known local historian and expert on many aspects of social and family history.

17 Thur, Way Inn Coffee Morning, 12.30 - 1.45pm, rear of Village Hall.

20 Sun, Open Day, Easton Lodge. A first

visit from BS Ukulele Society who meet at the British Legion in Bishop's Stortford every Wednesday evening. They will do two 30 minutes sets at 1.30pm and 3pm - so come along and enjoy one or both of these and when they're not playing enjoy everything else we have on offer.

24 Thurs, Whist Drive, 7.30pm £2 includes teal/biscuits. Last Thurs of the month. Contact Ross Barron 01279 771694 for more details. (If you would like to learn to play whist please let me know.)

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

27 Sun, The Chain Walk, 9am, sponsored walk for Isabel Hospice. Contact 01707 382500. £5 entry fee. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult and able to complete the walk distance they are signed up for. The person who raises the most sponsorship this year, will win a prize kindly donated to us by GO OUTDOORS in Harlow.

The 'Way Inn'
Come and meet friends and
neighbours over a cuppa or soup
and a roll. Rear of Village Hall,
3rd thursday of the month,
12.30 - 1.45

Coming soon

Oct 10, **St Cecilia's Harvest Supper**, Little Hadham Village Hall.

Oct 14, **Hadhams' History Society**, 8pm, Little Hadham Village Hall..

Oct 17, **Panto Group Quiz Night**. Tickets or info, Eileen Booth @ Post Office, or 01279771426 or lhbooths@gmail.com.

Oct 22, **Mobile Library send-off**, see p13.

NOTICEBOARD



St Cecilia's

Little Hadham

Back by popular demand

The Teddy Bear Picnic & Parachute Jump

Sunday 13th September 2015



Is your bear brave enough to jump off the church tower?

We have the parachutes, just bring your bear

Bring your picnic and get tips from bears who have made the jump before

Registration £1 per bear

Picnic from 12:30 pm
Jump time 2 pm

Users of the **Mobile Library Service** in Bury Green are planning a final send-off for the bus on its last visit in October. If you would like to join in to show librarian Steve how much we have valued his fortnightly visits, please come along, **2.30 - 3.30pm, Thursday October 22nd.** (NOT Saturday 31st as stated in the July Parish News.)

10th & 24th September 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.

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

The Hundred Parishes

Ken McDonald, Secretary

If you enjoyed the old postcard of Barkway, mentioned in our article last month, you may like to try the three mile walk around Stansted Mountfitchet that can be downloaded from the Walks section of our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk. The description of walk number 3 is illustrated with postcard images of a hundred years ago. Each location can be readily identified today.

The Stansted walk, like each of the 20 on our website, starts and finishes at a railway station on the line from Cambridge to London Liverpool Street or on the spur to Hertford East.

Fifty years ago, there would have been far greater scope for walks between stations. More than twenty parishes had a train station then, compared with just seven today. A spate of line closures in the 1960s followed the recommendations of British Rail's chairman, Dr Richard Beeching. A third of Britain's rail track was deemed uneconomic because passengers and freight were migrating from rail to road. It may be hard for younger people today to imagine that before the 1960s only one household in ten had a car.

Our area was particularly affected by rail closures: in the north the line from Cambridge via Linton to Haverhill and the branch line from Audley End through Saffron Walden to Bartlow; in the west, the Buntingford line; and in the east the route between Bishop's Stortford, Dunmow and Braintree. The closure of so many stations probably constrained expansion and thereby helped the Hundred Parishes retain its rural characteristics.

Whilst the rails have been removed, the routes are still largely visible on maps and on the ground, with the Dunmow track finding new life as the Flich Way for people on foot, cycle or horseback.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 9

of the year! Most gratifying. A call from David in Bury Green alerted me to the presence of the uncommon white letter hairstreak butterfly in Stocking Wood. I headed off to the spot and sure enough, the butterfly was roosting on its larval foodplant, elm. A thorough search for more gave views of another specimen, a 1st sighting for me in the parish of this expected species. However, more intriguing, was also finding a silver washed fritillary butterfly at the same spot, a most unexpected find and another uncommon Herts. butterfly (shown here). Another parish first. In all, I recorded 11 species of butterfly at this one site. Excellent stuff and many thanks, David.



Our Little Hadham moth night was a real success in Millennium Wood, with 9 locals attending to see what we had trapped in nets and light traps. In all, 400+ moths of 86 species were recorded, including 4 rare to Hertfordshire.

A walk on the 3rd August back from town led to a discovery of a superb hornet's nest near Muggin's Wood. I was making my notes when I became aware of 2 hornets flying around and a constant buzzing. A quick search revealed I was standing next to the nest and at the entrance hole was a veritable squadron of 15 hornets taxiing, ready for take off. A most

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Adverts removed

Save our verges

Road verges are one of the most important, best loved and frequently viewed habitats in the country – so why are they still being destroyed?

A new Plantlife study shows that Britain's road verges are home to 703 species of wild plants, more than in any other part of our landscape, and 87 of them are either threatened with extinction or heading that way. In addition, 88% of these wild plants provide nectar and pollen for bees and other insects, making road verges essential refuges for insect life; bird's-foot trefoil alone is a food plant for 132 species of insect.

In addition, 21 of the 25 Nation's Favourite Wildflowers grow on road verges. From cowslips and bluebells in spring to swathes of cow parsley and ox-eye daisies in early summer, our verges are home to most of the 25 favourite wild flowers as voted for by the public. And with 30 million drivers in the UK, they're the most frequently viewed habitat too, providing many people with their only regular daily contact with nature.

But in much of Britain road verges are still being needlessly cut down in full flower threatening the wildflowers and the wildlife that depend on them. Many councils have already started cutting verges - much too early in the year* for flowers to be able set seed, and greatly reducing one of the most important food banks for our ailing bees and other pollinators. [*6 July.]

Dr Trevor Dines, Plantlife's Botanical Specialist, explains, "Over 97% of meadows have been destroyed in England since the 1930s. In many areas, rural road verges are the last remaining stretches of natural habitat for our wildlife. Road safety is the absolute priority, but we know

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Adverts removed

Do you want to be a Good Samaritan?

Why not help people in your local community to get to hospital appointments – by taking them in your own car.

Uttlesford Community Travel is looking for volunteer hospital car drivers to provide transport to and from appointments – both at local hospitals and doctors' surgeries and those further away.

Our drivers are contacted by a member of our staff asking them if they can cover trips. The drivers then ring the patient the day before the appointment to confirm arrangements. The patient pays you 45p per mile, calculated from your home address.

It's a great service to provide to the community, but we are in need of more volunteer drivers. Can you help us out?

If you think you can, please ring a member of our team on 01371 875787; 01799 519008; or 01245 279052. Or you can email us on info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org. Our office is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm.

Please join us.

Email your address with 'Paper-free' in the subject line to htfp@clocktower.co.uk to receive a perfect copy of the Parish News. Give it a try and save us time and money!

Adverts removed

Save our verges, continued from page 16

that verges can be managed better for wildlife whilst remaining safe for motorists. This means adopting some simple changes to management – like a delay in cutting to allow seed to be set - so that wildflowers can thrive”.

Plantlife has produced new management guidelines and is urging the public to sign a petition asking local councils to adopt them. Some councils are leading the way. Trials in Dorset, for example, are investigating how to combat the over-vigorous growth of grass on fertile verges (which is both detrimental to wildflowers and obscures driver sight-lines), by stripping turf, using semi-parasitic yellow rattle to stunt grass growth and even grazing verges with sheep. Plantlife is helping to showcase the work of councils like Dorset to show others that it can be done. Our guidelines are being currently being applied to 11,700 km of verge covering 2,300 hectares of verges – that’s equivalent to 2.5 times the area of remaining upland hay meadow in the UK - and with the public’s support we can do even more. Dr Dines adds, “If we just give them a chance, wildflowers can return. Meadow crane’s-bill was once widespread in meadows – hence its name – but is now more commonly found on road verges. It spreads readily when cutting is delayed and it’s allowed to set seed. Maybe it’s time to change its name to “verge crane’s-bill”.

For more information and for stunning images, please contact Katie Cameron T 01722 342759 / M 07584 995929 / E katie.cameron@plantlife.org.uk

Trevor Dines Plantlife Botanical Specialist T 01248 670691 / M 07789 685635 E trevor.dines@plantlife.org.uk. Visit www.plantlife.org.uk/roadvergecampaign to sign the petition.

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Seriously ill children in Hertfordshire are missing out on vital care

The High Sheriff of Hertfordshire says he's concerned seriously ill children from the county are missing out on vital care and support. "Keech cares for 150 seriously ill Hertfordshire children," said Mr Trower. "It's a concern that people from the county do not realise Keech is Hertfordshire's children hospice. It's not just a building up the road in Luton; it brings its services out to families. What's worrying is this lack of understanding means at least 250 families in Hertfordshire are being forced to cope with a very sick child alone. Families are simply missing out and this is a challenge that needs overcoming. Keech is an extraordinary facility in Luton and children from Hertfordshire are cared for here. But its Community Support Team, made up of nurses, play specialists, and art and music therapists also look after many Hertfordshire families in their own homes and schools. I don't think people are aware of this. Having seen it for myself, and from talking to the parents here today, I would encourage any family from Hertfordshire who has a child who would benefit from support to get in touch with Keech. I've seen the fantastic care this charity offers to the whole family at the time in their lives they need it most. I understand people may think a hospice is something to be scared of, but from the moment I arrived it was obvious Keech has a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The hospice has fantastic facilities such as a hydrotherapy pool, sensory room and a well equipped teenage room which more Hertfordshire families need to be aware of. As a county, we need to support Keech to enable it to continue doing what it does. I think it's easy to forget Keech is a charity which fundamentally relies on the support of the local community so it can continue to keep helping and supporting local families," Mr Trower said.

For more information and images contact Lorna Milton, PR Officer at Keech Hospice Care on 01582 497874/07795498591 or at lmilton@keech.org.uk.

Adverts removed

SOCKS SOCKS SOCKS

I am thrilled to say that Ann Clayton has agreed that I can help out - mostly behind the scenes - with the collection & distribution of socks for homeless men. Ann has been involved with this project for many years and has collected, literally, thousands of pairs of socks which have subsequently been put to good use by the needy. Her work has been invaluable, thank you Ann. So, to all intents and purposes, nothing much will change ... socks (in good used condition or new) can be left, as usual, at Ann's house (next door to the Nag's Head pub) or in the plastic box outside my house (The Old Cottage, Bury Green). Let's make this a BUMPER year and collect even more socks than ever!

Thank you, Carmela 01279 898591

Panto Quiz Night

Sat 17th October.

Little Hadham Village Hall 7.30 for 8pm

Tables of up to 8

Tickets £10 each which includes "cheese platter" with assorted breads and biscuits.

Please bring own beverages and glasses

For tickets or enquiries contact Eileen Booth @ Post Office, or 01279 771426 or lhbooths@gmail.com.

Adverts removed

Management of Millennium Wood



As mentioned last month, Millennium Wood is now in need of serious management. Following meetings with Tim Hill of Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust and Colin Plant, internationally renowned lepidopterist, entomologist and county moth recorder, I have formulated a 5 year plan for the Wood.

To keep all interested parties informed, I have booked the Village Hall for a meeting: 7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd September. Here, I plan to outline the ideas and offer reasons for the changes that will take place. Tea and coffee will be served from 7pm. I will be happy to see many local residents attending and, perhaps, volunteering to help with some of this work; nothing too onerous and something that children can participate in, too. However, please do come along regardless of whether you wish to volunteer. The changes will, initially, appear quite drastic but, over the years, will mean the Wood will continue to flourish and mature. One section of the plan covers constructing nest boxes for bees, insects, bats and birds. Consequently, if anyone has offcuts of good wood in their shed or garage that they no longer need, please contact me and I shall come and pick it up or, alternatively, drop off at 6, Chapel Lane. Any size wood over 15cm x 15cm will be suitable. I shall then plan a session where a work party can get together to assemble these boxes before placing them in the Wood before next spring.

If you wish for any more details, do please contact me at jforgham@hotmail.com and I look forward to seeing you on the 23rd.

Adverts removed

Nature Notes, continued from page 15

impressive sight of this frequently much maligned, passive, protected and declining species. (one ready for take off, here).

Finally in the insect department, a visit to the ponds at Hadham Hall for dragonflies gave views of the expected common darter, emperor dragonfly and migrant hawkler but, more interestingly, views of the small red eyed damselfly. Another first for my parish records. This is a creature that only arrived in the UK in 1999 from Europe. Originally found in Essex, it soon realised the error of its map reading and promptly headed into Herts. I counted 3 on one pond, with a female laying eggs, so something to look out for in late July next year.



Birdwise, just beginning to enter the main migration time, with swallows and house martins already heading south overhead at dusk. Buzzard young have now left the nest and can be heard mewling overhead whilst other juveniles can be seen demanding food from frazzled adults. In particular, a large family of 5 young wrens perpetually requesting food along Hoecroft Lane on the 11th August.



Several trips to Norfolk have realised over 130 bird species, including the rare American wader, a white rumped sandpiper as well as the unusual brown form of the cuckoo. A juvenile ruff shown here from Titchwell Marsh RSPB Reserve. I have several more UK trips planned before a 5 day jaunt for bird photography in

The Camargue, southern France in the first week of September, so busy times ahead.

Please do check out the article on Millennium Wood and endeavour to come along to the meeting mentioned within. I look forward to seeing you.

As always <http://littlehadhambirding.blogspot.co.uk> for all updates and jforgham@hotmail.com or 01279776112 for advice on anything to do with natural history.

Over the last few weeks, I have received several photos of birds, insects (especially butterflies and moths) for identification. Please do keep them coming.



Letter from The 5b Opposition Group

Firstly, as a group we would like to congratulate Cllr Lloyd-Williams and her fellow new Cllrs in gaining their positions on the Parish Council and wish them all the best for their term.

Secondly, there are two unsigned pieces in the August Parish News 'A Very Near Miss' on page 3 and 'A120 Bypass (Lt Hadham) and Flood Alleviation Scheme Update' on page 23, which layout the planned A120 bypass and flood alleviation, which we feel again gives a misleading account of the proposed bypass '5b'.

The original planned route '5' was felt by the majority of residents to be the best of the options given at the time and received the vote of the residents north of the A120, as it meant the village would not be split. Whilst the new route '5b' was agreed by the previous Parish Council it did so without consultation of the Little Hadham residents especially those north of the A120. Route 5b is dramatically closer to the houses north of the A120 and is no more than a 'bypass' of the lights, as it has been greatly shortened meaning it starts and finishes much closer to the village boundary.

Another point raised was the flood alleviation which has again been entwined with the bypass, this in fact [is] not the case; the alleviation does not rely on the bypass, and if the Parish Council had listened and joined us in our fight against '5b' the alleviation could actually be in place already. A petition asking for Route 5 to be reinstated was signed by over 200 of the Parish Residents but was ignored by the previous Parish Council and Hertfordshire Council.

We would ask that residents go to the official website and make their objections to route '5b' be known. You will find the details necessary in the piece on page 23 of the August edition.

Should you wish further information on the bypass and/or wish to join our group please email 5boppositiongroup@gmail.com. On behalf of, The 5b Opposition Group, 14th August 2015.

Letter from A Visitor

With all due humility, appropriate to a mere Visitor, I venture again to question the proposed expenditure of £30m on a Little Hadham bypass and its concomitant 'Flood Prevention'; oh, what one could not do with £30m, if not to correct the Tudor's unfortunate interruption of the Roman's freeway along A120! However, I learn that greater sums for a major lateral link between M11 and A10 (North of Braughing, or equally feasibly, at Jct. 7 of M11), either of which would go some way towards easing the severe traffic congestion in E. Herts, could not be spared. In brief, this is a poor man's measure and, as such, there should be no feelings of surprise or disappointment when, after three years of use, congestion at the lights is as bad or worse than it is today. That, I call criminal waste. And, what of the local environmental effect plus the subsequent planning drift of this bypass? Despite the sacrifice of irreplaceable habitat, no change to the irritating sequencing of the lights at Little Hadham is envisaged and, in consequence, the 'back-up' of smoking traffic at that junction will not be relieved for long, if at all; noise and hydro-carbon pollution for most residents within the bypass arc will rise; furthermore, like an ox-bow lake, the land entrapped between the proposed bypass and the A120 will soon attract development, bringing yet more traffic to that busy road. As to flooding, the acres of hard surfacing, created by this Bypass, will certainly require new remedial flood measures. If I had any communication with the Council I would be tempted to quote Matthew 13.13, or the traditional alternative: "There are none so blind as them that won't see".

A Visitor.

September diary for Little Hadham and Albury

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

6 Sunday

Trinity 14

9.15am

Family Communion, Much Hadham

11.15am

Benefice Holy Communion, St Mary's, Albury

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

13 Sunday

Trinity 15

9.15am

Team Holy Communion Service, Much Hadham

12 noon

Teddy Bears' Picnic and Parachute Jump, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

20 Sunday

Trinity 16

11.15am

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

27 Sunday

Trinity 17

9.15am

Holy Communion, Much Hadham

No Service at St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

30 Wednesday

Midweek Communion

10.00am

Holy Communion, St Cecilia's, Little Hadham.

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

Bike 'n' Hike sponsors please!

Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust

Peter English, Tony Skidmore, Steve Hargrave, Dimitri/Mirandi and Family will be going forth on Saturday 12 September 2015 to raise funds for St Cecilia's Church Little Hadham. What we need are your sponsorship pledges - please. Contact Linda English 01279 842094 and Tony Skidmore 01279 771688.



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**)

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